

Ken Abbott

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Education:

M.F.A. Photography, 1987
Yale University School of Art
New Haven, CT

B.A. Political Science, 1980, cum laude
The Colorado College
Colorado Springs, CO

Recent Awards and Grants:

Mary Duke Biddle Semans Foundation, Durham, NC., 2008
Grant to support photography work at Hickory Nut Gap Farm, Fairview, NC.

Kenan Family Foundation, Chapel Hill, NC., 2008
Grant to support photography work at Hickory Nut Gap Farm, Fairview, NC.

North Carolina Arts Council Artist Fellowship Grant. 2006.
Individual artist grant to support work in progress.

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Living Traditions Grant. 2005.
Funding toward completion of *Rank Strangers, The Story of Mrs. Hyatt's OpraHouse*, a film and music CD project with partner, Director Rod Murphy, Asheville, NC.

Exhibitions: (partial listing):

The Printed Picture, Museum of Modern Art. New York, NY. October 2008 - July 2009.
Curator Richard Benson.

Working Group, Asheville Hatchfest Photography Exhibit, Blue Spiral Gallery, Asheville, NC.
Guest organizer and participant exhibitor. April 2009.

North Carolina Arts Council Fellowship Group Show, Rocky Mount Center for the Arts, Rocky Mount, NC. June-September, 2008.

Winter Show, Greenhill Center for the Arts, Greensboro, NC. December 2007.

Photographs from the River District, solo exhibition, Clingman Avenue Cafe gallery, Asheville, NC. May 2006. Sponsored by the River District Artist's Association.

Photographs from Mrs. Hyatt's OpraHouse, Pack Place Gallery, Asheville, NC. Accompanied the local premier of the documentary film *Rank Strangers*, at Asheville Film Festival. October, 2005.

On the Margins: Images of a Changing Landscape, solo exhibition, Blue Sky Gallery, Portland, OR. April 1998.

On the Margins: Images of a Changing Landscape, solo exhibition, The Coburn Gallery, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO. April 1997.

On the Margins: Images of a Changing Landscape, solo exhibition, UMC Fine Art Gallery, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO. December 1996.

Photographs by Ken Abbott, The Midtown Y Photography Gallery, New York, NY. February 1994.

Selected Collections:

Museum of Modern Art, NY; Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT; Paine Webber, NY; Mary Duke Biddle Semans private collection; Center for the Study of the American South, UNC Chapel Hill; Western Carolina University Art Gallery, Cullowhee, NC; Liston B. Ramsey Center for Regional Studies, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, NC; Portland Museum of Art, OR; The Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO; Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO.

Selected Publications and Bibliography:

In final stages: *Useful Work: The Legacy of Hickory Nut Gap Farm*. A monograph with approximately 100 photographs, and essays by John Ager and others. Currently seeking publisher.

Words Without Pictures, respondent. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Charlotte Cotton, editor. 2007.

Four Landscapes, essay by Robert Adams, 2006 Yale University Art Gallery Bulletin. Includes a reproduction of one of my pictures as well as the essay about the picture.

Rank Strangers: Photographs from Mrs. Hyatt's OpraHouse, CD booklet of my pictures, Harvest Records and 614 Films, Asheville, NC. 2005.

The Ethical Function of Architecture, by Karsten Harries. MIT Press. 1996.

Denver: Confluence of the Arts, Meridian International, Inc. 1995.

Colorado: Visions of an American Landscape. Kenneth Helphand and Ellen Manchester. 1991.

My commercial photography has been included in numerous annual and special reports, university promotional materials, newspapers including *The New York Times* and *USA Today*, and magazines including *National Geographic*, *Life*, *Time*, and *Scientific American*. I have photographed four MacArthur fellows, three Nobel Laureates, and First Lady Hillary Clinton, as well as the Reverend Jesse Jackson, comedian Bob Hope, and singer Neil Diamond.

Employment:

Homemaker and independent artist. Duties include raising Helen (9) and Yohanes (5), chief cook, bottlewasher, grocery shopper, driver, tactical support to money-earner spouse, part-time

teaching (see below), freelance photography and videography jobs, fund-raising for independent publication project, consistent devotion to my own art work - usually late into the night. 2002-present.

Photography instructor, Art & Design Department, Western Carolina University. Part-time. Cullowhee, NC. 2006-2008.

Principal Photographer, Department of Public Relations and Publications. University of Colorado at Boulder. Duties included studio and location photography for University publications and press releases, photography for numerous national and international print media, supervision of two staff positions, student employees, management of facility, overseeing budget, acquisition of employee development opportunities and equipment. 1987-2002.

Other teaching experience:

University of Colorado at Denver, Introduction to Photography course. 1996.

Arapahoe Community College, Littleton, CO. Introduction to Photography course. 1989.

Relevant Skills:

Computer skills: Adobe Photoshop CS4, File Maker Express, Adobe Bridge, html, scanning and printing drivers, inkjet printers, Mac and PC computers, Microsoft Powerpoint, BookSmart.

Photography skills: Extensive skill with studio strobe and lighting systems, 35mm film camera systems, medium format, view cameras, and professional level digital cameras and capture systems, scanners, storage systems. Extensive black & white and color printing (C-printing), as well as inkjet printing, color balancing. Extensive experience with presentation of art work including matting, framing, and hanging exhibitions. Experience with digital video capture and editing, production.

Other Relevant Experience:

Asheville Hatchfest 2009, inaugural arts and media networking festival. Photography coordinator. Organizer of *Working Group* exhibition of area photographers at Blue Spiral Gallery.

I've videotaped extensively at Hickory Nut Gap Farm in Fairview, NC, as part of a future planned video documentary about the farm and family.

Videography for Liston B. Ramsey Center for Regional Studies documentary effort on The Farmer's Federation and Lord's Acre program. Volunteer.