ICONS
Portraits 1969-2015

JAY DUSARD
In the autumn of 1963, Warner and Wendy Glenn welcomed this wide-eyed pilgrim onto their ranch and into their lives of exemplary pastoralism alongside a then-peaceful international border.

The richness of this experience, albeit brief, changed the trajectory of my life.

Dedicated to the memory of Wendy Paul Glenn, 1940-2014
Introduction

A good portrait is ten percent inspiration and ninety percent moving furniture.
~ Annie Leibovitz

My painter friend, Rose Mary Mack, caught me by surprise back in 1969 when she explained that an exhibition of her work was to travel throughout Arizona, and would I do her portrait that would accompany the show. “But, Rose Mary,” I protested, “I’m a landscape photographer.” “You’ll do fine,” was her reply. Smacked in the chops by a velvet glove, the challenge was thus delivered.

Her studio: magnificent setting, perfect light, no time constraints. Very little “furniture” (including the artist herself) was moved to achieve my ends. Compared to photographing in the landscape, here I had many adjustable elements, making me realize the fundamental difference between the two endeavors. Out yonder, among boulders, trees, and mountains, about the only adjustable elements are camera position and lens choice.

As a student at the University of Florida, I was awarded a travel scholarship for the study of American architecture. In the summer of 1960 I was 23 and had never been west of central Oklahoma. The coast-to-coast trip provided me with countless examples of achievements in what I thought would become my profession: architecture. What overwhelmingly impressed me, however, was the sculptural landscape of the inter-mountain West—the force that impelled me to return and stay.

After graduation I spent two years in the peacetime Army. My free time at Fort Hood, Texas, got me horseback and hanging out with local cowboys. Then in 1963 my first job as a civilian—cowboying on the Arizona-Sonora border—left me fascinated with that way of life. Earlier, in college, my semester of painting, under an instructor of the Abstract Expressionist persuasion, had prepared me for the ultimate abstractionist: photographer Aaron Siskind, whose compelling monochrome imagery made me promise myself, in that very moment, that I would someday take up photography. In Arizona to stay, and pretty much learning photography on my own, my principal instrument in the landscape was an 8x10 view camera.
Rose Mary Mack, artist, Prescott, Arizona, 1969
From 1968 to 1975 I was teaching photography at Prescott College in Arizona, as well as maintaining a working relationship with my true mentor Frederick Sommer. For three years the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation was not in the least interested in my landscape imagery. But, they did succumb to my fresh idea of doing view camera portraits of working cowboys from Canada to Mexico. A 1981 Guggenheim Fellowship in Photography put me on the cowboy trail with my 8x10 outfit, saddle, chaps, spurs, and bedroll. This led to the publication of my first book, *The North American Cowboy: A Portrait*.

I have never been terribly adept at capturing action with a camera, nor terribly inclined to do so. My rather formal approach to photographing people in relation to settings consistent with their life and livelihood can legitimately be considered environmental portraiture—a label that exemplifies the work of the late Arnold Newman. A foolish consistency or not, practically every one of my portraits includes the entire person or persons. Nary a mugshot in the entire wagonload. Without exception, I have never used artificial lighting, not even reflectors. I invariably seek soft, revealing light—the shady side of just about everything—when my prayers for cloud cover are denied. Throughout some 49 years of working in landscape, abstraction, and portraiture, the design of the photograph has been my overriding concern.

In late 1984 I signed on with journalist Alan Weisman to collaborate on a book about our 2000-mile southern border. Lots of landscape opportunities, I figured. In *La Frontera: The United States Border with Mexico* Alan’s marvelous text had the many border dwellers telling the story. So, portraits with 4x5 and tripod became my mission. Since that time assignments have come my way, enabling me to work with artists, writers, actors, and musicians—sometimes in the 6x9 cm. format, always in black and white. As I photograph, my antennae still continue to seek my most personally irresistible human subject: men and women who make their living horseback.

Jay Dusard
Cochise County, Arizona, 2015
Buster Welch, rancher and cutting horse trainer, Welch Ranch, Texas, 1986
Casimiro Barrera, Mier, Tamaulipas, 1985
J. Kenneth Ralston, artist, former cowboy, Billings, Montana, 1981
Gilberto Rivera and Francisco Carranza, Rancho El Diablo, Sonora, 1985
Ian Tyson, singer, songwriter, horseman, author, Tyson Ranch, Alberta, 1982
Baxter Black, poet, entertainer, and family: Pancho Villa, Guy, Cindy, and Baxter, Cochise County, Arizona, 2002
Dennis, Deb, Gordy, and Allie Moroney, 47 Ranch, Arizona, 2004

Next page: Ed Hope and Wade Cooper, ZX Ranch, Oregon, 1981
Richard Masur, actor, on location, Eaton Ranch, Wyoming, 1985
Joe Launderville with Belgian draft horses, Grant-Kohrs Ranch, Montana, 2001
Ian Tyson Band: Nathan Tinkham, Ian, Thom Moon, Danny McBride, Melvin Wilson, Richard Harrow (engineer), and David Wilkie, Tyson Ranch, Alberta, 1982
Bill Moorhouse, Bob Phillips, Jeff Shipp, Jack Bowlin, and Jerry Brashears, ORO Ranch, Arizona, 1980
Doña Crispina Gonzales vda. de Martínez, curandera, Ojinaga, Chihuahua, 1985
Lorenzo Rivera, Jaime Garza, and Daniel Maldonado, artists, Matamoros, Tamaulipas, 1985
Gail Gardner, rancher and poet, Prescott, Arizona, 1984
Jesús, Juanito, Guadalupe, and Epimania Muñoz, reata makers, Urique, Chihuahua, 1988
David Wilkie and Stewart MacDougall, Great Western Orchestra, Alberta, 1990
Barry and Dorli McWayne, Fairbanks, Alaska, 1988
Tom Lea, artist and author, El Paso, Texas, 1985
Joe Beeler, Frank Polk, Gordon Snidow, Bill Owen, Fred Fellows, Gary Niblett, and Bill Nebeker, members of the Cowboy Artists of America, Owen Ranch, Arizona, ca 1985
Jesús, Juan Antonio, Gumaro, Jaime, and Jorge Sosa, charros, Laveen, Arizona, 1989
Jane Alexander, actress, Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute, 1990
Harry Sternberg, artist, Escondido, California, 1985

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Jim Eicke, Bell Ranch, New Mexico, 1981
Desert Rose Band: Jay Dee Maness, Herb Pederson, Chris Hillman, John Jorgenson, Bill Bryson, and Steve Duncan, North Hollywood, California, 1986
Monk Maxwell, Del Rio Ranch, Arizona, 1970
Dr. Oscar Martínez, director, Center for Inter-American and Border Studies, University of Texas at El Paso, 1985
Tom Russell, singer, songwriter, artist, author, on tour, Bisbee, Arizona, 2010
Trio Astral: Asención Rodríguez, Miguel Avila, and José Luis Elizondo, Pharr, Texas, 1985
Ian Tyson and daughter Adelita Rose, Tyson Ranch, Alberta, 1991
Clarke, Rebecca, and Edward Abbey, Tucson, Arizona, 1984
Dannelle, Dusty, Conner, Bonnie, and Charlotte Crary, Four Seasons Livestock, Montana, 2002
Tony Gilkes, Basi Williams, Maurice Foster, Victor Brathwaite, and Tony Roberts, cricket players, Hartford, Connecticut, 1986
Manuel Capetillo, Lupillo Rivera, David Silveti, Diego O’Bolger, and José Antonio Ramírez, toreros, Smoky Mountain Ranch, Texas, 1987
Fernando Rivero Hernandez, charro, 5 Spear Ranch, Phoenix, Arizona, 1989
Frederick Sommer, photographer, artist, Prescott, Arizona, 1993
Chuck Stormes, saddlemaker, Calgary, Alberta, 1988
Bill Smith, blacksmith, Cattle Track Arts, Scottsdale, Arizona, 2014
Billie Jo and Earline Goettle, and Earl Stucky, Stucky Ranch, Montana, 2003
Warner Glenn and Kelly Glenn-Kimbro, ranchers and hunting guides, Malpai Ranch, Arizona, 2007
Jim and Jason Eicke, Bell Ranch, New Mexico, 1981
Ben Johnson and Richard Farnsworth, actors, Hunt Lowry, producer, and Dick Lowry, director, on location, Eaton Ranch, Wyoming, 1985
Martin Black, Stampede Ranch, Nevada, 1982
THE PHOTOGRAPHS

2 Ben Johnson and Richard Farnsworth, actors, on location, Eaton Ranch, Wyoming, 1985
6 Rose Mary Mack, artist, Prescott, Arizona, 1969
8 Johnnie Mullens, ORO Ranch, Arizona, 1970
9 Buster Welch, rancher and cutting horse trainer, Welch Ranch, Texas, 1986
10 Casimiro Barrera, Mier, Tamaulipas, 1985
11 J. Kenneth Ralston, artist, former cowboy, Billings, Montana, 1981
12 Wendy and Warner Glenn, Malpai Ranch, Arizona, 1983
13 Gilberto Rivera and Francisco Carranza, Rancho El Diablo, Sonora, 1985
14 Ian Tyson, singer, songwriter, horseman, author, Tyson Ranch, Alberta, 1982
15 Baxter Black, poet, entertainer, and family: Pancho Villa, Guy, Cindy, and Baxter, Cochise County, Arizona, 2002
17 Tony Malaby / Joey Sellers Jazz Quartet, on tour, Prescott, Arizona, ca 1997
18 Dennis, Deb, Gordy, and Allie Moroney, 47 Ranch, Arizona, 2004
19 Ed Hope and Wade Cooper, ZX Ranch, Oregon, 1981
20 Richard Masur, actor, on location, Eaton Ranch, Wyoming, 1985
21 Joe Laundererville with Belgian draft horses, Grant-Kohrs Ranch, Montana, 2001
22 Ian Tyson Band: Nathan Tinkham, Ian, Thom Moon, Danny McBride, Melvin Wilson, Richard Harrow (engineer), and David Wilkie, Tyson Ranch, Alberta, 1982
23 Bill Moorhouse, Bob Phillips, Jeff Ship, Jack Bowlin, and Jerry Brashears, ORO Ranch, Arizona, 1980
24 Don King, saddlemaker, Sheridan, Wyoming, 2005
25 Don Lorenzo Villalobos Baldenegro, talabartero, Cerocahui, Chihuahua, 1988
26 Doña Crispina Gonzales vda. de Martínez, curandera, Ojinaga, Chihuahua, 1985
27 Lorenzo Rivera, Jaime Garza, and Daniel Maldonado, artists, Matamoros, Tamaulipas, 1985
28 Gail Gardner, rancher and poet, Prescott, Arizona, 1984
29 Jesús, Juanito, Guadalupe, and Epimania Muñoz, reata makers, Unique, Chihuahua, 1988
30 David Wilkie and Stewart MacDougall, Great Western Orchestra, Alberta, 1990
31 Barry and Dori McWayne, Fairbanks, Alaska, 1988
32 Edward Abbey, author, Tucson, Arizona, 1984
33 Tom Lea, artist and author, El Paso, Texas, 1985
34 Joe Beeler, Frank Polk, Gordon Snidow, Bill Owen, Fred Fellows, Gary Niblett, and Bill Nebeker, members of the Cowboy Artists of America, Owen Ranch, Arizona, ca 1985
35 Jesús, Juan Antonio, Gumaro, Jaime, and Jorge Sosa, charros, Laveen, Arizona, 1989
36 Jane Alexander, actress, Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute, 1990
37 Harry Sternberg, artist, Escondido, California, 1985
38 Jim Eiche, Bell Ranch, New Mexico, 1981
40 Monk Maxwell, Del Rio Ranch, Arizona, 1970
41 Dr. Oscar Martinez, director, Center for Inter-American and Border Studies, University of Texas at El Paso, 1985
42 Tom Russell, singer, songwriter, artist, author, on tour, Bisbee, Arizona, 2010
43 Trio Astral: Asención Rodríguez, Miguel Avila, and José Luis Elizondo, Pharr, Texas, 1985
44 Ian Tyson and daughter Adelita Rose, Tyson Ranch, Alberta, 1991
45 Boyd and Shasta Brooks, Sweetwater, Texas, 1986
46 Jay Harney, Harney Ranching, California, 2003
47 Bill Russell, Robert Bennett, Clay Lindley, and Thad Smith, T Lazy S Ranch, Nevada, 1982
48 Clarke, Rebecca, and Edward Abbey, Tucson, Arizona, 1984
49 Danielle, Dusty, Conner, Bonnie, and Charlotte Crary, Four Seasons Livestock, Montana, 2002
50 Tony Gilkes, Basi Williams, Maurice Foster, Victor Brathwaite, and Tony Roberts, cricket players, Hartford, Connecticut, 1986
51 Manuel Capetillo, Lupillo Rivera, David Silveti, Diego O’Bolger, and José Antonio Ramírez, toreros, Smoky Mountain Ranch, Texas, 1987
52 Julie Hagen, Little Jennie (Wagstaff) Ranch, Wyoming, 1981
53 Fernando Rivero Hernandez, charro, 5 Spear Ranch, Phoenix, Arizona, 1989
54 Frederick Sommer, photographer, artist, Prescott, Arizona, 1993
55 Chuck Stormes, saddlemaker, Calgary, Alberta, 1988
56 Buster Scarbrough and Bob Pulley, A Bar V Ranch, Arizona, 1981
57 Bill Smith, blacksmith, Cattle Track Arts, Scottsdale, Arizona, 2014
58 Billie Jo and Earline Goettle, and Earl Stucky, Stucky Ranch, Montana, 2003
59 Warner Glenn and Kelly Glenn-Kimbro, ranchers and hunting guides, Malpai Ranch, Arizona, 2007
60 Ray Berta, Berta Ranch, California, 2010
61 Manuel Murrietta, Empire Ranch, Arizona, 2015
62 Jim and Jason Eicke, Bell Ranch, New Mexico, 1981
63 Rosamel and Ramón de la Ossa, R bar 9 Ranch, Arizona, 1985
64 Bob Douglas, saddlemaker, horseman, Sheridan County, Wyoming, 2005
65 Ben Johnson and Richard Farnsworth, actors, Hunt Lowry, producer, and Dick Lowry, director, on location, Eaton Ranch, Wyoming, 1985
66 Jim and Connie Brooks, The Horse Camp, California, 1984
67 Drummond and Terry Hadley, Guadalupe Canyon Ranch, New Mexico, 1985
68 Martin Black, Stampede Ranch, Nevada, 1982
69 Justin Fields, Fields Cattle Co., California, 2002
Born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1937, Jay Dusard was raised in rural southern Illinois. He attended high school in Hollywood, Florida, and college at the University of Florida, Gainesville, graduating with a degree in architecture. A coast-to-coast travel scholarship to study American architecture in the summer of 1960 was his introduction to the American West.

Dusard spent two years in the peacetime army, 1961-1963, stationed for a year at Fort Hood, Texas, where his off-duty hours were spent horseback with local ranchers and cowboys. This led to a civilian job punchin’ cows on a southeastern Arizona ranch. In Arizona to stay, Jay worked alternatively in architecture, cartography, and publishing, in Tucson, then Flagstaff. Having taken up photography he regularly aimed his 4x5 and 8x10 cameras at the sculptural landscape that had drawn him westward. In 1967 he met Frederick Sommer who paved the way for him to teach photography at Prescott College (1968-1975).


Among numerous venues, Dusard’s work has been exhibited at the Phoenix Art Museum, Glenbow Museum (Alberta), Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Consejo Mexicano de Fotografia, Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport Museum, and the Booth Western Art Museum (Georgia). His work is in the permanent collections of the Center for Creative Photography, Denver Art Museum, Tucson Museum of Art, Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport, Phoenix Art Museum, Booth Western Art Museum, and the Wittliff Collection.

Jay Dusard lives with his wife, Kathie, and their horses, in rural Cochise County, Arizona.

Other books by Jay Dusard

Horses (with Thomas McGuane) 2005
Beyond the Rangeland Conflict (with Dan Dagget) 1995
Open Country 1994
La Frontera (with Alan Weisman) 1986

www.jaydusard.com
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Edward Abbey, author, Tucson, Arizona, 1984

Julie Hagen, Little Jennie (Wagstaff) Ranch, Wyoming, 1981