

# COVER IMPRESSIONS

About our cover artist

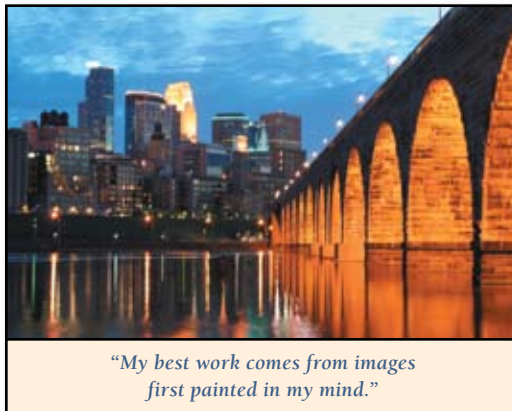
## Minneapolis Stone Arch Bridge (2006) ■ Wayne Moran

Wayne Moran is a St. Paul, Minnesota, software engineer who does commercial photography on the side. Photography is my passion," he says. "As a Minnesota-based photographer and artist, I have been greatly influenced by the Upper Midwest. I focus my skills and energies on landscapes, cityscapes, architecture, fine art, and portrait work." Moran's images successfully communicate his vision and values. His photographs have been used by companies and organizations such as financial services firms, mom-and-pop ice cream shops, and local churches, most notably the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis. Book, magazine, and calendar publishers have also featured Moran's work in their publications. In addition, his photos enhance the décor of many fine homes.

Born in Los Angeles, Moran lived there until he was in the fourth grade. His family then relocated to the town of Sartell in central Minnesota, to live closer to relatives. He was artistic as a child and remembers attending an interesting art class in Los Angeles, but his scientific, mathematical, and logical mind led him away from art for most of his youth. However, Moran didn't shy away from artistic pursuits entirely. "I had a camera in college—I shot photographs for recreation and events," he says. "I was also in choir in college and we had fundraisers to help pay for our trips. I would put together slide shows of choir photos as part of each event. Most of the images were mine."

Moran received a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, and another bachelor of arts degree in meteorology from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. He put his camera away after college because he was busy with his career and raising a family. About 6 or 7 years ago, Moran purchased his first digital camera and rediscovered his love for photography. He was greatly influenced by the photos posted on the Flickr.com website. To get back into photography, Moran decided to take traditional art classes to learn the basics, such as lighting, composition, color, and shapes. Next, he enrolled in an online course in photography from the New York Institute of Photography, which taught him a great deal. Moran also took a photo class at Dakota County Technical College in Rosemount, Minnesota, to hone the studio and lighting aspects of his work. Along the way, he was inspired by the photography of local and national photographers—James Neely, Sean Foreman, and Trey Ratcliff are among his favorites. Ratcliff's StuckInCustoms.com blog is the most popular travel photography blog on the Internet.

Moran says, "My best work comes from images first painted in my mind. I mull over a prospective image for weeks or months, seeing it from different angles and perspectives, then I finally decide what to capture. The resulting images deeply



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touch people's emotions and evoke powerful memories and dreams."

AMCP's 23rd Annual Meeting & Showcase is being held from April 27–29, 2011, in Minneapolis. To coincide with the event, Moran's *Minneapolis Stone Arch Bridge* photograph was chosen as JMCP's April cover image. He used a Canon EOS Digital Rebel XT camera to capture this spectacular view of the Stone Arch Bridge, with the magnificent Minneapolis skyline in the background. "My brother actually commissioned me to shoot that image

for him in July 2006," Moran recalls. "So we went out for an enjoyable dinner at historic St. Anthony Main in Minneapolis. Afterward, we waited for the arrival of the perfect light, often known as 'the blue hour.' I took the picture—and the rest, as they say, is history." He says that his *Minneapolis Stone Arch Bridge* photo "is a view of an era gone by, mixed with the modern." Spanning the Mississippi River, the Stone Arch Bridge was built in 1883 for railroad tycoon James J. Hill's St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railway (later called the Great Northern Railway). For many years, trains transported wheat from the Red River Valley and Canada to the Minneapolis flour mills. The structure is now used as a pedestrian/bicycle bridge and hosts numerous festivals during the summer months.

Moran is a member of the Professional Photographers of America. Many of his striking photographs can be seen via the Flickr website on his WaynePhotoGuy.com page. There you will also find a link describing Moran's coffee-table book, *Eye of the Beholder: A Visual Journey*, a creative assortment of his photos. On his own website, WayneMoran.com, the photographs are arranged by category. Most of the beautiful images on Moran's site are available for sale in the "Galleries" section. His photos are also sold at many local frame shops and other businesses. A corporate art dealer represents him as well.

Moran is thrilled with the success that he has had thus far as a commercial photographer. He is currently working on an exciting project for a company in downtown Minneapolis. A number of his images are going to be printed on 9-foot-tall panels to create murals in the conference rooms, and various photos in other sizes will be framed and hung throughout the rest of the space.

Sheila Macho  
Cover Editor

### COVER CREDIT

Wayne Moran, *Minneapolis Stone Arch Bridge*, digital photograph. Minneapolis, Minnesota. Copyright © 2006.

### SOURCE

Interview with the artist.