

What I do

Artistic and mechanical

Barry L. Lively



Some influences

- An art book my father and I would look at when I was four years old
- The tools I have available (lenses, software back home, textures, etc.)
- Michael Kenna and other monochrome photographers
- Impressionist art
- Spirituality
- Wabi sabi

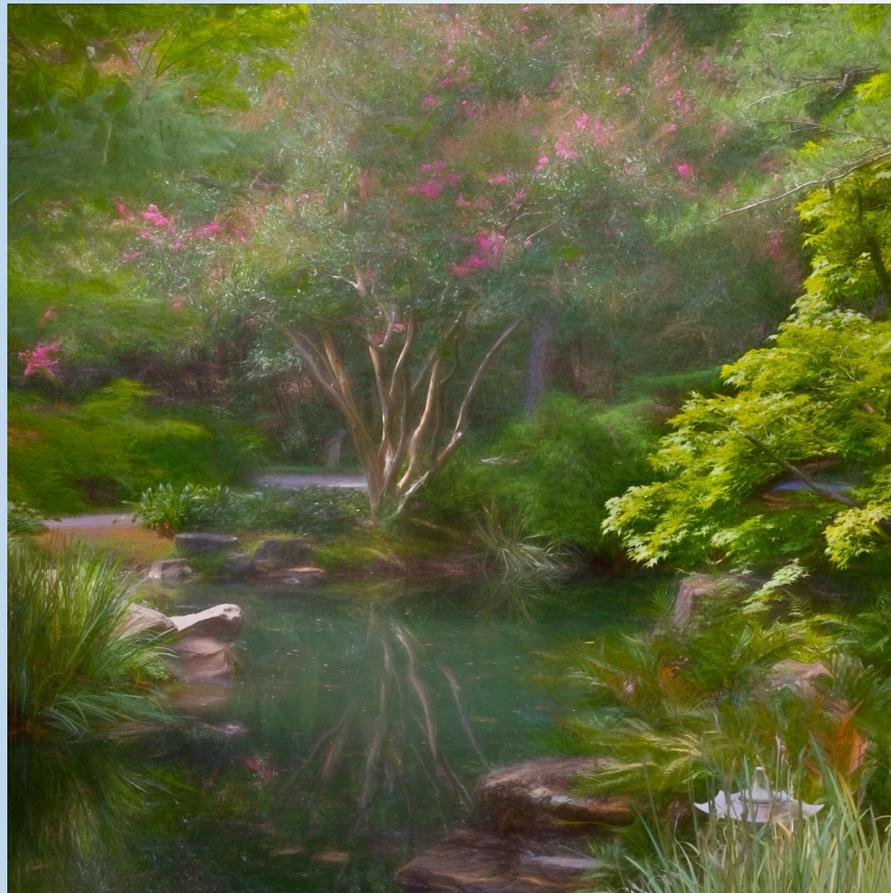
The lens on the camera



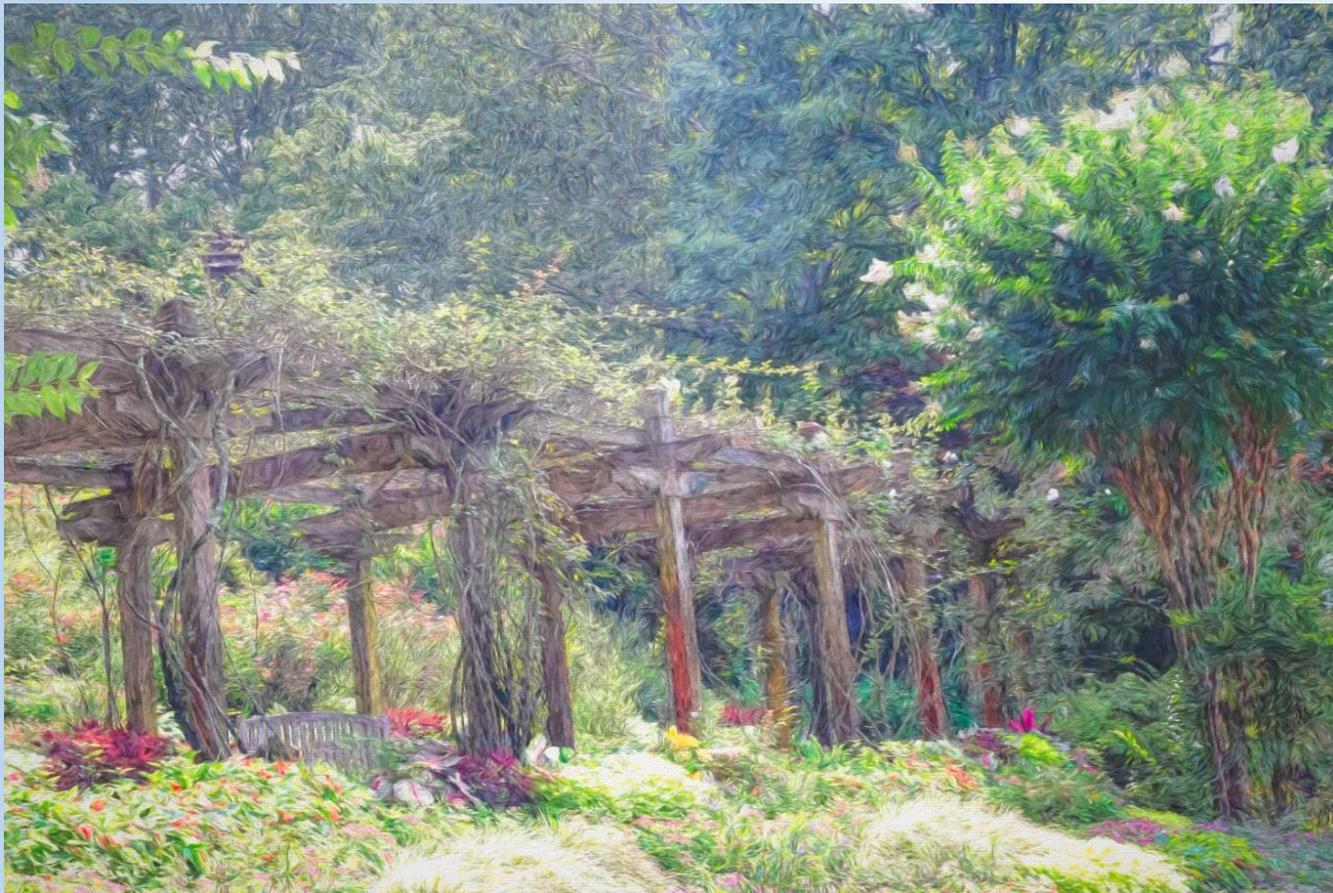
The lens on the camera



Impressionist art



Impressionist art



Michael Kenna and other monochrome photographers





Artistic Influences

Spirituality



Spiritual Identity

Spiritual identity: 'the pattern of beliefs, attitudes and feelings about the Sacred and the world - a pattern that defines who you are at the profoundest level.'

[*Skylight Paths, Who Is My God?: An Innovative Guide to Finding Your Spiritual Identity*](#)

Personality

Personality: 'the unique psychological qualities of an individual that influence a variety of characteristic behavior patterns (both overt and covert) across different situations and over time.'

<http://www.psychologymatters.org/glossary.html#p>

Spirituality is within the viewer,
stimulated by the experience.





Implications

- If you and I go out to shoot within the same two acre plot, we will come back with different images.
- Whatever we do, whether it is eating breakfast or looking for that next great photographic inspiration, will involve our spiritual identity to one extent or another.
- We often aren't even aware of the spiritual component in our everyday lives, let alone in our photography.
- By tying spiritual identity to the Sacred and not God, the door is open for people who aren't religious or perhaps don't believe there is a god to be included in this discussion.

The Little Book of Atheist Spirituality

[Andre Comte-Sponville](#),

[Nancy Huston](#) (Translator)

Prayer

Prayer

'I would rather show someone my checkbook stubs than talk about my prayer life. I would rather confess that I am a rotten godmother, that I struggle with my weight, that I fear I am overly fond of Bombay Sapphire gin martinis than confess I am a prayer-weakling. To say I love God but I do not pray much is like saying I love life but I do not breathe much.'

Barbara Brown Taylor "An Altar in the World"

Brother David Steindl-Rast

'Prayer...is waking up to the presence of God no matter where I am or what I am doing.'

Quoted in "An Altar in the World"

Dewitt Jones

“God gave me photography so I could pray with my eyes.”







Wabi Sabi



Wabi Sabi

- Part of Japanese culture for hundreds of years.
- Emphasizes
 - Simplicity
 - Imperfection
 - Impermanence

Wabi Sabi

“if an object or expression can bring about, within us, a sense of serene melancholy or spiritual longing, then that object could be said to be *wabi-sabi*”

Andrew Juniper, “Wabi Sabi: The Japanese Art of Impermanence”

Wabi Sabi

“Serene melancholy” is not a matter of giving up. Rather, it is a celebration of the present in the face of the changing.







Mechanics of Post Processing

Software I use

- Lightroom
- Photoshop
- Topaz Studio
- Nik (now DxO) Collection
- Dynamic Auto Painter