

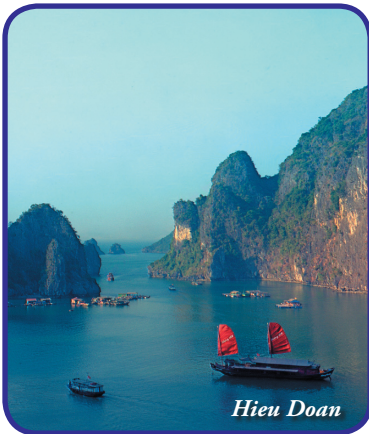
Iris Photoscapes

Hieu Doan

From Vietnam to Australia

Fleeing to safety in an old fishing boat

During the northern summer of 1981 a little group of refugees made the perilous voyage from Vietnam to the Malaysian coast. Among those swiftly sheltered in Australian homes was Dr. Tam Doan, his wife Thanh-Tam Pham and their 10 month old son Hieu. Southern Australian temperatures were below average that June but warm smiles need no translation, this was to be their new home.



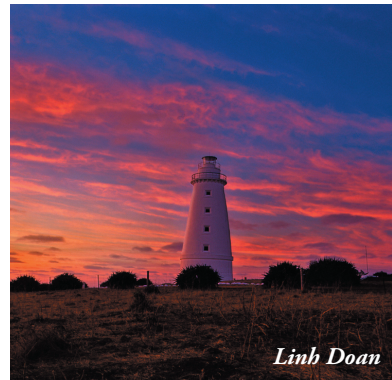
Hieu Doan

Tam and his wife are enormously hard working. Although medical graduates from Saigon University both proceeded to again complete medical degrees in Adelaide. (Despite births of daughter Linh and son Trung in the meantime!)

The Doan's Photographic Passion

A family following the camera into every corner of Australia

The Doans treasure the wide open spaces of their Australian home. It constantly lures them from their busy medical practices whenever opportunity arises. Weekends can see them travel for some thousands of kilometers sometimes for just a few images. For them, this is a family affair where each of the members provokes the others to greater and more creative "seeing". In their youth in Vietnam Doctors Tam both enjoyed using an old Canon camera but such pleasures had been put to one side during the tumultuous years that followed. Not until nearly



Linh Doan

fifteen years later when son Hieu began to show creative promise behind the lens in high school did their interest revive. What better family activity than for them to share a mutual enthusiasm for photography together. It was something of a surprise however when they found their young daughter Linh also showing an exceptionally artistic eye for composition and colour. The scene

was set for many duelling (if not gruelling) photographic expeditions, en masse! in places located on either side of this vast continent.

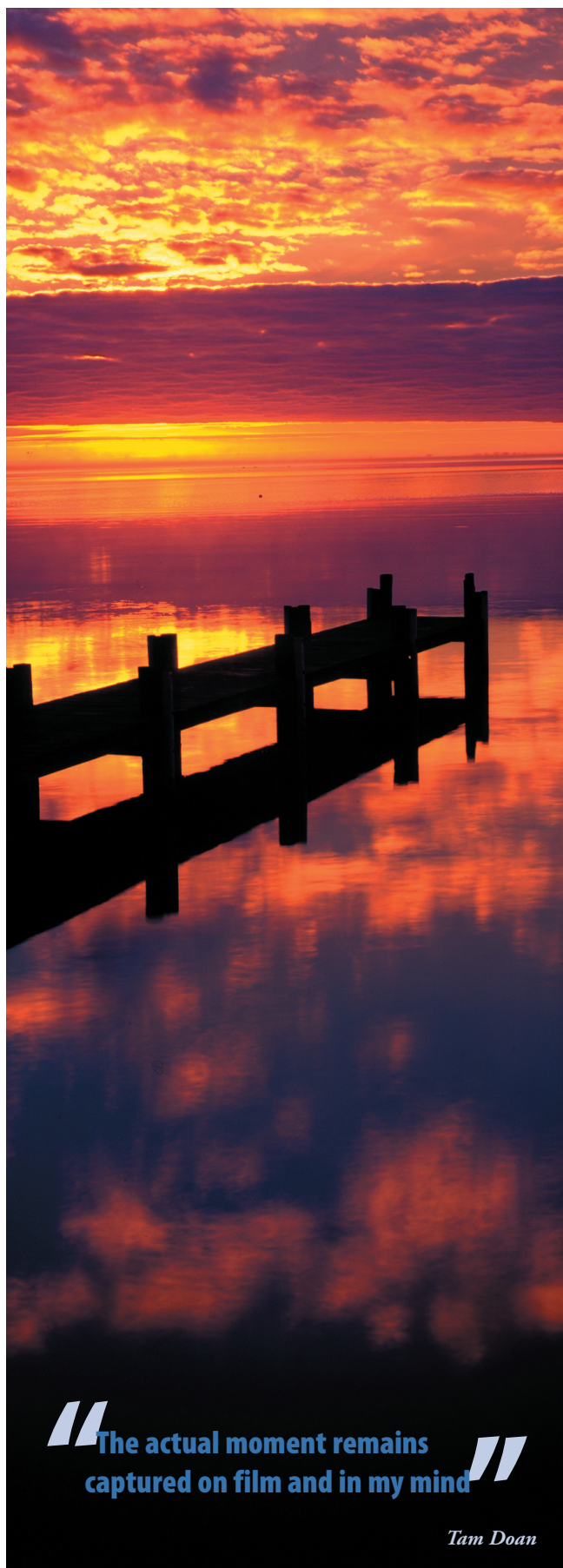
“It's the challenge of the capture we love, not the manufacture of images. Our pictures are real, I could not sit all day in front of a computer screen.”

Dr Tam Doan, May 2005



Traditional Photographic Technique

What the Eye's Iris sees the Camera's Iris Records



“The actual moment remains
captured on film and in my mind”

Tam Doan

Unmatched Clarity

Large Format Film Equals “Squillions” of Pixels



The rapid advent of digital cameras offering the excitement of instant access and ease of manipulation does not alter some basic facts about image quality. With traditional photographic film, highlight and shadow detail displays a smoother transition into white or black than the fixed bandwidth of digital. This means more rounded three dimensional looking images and an expanded colour gamut. Couple this greater tonal latitude with the resolving power of medium or large format film and there's no comparison! The Doans capture many images with the 6X17 panoramic camera making possible enlargements of salon quality even more than two metres wide. This kind of resolution is far beyond the capabilities of any digital camera yet dreamed of.

The ultimate hard copy

Big and Georgeous Cibachrome Prints

Over the years the Doan family has tried all available printing methods and materials. They find that nothing looks as good as a Cibachrome print. The brilliant colour saturation of their transparencies is faithfully reproduced in a way that takes the viewer back to the original scene. Under good lighting, as displayed at their Iris Gallery, the images glow with an illusion of depth. It is as if they become giant backlit transparencies themselves albeit with a tonal range and resolution not seen in any other medium. Iris Limited Edition prints are all hand enlarged by the most experienced craftsmen in the field.



Hieu Doan

Four Pairs of Eyes - One Vision

Whenever the Doans embark on a cross country “shooting” expedition, 4WD vehicles loaded to the roof, it is with the goal of bringing back the scenery as it is. For them it is important that the images be as

natural as possible and a true record of the instant the shutter blinked. They value the integrity of images which capture an actual moment in time rather than those which are just thrown together in a computer.

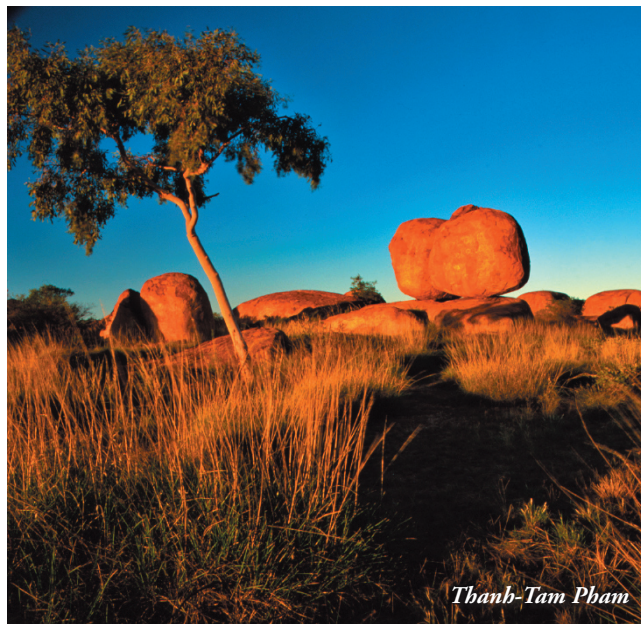


Tam Doan

Dr. Doan is a full time medical practitioner, husband and father. Never one to sit on his hands, Tam relishes the freedom of this great country and uses every opportunity to record its open spaces with his camera.

Linh Doan

A full time pharmacy student, Linh shares her parent's fascination with the camera.

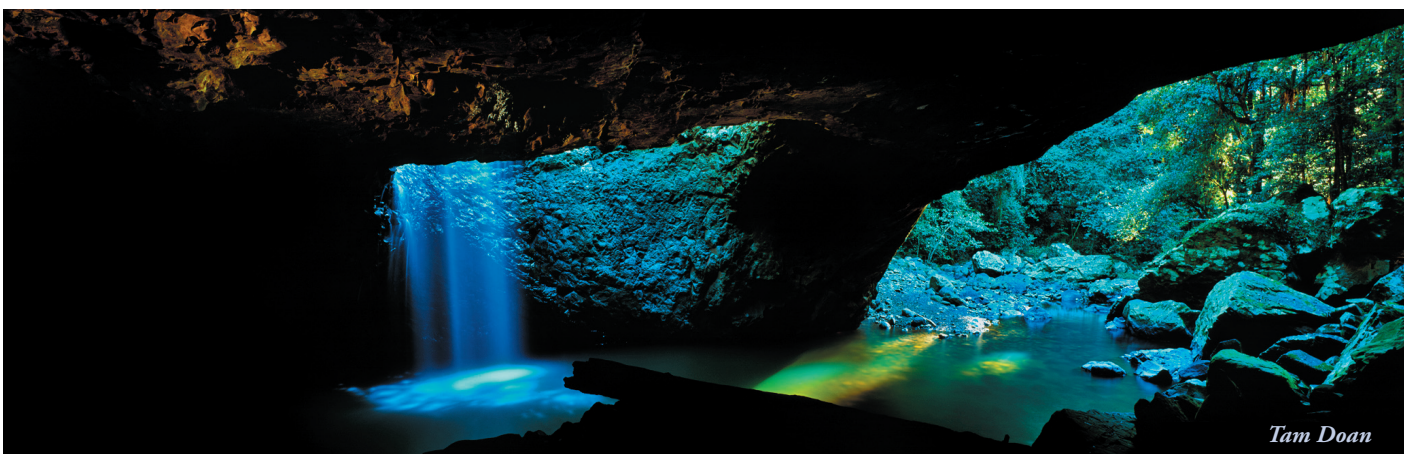


Thanh-Tam Pham

Also a full time medical practitioner, Dr. Pham accompanies her husband into the most remote and difficult locations. Her work exhibits an elegant simplicity of composition.

Hieu Doan

The eldest son, Hieu is a qualified pharmacist with both a sound technical knowledge of photography and a marked originality in his creative vision.







Seeing is Believing

We have tried to summarise the creative art and philosophy of a family. Of course being completely visual by nature the Doan's work is best appreciated at one of the several galleries with exhibition rights. See below for details.



Iris Images Stand Out from the Crowd

-  Large format film (6X17cm) captures superb detail and superior colour
-  True photographs enlarged and printed in a traditional darkroom by craftsmen
-  Made on Cibachrome with unmatched brilliance and proven archival properties*
-  Limited edition prints are embossed and certified to be an unmanipulated record

On display at:

Chroma Colour Gallery of Handcrafted Cibachrome

49 Wakefield St, Kent Town South Australia 5067

*Cibachrome, now marketed as Ilfochrome Classic®, is the only archival colour print medium proven over time to resist fading. Cibachrome's AZO dye set produces the widest colour gamut of any print medium, only three primaries are needed to generate a perfect black. The print emulsion contains no chemical residues and the Melamine base support is perfectly stable and inert.

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