



JENNIFER IRVING

PHOTOGRAPHY



About the Artist

Jennifer Irving is a Canadian photographer from the East Coast. With over a decade's experience in travel, corporate and editorial portraits, she is now focused on environmentally conscious fine art photography. Her work is powerful, elegant and her execution precise and detailed.

Jennifer honed her skills in the classroom and under internationally renowned teachers. An adventurer at heart, the world has been Jennifer's best teacher and subject. The split-second connection of a photo becomes a poignant time capsule that resonates across time and space, beyond the instant of its creation.

When Jennifer is shooting, to her it feels like making music, or dancing; a smooth, steady, intuitive flow. Like her photographs, her technical approach is natural, as she works with the light and elements of a given moment.

COVER: "Reflections of Sylvie"





"Steadfast"

Artist Statement

I began using a camera as a way to immortalize and share a moment, a feeling, a fleeting detail. The more I photographed, the more I fell in love with the essence of wild landscapes and creatures through unposed portraits and places in this world that are ruled by nature.

Nature is my muse, my favourite subject. Not many things make me happier than being out in the field, camera in hand, exploring a landscape, watching the light change, seeing wild creatures in their natural habitats.

“Photographer Jennifer Irving captures the raw beauty and elegance of wild horses in her stunning photo collections. Her portfolio shares a glimpse into the lives of these magnificent animals, free to roam in remote areas, and conveys a sense of our responsibility in maintaining a place for them on our planet.”

— Carolyn Edlund, ArtsyShark.com

Wild We Roam

Jennifer's "Wild We Roam" series started as a fascination with wild horse populations simply because of their beauty and the romantic notion that such familiar animals could exist as wild creatures, free from the day to day influence of mankind.

The project is comprised of portraits of animal strength and spirit, displaying horses in their habitats, their interactions with each other and the land. Instead of simply documenting wild beauty, the project emphasizes on the larger contexts in which the horses exist, and the environmental, political and economic pressures shaping their future.



"Consort"



"Embrace"

*"The horse is a universal symbol of freedom without restraint.
They are symbols of travel, movement, and desire."*

“The Camargue horse is an ancient breed of horse, generally considered one of the oldest breeds of horses in the world. Life in the Camargue is a hostile, marshy area with sparse vegetation which has made the Camargue horses small and mighty. They are known for their courage and endurance.”





"Forelstek"

"For the Wild We Roam series, I wanted each photograph to have a title that truly represented the essence of the subject. 'Forelstek' — The euphoria you experience when first falling in love."

LEFT: "Brontide"

Nature

"There's something extra special about sunrise, a daily gift from Mother Nature. It's a magical time of awakening, colour and texture, the drama and subtlety of nature on display."

"Saguaro Perch"



"Isthmus"



Features

“There is an innate strength and dignity to the Sable Island horses. Through all kinds of weather, they persist, quiet masters of their far-flung home.”



EXCURSIONS

“SABLE ISLAND IS REMOTE, GORGEOUS AND WILD. JUST LIKE ITS HORSES.”



On Wednesday the runway flooded. Thursday, the winds were too high. By Friday it seemed my years-long dream of going to Sable Island to photograph its wild horse population would remain just that.

But then, good news. A man who had chartered a flight kindly let us hitch a ride. We arrived at a little terminal at Halifax airport at 7 a.m. and crammed ourselves into a tiny twin prop plane.

Huddled shoulder to shoulder, we flew over the red and gold of Nova Scotia in October and then pushed out over the Atlantic. For just over an hour, we covered the 300 km between the mainland and Sable Island,

one of Canada's farthest offshore islands. All of a sudden the massive sandbar — actually two elongated crescents some 42 km long and just under 1.5 km across at their widest — came into sight.

As the island came into fuller view the small research stations where ecological, wildlife and weather studies are carried out did too. We saw thousands of the grey seals that form the world's largest colony of this species. And we saw, scattered here and there like figurines, the herds of wild horses that live there.

Sable Island is remote, gorgeous and wild, just like its horses. When we arrived we were the first guests since August, due to various unnamed tropical storms that had been battering the island. Along with its iconic horses, the island is also home to plants, birds, insects and animals, some of which are found only there.

We had just a day to visit the island, but even in that short time we sensed its special spirit. Nicknamed the Graveyard of the Atlantic for the rough seas, fog and submerged sandbars around its perch on the edge of the continental shelf, Sable has been the site of some 350 shipwrecks. This history haunts it, as do the stories of sailors' souls inhabiting the horses. There's an air of tragedy but of survival too.



Scalers, sailors and even convicts were visitors and unsuccessful colonizers over the years, but Canada's first life-saving station, built on Sable in 1861, marked the start of continuous human settlement on the island. The horses, thought to have arrived in the 1730s, have been there ever longer.

Sable Island is a beloved destination for photographers from around the world, each bringing their own skills and style to the images they capture there. When I had imagined my Sable Island series, I pictured stormy skies, rearing stallions and windswept horses galloping on the beach.

Clad in winter clothes and heavy gear, we were shocked to step off the plane into what felt like summer. It was sunny and cloudless, the opposite of what I had expected. The horses were taking their time, curious and calm.

My Sable Island images are part of *Wild We Rans*, my multi-year project to photograph wild horse colonies around the world. All horses are beautiful but to me, Sable Island's are the most majestic, with their wild, often sun-bleached manes. There are around 500 now. Matted and dreadlocked, these horses are glorious and earthy.

EXCURSIONS

horses attracted one of
rs to the Graveyard of the Atlantic

The Maritime Edit
Volume 4
Spring 2018

They have no predators but face long, hard winters. There is no shelter and just one tree on the entire island. At risk from extreme weather and other challenges, they're protected from humans but not from nature.

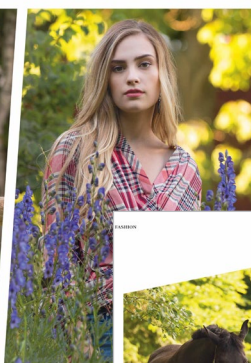
The trip was well worth the effort and the wait, and any opportunity to go there should not be met with hesitation. If you can't go I hope that my photographs take you there instead. ■

jenniferving.ca | Instagram: @jenniferving
Facebook: @jennifervingphotography
sableisland.ca

The Maritime Edit

Volume 2

Fall 2017



The Maritime Edit

Volume 3

Winter 2017/2018

EDUCATION & TRAINING

2018: Fine Art Landscape and Travel Photography, Peter Eastway and Tony Hewitt

2017: Student, Advanced Portrait Retouching, Lisa Carney

2017: Student, The Art of Seeing, Frans Lanting

2016: Student, Nature and Landscape Photography, John Greengo

2016: Build your Lighting Knowledge, Peter Hurley

2008: Student, Nova Scotia Community College, Professional Photography

2007: Delegate, International Youth Media Summit; Makó, Hungary

2006: Mentorship, Cameras for Healing (camerasforhealing.com); Freetown, Sierra Leone.

PUBLICATIONS

Created Here (digital), July 2018, "Wild We Roam", Interview on series and contributed photographs.

Brit + Co., June 2018, 'How to Travel With Intention.' Interviewed as part of article.

The Maritime Edit, Spring 2018: 'Discovering Sable Island.'

Contributed an essay and photographs.

Natural Resources Magazine, January 2018, Photographed cover image.

The Maritime Edit, Volume 3, Winter 2017/2018. Photographed fashion feature and cover image.

The Maritime Edit, Volume 2, Fall 2017. Photographed fashion feature.

Canadian Living, July 2016; 'How to Renovate an Old Camper.' Shot images for feature story.

HGTV (digital), July 2017; '6 Exclusive SOHO-style Lofts are Hitting Saint John, New Brunswick.' Shot architectural images.

Telegraph-Journal; October 10, 2014: 'Volunteers Wild About Helping Animals.'

Globe and Mail; May 30, 2011: 'How one Maritime farm is bringing back an endangered fish - and its caviar.'

EMPLOYMENT

2016, Freelance producer 'Canada Untold.'

2014, Photographer, Real Houses of New York

April 2008 to October 2013: Hemmings House Pictures, Saint John, New Brunswick.: Producer and commercial photographer.

COMMUNITY

June 2008 - August 2015: Saint John SPCA: Created portraits for promotional material for adoptive animals.

September 2014 - October 2015: Atlantic Wildlife Centre: Photography for use in promotional materials.

October 2012: Lyfe Aid, documented medical aid mission in Dominican Republic (photography and video).

September 2010 - June 2012: Boys and Girls Club, Saint John, New Brunswick, Co-creator of "Art Club" and art instructor.

September 2014 - April 2015: Stan Cassidy Foundation: Creative Director/producer for series of fundraising videos.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Jennifer is a Professional Artist member of ArtsLink NB and a juried member of the New Brunswick Craft Council.

COMMISSIONS

August 2018: *Herd*, 53" x 38" Framed photographic print on archival Hahnühle rag paper, Limited edition, 1/100.

Making Waves: Art on the Island; presented by Sunbury Shores Art and Nature Centre; The summer estate of Sir William Van Horne, Ministers Island, New Brunswick.

RIGHT: Photographic prints of "Embrace" and "Mum"
BACK COVER: "Luna"





jenniferirving.com