



## lisa [A] frank PHOTOGRAPHY

<https://www.lisafrankphotography.com>

[#\\_lisa\\_frank\\_photography](#)

[lisafrank@lisafrankphotography.com](mailto:lisafrank@lisafrankphotography.com)

Text: 608.609.8811

### BIOGRAPHY

Lisa A. Frank is a Sony Alpha+ photographer and a MacDowell Fellow in photography. She holds an MFA in Design Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she has taught textile design in the Design Studies Department and digital photography in the Art Department. Lisa also holds a BS in art education from the UW-Madison and a graduate certificate from the Yale School of Drama. Lisa has led nature photography workshops at Penland School of Crafts and the Aldo Leopold Nature Center on the subject of discovering the natural world using technology-based tools.

Lisa's meandering path to photography has connections to a childhood growing up in rural Illinois, where she was able to freely explore the out-of-doors. Her father founded a summer stock theatre and as a teenager, she helped out—painting scenery, running a follow-spot, building props—loving it all. After completing an undergraduate degree, she moved to NYC for an internship at Juilliard to focus on set design and painting in its Stage Department. This was followed by 3 years at the Yale School of Drama and many years working as a union scenic artist at the Metropolitan Opera and in Broadway and film scene shops.

As her interests changed, she began designing textiles, wall-coverings, and decorative surfaces for high-end interior projects. This decades-long history of painting ornate, operatically-scaled back drops and designing wallpaper patterns continues to influence her photographic work (she painted the oversized floral pattern shown behind the elderly couple in “When Harry Met Sally” —in 1988!).

Sometime along the way, she bought her first digital camera and a clunky Macintosh II, took some Photoshop courses at SVA, and found that a new game was on. She moved back to Madison 16 years ago to be closer to family and subsequently went back to school to get an MFA. This gave her access to great equipment and opportunities to experiment with new technology.

Always enthused by interdisciplinary projects, Lisa was chosen to be a Senior Research Fellow at the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology at the University of Illinois Urbana -Champaign. She was the first artist/collaborator to be given this distinction. With the Living Environments Lab at UW-Madison and the Visualization Lab at the U of I, Lisa became an early developer of virtual reality content created specifically to be experienced as an art exhibition. She has since developed nature-themed VR apps used in hospitals as a pain reduction tool for children.

Lisa's growing body of work is exhibited in galleries and sold as limited edition fine art prints. Known for its engaging nature-themed content, her work is collected by major health centers and hospitals. She has also received many commissions to create work to be used in hospitality, corporate, and education settings.

All along the way, the acquisition of new skills has kept her creative process lively. She's a life-long learner! Although this might seem like a complicated narrative, the throughline relates to having a committed creative life that evolves over decades.

Lisa lives in rural Wisconsin with her partner and a menagerie of wild and domesticated animals.