



## TWO GENERATIONS

Paul Caponigro



PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Two leaves*, Rochester, NY, 1963, gelatin silver print.

John Paul Caponigro



JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Alignment 4*, 2013, archival pigment ink print.

Artist Reception: Friday, September 15, 5-7pm

Exhibition is on view September 15 – November 18, 2023

Obscura Gallery proudly presents *Two Generations: Paul Caponigro and John Paul Caponigro*, a father-and-son exhibition including over two dozen photographs highlighting the careers of this family of artists. For both artists, Santa Fe was home for over twenty years (1970- 1990s) while Paul lived here raising John Paul in a community of artists. Now, decades later, their work will be shown together in this joint exhibition at Obscura Gallery. Responding to interest in seeing the work of father and son together, the show “Two Generations” was originally assembled from the personal collection of John Paul and first exhibited more than three decades ago – it has traveled and evolved ever since, debuting in Santa Fe at Obscura Gallery for the first time.

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PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Cloud and Tree*, Clonfert Co., Galway, Ireland, 1967, 10 x 13", gelatin silver print

While at first glance both artists seem a world apart -- Paul's work in black and white gelatin silver and John Paul's work in vivid color by use of digital means -- their work is unified by the same spiritual thread that runs through their landscape photography. They both revere the land they photograph and try to convey their responses to the land they love. They are both successful photographic interpreters the majesty that our Earth offers us.



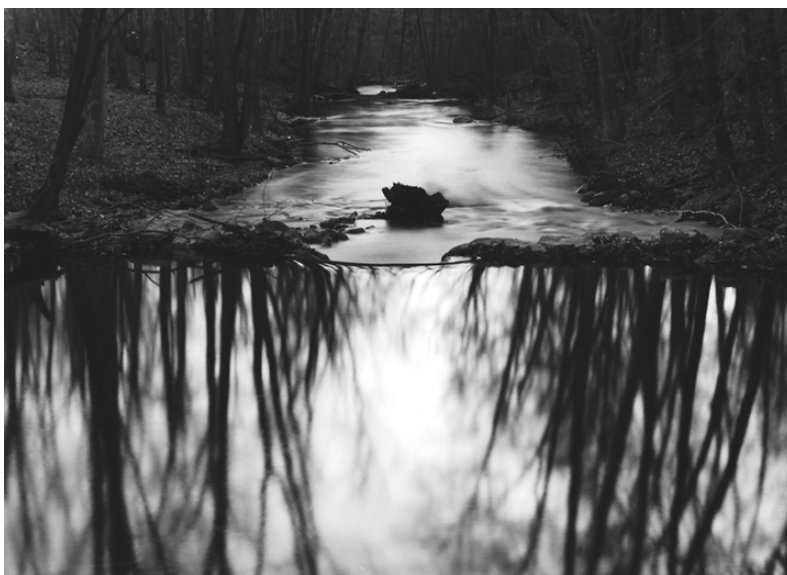
JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Constellation 19*, 2013, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available

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JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Antarctica 258*, 2005, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available



PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Reflecting Stream, Redding, CT*, 1968, 13.5 x 18.75"





L. PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Cloud, San Sebastian, Santa Fe, NM*, 1980, 13.5 x 10.5", gelatin silver print  
R. JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Antarctica 258*, 2005, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available

*Upon further reflection, you'll find their shared impulses and sensibilities run much deeper and are far more significant than the differences you'll find on the surface. Both masters, with a strong dedication to their craft and a deep reverence for nature, Paul Caponigro and John Paul Caponigro create mystical spaces with powerful atmospheres of silence that resound with spirit. In these deep moments of quiescence, both rekindle our most primal ways of being and awaken our most essential natures, reminding us that man lives not apart from nature but as a part of Nature. – from the catalogue *Two Generations*, 2014.*



L. JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Correspondence 012, Night*, 1998, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available  
R. PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Schoodic Point, Maine*, 1972, 13.5 x 10.25", gelatin silver print

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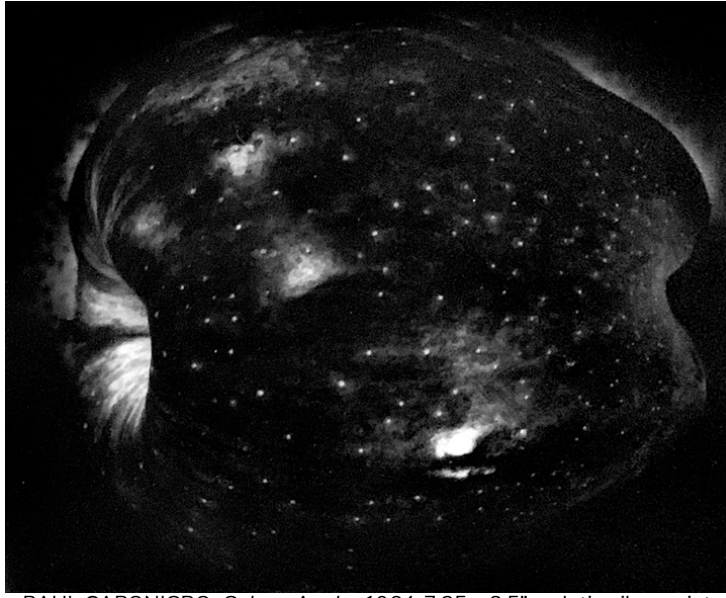


PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Leaf on Wet Screen*, Ipswich, MA, 1961, 10 x 13.5", gelatin silver print

Fine art photographer Paul Caponigro's career of over fifty years has been illustrious. Born in Boston in 1932, Paul Caponigro is renowned as one of America's most significant landscape photographers and master printers. Paul was captivated by photography early in life, and the camera quickly became a lasting vehicle for reflection and discovery in nature. When he was thirteen, he began to explore the world around him with his camera and subsequently sustained a career spanning nearly fifty years. A student of Minor White, he later discovered a kindred spirit with the West Coast school of photography. In 1966 he began an enduring affinity with the megalithic structures of the British Isles. Paul Caponigro has exhibited and taught throughout the United States and abroad. Recipient of two Guggenheim fellowships and three National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grants, Caponigro has produced images found in most history of photography texts and contemporary art museums.



PAUL CAPONIGRO, *White Cliff Ruin*, Canyon de Chelly, AZ, 1970, 17.75 x 13", gelatin silver print

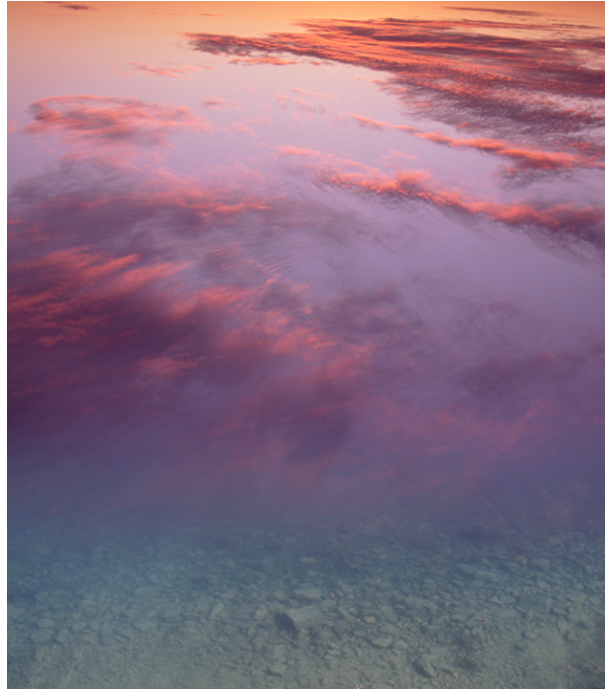


PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Galaxy Apple*, 1964, 7.25 x 8.5", gelatin silver print

Paul Caponigro's exquisite sensitivity to the tonal scale and intense mystical sensibility bring to light images of extraordinary wonder he describes as "dreams locked in silver." Working with traditional large format cameras in black-and-white film, he has created compositions that capture the patterns and forms found in nature, as well as monuments man makes in response to them. Paul Caponigro creates images that beautifully represent literal objects while also alluding to the metaphorical: a tree stump becomes a fantastical city skyline, two leaves reenact flow of a stream, a tree and a cloud converse with one another, an apple becomes a galaxy.

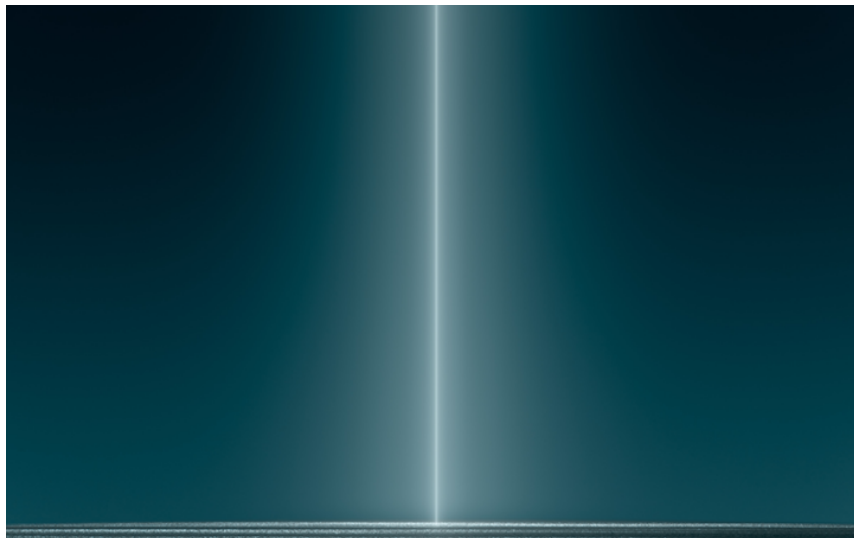


PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Running White Deer*, County Wicklow, Ireland, 1967, 8.25 x 22", gelatin silver print



JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Reflection 1*, 1999, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available

John Paul Caponigro, born 1965 in Boston, is a pioneer in digital photography. His life-long study of the arts and creativity began with his family life and later including under-graduate studies at Yale University. Father Paul, and mother, Eleanor Caponigro, a painter and graphic designer, introduced John Paul to countless musicians, writers, dealers, curators, photographers, and artists including Ansel Adams and Georgia O'Keefe -- all of whom had a profound effect on his own artistic career.



JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Immanence 10A*, 2005, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available

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JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Alignment 5*, 2013, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available

John Paul went on to become the first digital printing instructor at Maine Media Workshops, Santa Fe Workshops, Palm Beach Photographic Center, and Rocky Mountain School of Photography. He was one of five artists selected to lead the Epson Print Academy. Having taught thousands of participants over thirty years, he now teaches his own premiere digital printing workshops in his private studio. In addition, he is respected as an authority on creativity and fine art digital photography and digital printing. He is a highly sought-after speaker, lecturing extensively at conferences, universities, and museums, and in venues as diverse as TEDx, MIT, and Photoshop World.



JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Suffusion 8*, 2007, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available

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Exhibited internationally, John Paul's works have been purchased by private and public collections, including Smithsonian National Museum of American History, The Princeton University Art Museum, and The George Eastman House Museum. He consults with the corporations that build the tools he uses, including Adobe, Apple, Canon, Kodak, and Sony. He is a member of the Photoshop Hall of Fame, Epson's Stylus Pros, and X-Rite's Coloratti, and his work is published widely in periodicals and books, including *Art News* and *The Ansel Adams Guide*. In addition, John Paul's conversations with other photographers are part of the George Eastman House's permanent collection.



JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Immanence 037 A*, 2005, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available

John Paul, a process artist exploring evolving new media, dynamically combines his background in painting with traditional and alternative photographic processes using state-of-the-art digital technology. A colorist of remarkable breadth and sensitivity, he uses light as both a physical and psychological force to explore the ephemeral and the intangible – space, time, energy – and their extensions into spiritual dimensions. His dreamlike images present the external and the internal comingled as if one: bands of light emanate from sky and earth alike, billowing smoke rises from the sea, stones float, all suggesting that the presence of a different kind of life and perhaps a different kind of consciousness can be found in unexpected places. His life's work is both a call to connect with nature and a call for conscientious creative interaction with our environment during a time of rapid change.



JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO, *Oriental II*, archival pigment ink print, various edition sizes available

### **THE GALLERY LOCATION AND HOURS**

Obscura Gallery is located in the Santa Fe downtown historic district two blocks east of the revitalized Downtown Railyard district. Gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 11-5pm and by appointment.

Parking is limited. Additional parking is available Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 9:00pm at the State Capitol Parking Facility municipal garage located at 485 Galisteo Street. There is also metered parking always available on Galisteo street next to the Parking Facility.

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