

DEBRA WOODWARD

"I wish I could find the curled up old black and white photos I took back in the early 60's with my Brownie box camera. Even as a child I loved my camera and carried it almost everywhere. Getting back those photos with their white scalloped edges after sending out the tiny rolls of film was magical to me. I especially miss the ones of the fishing shacks in Perkins Cove back when it was a quiet artists' colony. It wasn't just the images of weatherbeaten cottages; my photos captured a *feeling*. I knew then that I wanted to be an artist like those painting the sea at their easels there alongside old jalopies and beat up buses and vans. I went on to take drawing and pen and ink classes but always returned to photography. The passion stayed with me as I moved to the instant gratification of the Polaroid Swinger to a series of Instamatics to my first film SLR that was stolen out of my car heartbreakingly full of front row concert photos of Joni Mitchell. I could get another camera one day, but I could never replace those wonderful images of Joni making music. The fact that I don't lose the memories and feelings that I capture now is just one reason I love shooting digital. Since I have been taking classes I realize there is so much more to learn about the art and technique of photography, and I can't imagine ever not being a perpetual student."

Debra has been a student of Robert Chiller of Chiller Photographic Images in West Newbury, MA since 2009 and has participated in two book/exhibits with his Chiller Photographic Project. She is a member of the NH Art Association, NH Society of Photographic Artists, The Newburyport Art Association and the Seacoast Artist Association. Her "Asticou" was accepted into the 33rd NH Art Association Annual Parfitt Photography Exhibition in 2012, and her "Rio Caliente" and "Window Into Fall"

were accepted into the 32nd NH Art Association Annual Parfitt Photography Exhibition in 2011. The 2012 Seacoast Repertory's "Plaid Tidings" accepted her "Casting North Hampton". Debra won the "People's Choice" Award in the Seacoast Artist Association 2012 "On the Water" show.

Debra is currently the sales representative for Candlewick Press in New England and has worked in the book industry for over 30 years. She lives in Seacoast NH with her husband, educator Terry Dostie, and several felines adopted from the NHSPCA.