

DISCOVERING BIG

# BLUE



## KEOKI FLAGG

A LOOK AT TAHOE FROM BEHIND HIS LENS

Keoki's stunning photography and inspirational writing beautifully translate what makes the Lake Tahoe/Truckee area such an extraordinary place in which to live, recreate and rejuvenate.

One's home should be that ideal refuge that embodies all that inspires you.

We hope that, as our guest on the Home Tour at Martis Camp, you will enjoy this unique perspective of Tahoe/Truckee and experience the splendor of living in these mountains.

## TAHOE MOMENT

EAST SHORE LAKE TAHOE 2013

I hold my breath and feel the last rays of sunlight wash over me. This moment, so perfect, so true, fills me with gratitude... How I love my Tahoe home.

The glassy waters reflect transitioning light on my idyllic retreat. The textures of water, granite, sand and wood shift my focus from one moment to the next, from day light to night.

From season to season the diversity of Tahoe's template is unmistakable and unique. It is incomparable with any place else on Earth. Each new day promises a new experience, a new perspective of this dramatically changing landscape.

Lake Tahoe is always my reference point.

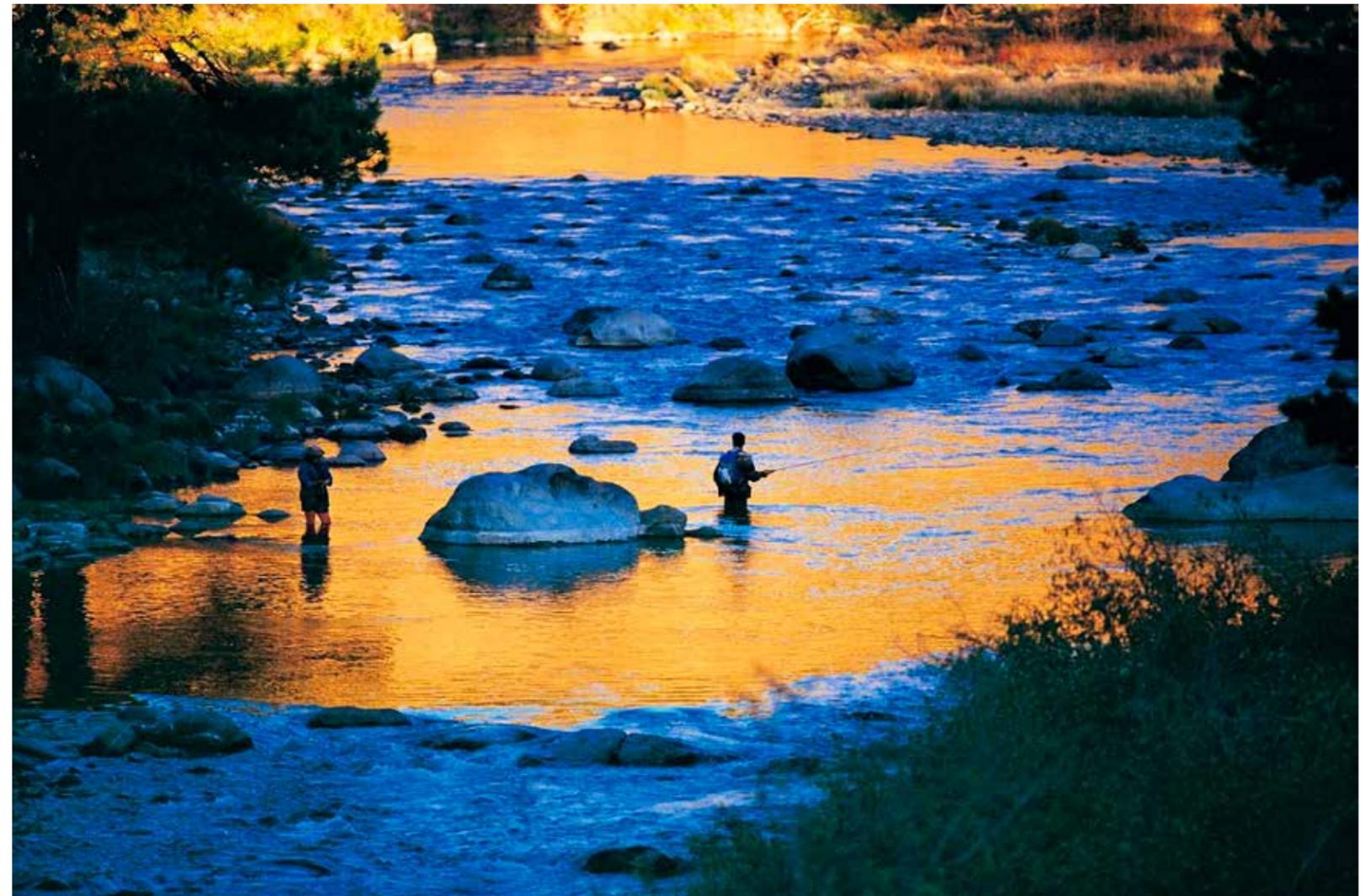
## LAUNCH OVER LAKE TAHOE

SOUTH SHORE LAKE TAHOE 2008

I put myself in the middle of extremes and then I try to disappear, to not affect anything, but to see, feel and preserve everything.

Every day I'm surrounded by opportunities to exercise this perspective, to have deeply felt experiences and to share the basic commonality that embodies the human spirit and my creative endeavor to define it. It's unequivocally self-defining.

It's not about control or structure. It's about being in the moment, and when I'm most in the moment, the most myself at my most unpredictable. The most like the momentary life I'm trying to capture, that's when I achieve my best results; that's when the magic not merely happens, but when I'm most likely to catch the light in the lens and trap lightning in a bottle.



## CELESTIAL POND

TRUCKEE RIVER 1998

Mother Nature equipped herself to light her world amazingly. The marvel of refracting, reflecting light filtered through an endless array of natural filters utterly captivates me. So often I am out there immersed, happy and absorbed in my mission, only to sense that there is something unexpected, unpredictable happening with the light around me. The first response is usually a full stop in awe. Then I become absorbed in quantifying why it feels so special. Inevitably, I shift from just feeling the light to trying to define what just changed, what shift caused it to feel the way it is now. Sometimes it's obvious; other times it's not.

To visually share the purity of heartfelt emotion is my conviction and my purpose. It's not about documenting what I see, but translating what I feel. Inspired by pure, human experience, I'm captivated by original form and drawn to define how things feel, and not solely emotionally... There is a tactile component to my best work. I'm fascinated by the paradoxical, occasional and individual harmony of vast scale and minimalism. It's an unmistakable attraction to the fundamental and the essential.



## TOTAL COMMITMENT

EAST SHORE LAKE TAHOE 2006

I have spent over twenty years wandering the globe, discovering new perspectives, growing, evolving, living in the now and immersing myself in our world's textures; that's how and when my art is born.

It obviously absolutely matters where I am, who I'm with and what I'm doing, that's why I go to such lengths at the far ends of the Earth, but, no matter, if I interpret my experiences with an original perspective and relevance, that's how and when my art is the most true.

As a photographer, I become a storyteller attempting to find, bare and explore the soul of my subjects; and as an artist, I search for original perspectives and steadfastly strive to cross the boundary of predictability in the hope of encapsulating timeless epiphanies.

At my best, I strive to capture and to convey evanescence for eternity" in a way that is unique and ephemeral, yet universal and, somehow, timeless, tangible and real.

## FLORAL BLISS

HIGH SIERRA 2011

Life is a compendium of magic moments, and in the modern everyday whirlwind our challenge is, wherever and whenever we can, to be truly present and to breathe in the full depth of each and every moment.

Once in a great while we find ourselves somewhere special at just the right time. In that space everything fades away and it's impossible not to feel where you are. As I set up my tripod and camera, Sarah kicked off her shoes and submerged herself in the sea of wildflowers. Taffy ran here and there, sticking her nose into the earth and bounding around, forgetting her age. In every direction, intricately beautiful forms of color reached to the sky to celebrate this high mountain perch.

There was no beginning or end.

*Keoki Flagg*

