

## Artist Statement

I count myself fortunate to have been invited to serve as Artist in Residence at Badlands National Park twice. To be quite honest, I struggled with the landscape for days before finding the subtle hints and nuances that made the image captures as magical as the vistas deserved. Having been there in both Spring and Winter, I find that Winter was a more awe-inspiring vision of the park-yet it was a disquieting experience. Winter in the Badlands induced a silence, of which I had been told but was ill-prepared to endure, that I have never before experienced. The deafening quiet of the sun silently falling into shadow across cold formations is an experience I'll not soon forget-nor would I want to. The rattle of long-dormant grasses, the coyote's hidden howl, and the echo hoof falls of Bighorn sheep still echo in my mind. Ultimately my best work came in total silence. For this silence, I am grateful.

To view more of Rikk's work please visit: [www.fleetingglimpse.com](http://www.fleetingglimpse.com)