

Robert & Shana Parke-Harrison

ARTIST STATEMENT

We create works in response to the ever-bleakening relationship linking humans, technology, and nature. These works feature an ambiguous narrative that offers insight into the dilemma posed by science and technology's failed promise to fix our problems, provide explanations, and furnish certainty pertaining to the human condition. Strange scenes of hybridizing forces, swarming elements, and bleeding overabundance portray Nature unleashed by technology and the human hand.

Rich colors and surrealistic imagery merge to reveal the poetic roots of the works on display. The use of color is intentional but abstract; proportion and space are compositional rather than natural; movement is blurred; objects and people juxtaposed as if by chance in a visual improvisation that unfolds choreographically. At once formally arresting and immeasurably loaded with sensations—this work attempts to provide powerful impact both visually and viscerally.

Robert Parke-Harrison

The Architect's Brother

- Trained as a photographer, ParkeHarrison did not follow in the well-practiced wake of environmentally charged photojournalists or social documentarians. Theirs was a cautionary tale fixed in the present day; it did not always project a future. Instead, ParkeHarrison conjures up a destiny in which humankind's overuse of the land has led to environments spent and abandoned. The veracity of the photograph, from which all his images are constructed, provides the convincing backdrop for narratives of separation and loss. And the influences from literature, theater, cinema, and painting enrich the work with symbols supportive of the artist's universal subjects, particularly the struggles of the Everyman...
- In The Architect's Brother, the theme of the individual human responsibility is recast in a new photographic language resonant with the complexities and uncertainties of present- day life, with its consuming technologies and greater dependency on the land and its resources. In the innovative hands of ParkeHarrison and his wife and partner Shana ParkeHarrison, who collaborates in the conception and execution of the images, this language does not transcribe the natural world. Instead, it reinvents it in compelling personal narratives that attest to the continuing power of art to address contemporary cultural issues.
- **Curator's Comments on The Architect's Brother** *Museum Exhibition organized by the George Eastman House. Text by Therese Mulligan, Curator of Photography.*

Robert ParkeHarrison

Blood Line



© ParkeHarrison

Cloud Catcher



© ParkeHarrison

Cloud Cleaner



© ParkeHarrison

Collector



© ParkeHarrison

Earth Elegies I



© ParkeHarrison

Edison's Light



© ParkeHarrison

Flying Lessons



© ParkeHarrison

Forest Bed



© ParkeHarrison

Garden of Selves



© ParkeHarrison

Kingdom



© ParkeHarrison

The Exchange



© ParkeHarrison

Mending the Earth



© ParkHarrison

Suspended Field



The Breathe



Windwriting



Reclamation



© ParkeHarrison

Gurdian



© ParkeHarrison

Turning to Spring



© ParkeHarrison

The Clearing



Sower



© ParkeHarrison

Passage



© ParkeHarrison

Airway



© ParkeHarrison

Low Tide

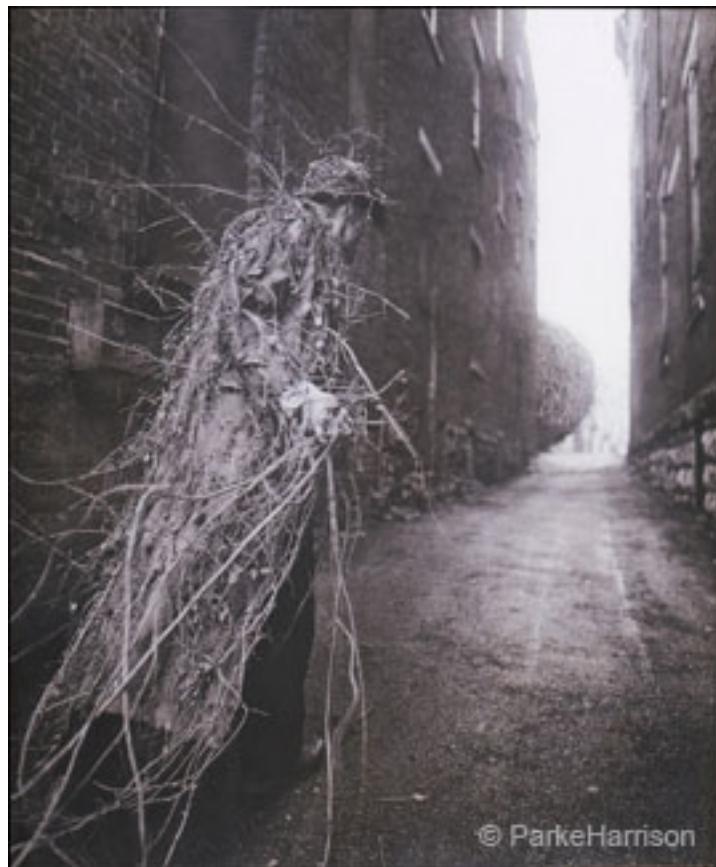


© ParkeHarrison

Bee Season



Earth Coat



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<http://www.parkeharrison.com/>