



DARK SKY IMAGES

ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY

KENNETH
NAIFF



Artist Statement My deep appreciation of the natural world and my interest in technology has played a meaningful role in my life since early childhood and throughout my career.

When moving to Arizona in 2004, my passions for astronomy, art and technology were all realized in one endeavor – astrophotography.

The appeal of astrophotography is multi-faceted. I enjoy camping out under moonless and cloudless skies in remote locations while viewing and photographing deep space.

The technical challenges and complexity of capturing very faint objects appeals to my engineering interests and background.

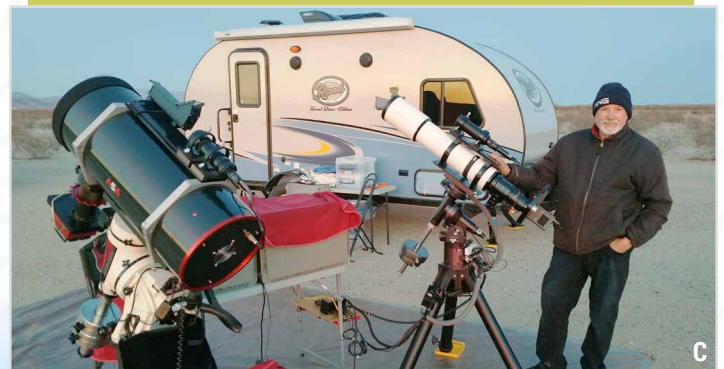
And, finally, after the fieldwork, using specialized software, the digital data are refined to reduce “noise”, improve contrast, minimize pixilation, balance color, manage over-saturation, etc. to produce artistically inspired images.

My images of our universe are my expression of the beauty and wonder of deep space. By combining technology and science, I am able to capture and develop those objects creating “The Art & Science of Deep Space Imaging.”

Wishing you clear skies!

– Ken Naiff, Soho Scottsdale artist in residence

www.DarkSkyImagesByKen.com



- A A Jewel in the Sky! A Massive Nursery!** Located on Orion's sword this diffused nebula, captured using the scientific palette (Ha, SII, OIII), the Orion Nebula is dominated by bright ribbons and curls of predominately hydrogen gas.
- B Charging Through the Night Sky...** The iconic Horsehead is a dark molecular cloud backlit by a nearby massive star. The Flame Nebula is comprised of energized hydrogen and dark dust. The visual energy of the image, captured using a scientific palette (Ha, OIII, SII) is powerful and consuming.
- C The Art & Science of Deep Space Imaging** Ken Naiff – “I hope my images will provoke questions, especially from children, so that they may gain some insight into the beautiful and awe-inspiring objects that our eyes cannot grasp in our star-studded Milky Way, and beyond.” (photo by June Cohen)
- D Hey, Neighbor!** Andromeda, our Milky Way, and Triangulum are the big three in the Local Group that also contains a number of smaller galaxies. Andromeda, a one trillion star spiral galaxy, captured using a conventional palette (R,G,B) will collide with us in 4-5 billion years. Tickets, anyone?