

JASON HOUSTON

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<https://www.jasonhouston.com/about-jason>

Jason Houston is Photographer and Filmmaker leveraging his privilege and opportunity to explore how we live on the planet and with each other, including environmental issues, social justice, and indigenous thinking in the human experience.

PHOTOGRAPHER + FILMMAKER // PERSONAL + ASSIGNMENT + COMMISSION

1992–pres Freelance assignment and commissions, plus personal work in still photography and film. Outlets and clients include: The Nature Conservancy, NationalGeographic.com, *The New York Times*, *GEO*, *Science Magazine*, *Smithsonian*, *Indian Country Today*, *Outside*, *Gastronomica*, *Discover*, *Culture Magazine*, *Men's Journal*, *BBC*, *Photo District News*, Chelsea Green Publishing, The Mountaineer Books, Chronicle Books, Pulitzer Center, Rare, Mountainfilm, Wild & Scenic, Outside TV, UNESCO, Waterkeepers Alliance, UNEP, IUCN, UN Convention on Biological Diversity, IUCN, American Forests, Conservation International, Slow Food, Farm Aid, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), National Wildlife Federation, Wildlife Conservation Society, American Rivers, Community Solutions, Environmental Defense Fund, NASA, PBS, USAID, Rainforest Alliance, National Academy of Sciences, and others. *Contributing photographer*: Redux Pictures.

CO-FOUNDER + PRINCIPAL // EIGHT16CREATIVE, LLC

2022–pres Producer and Director of Photography, working with my life+wife+creative partner on media arts projects focused on racial justice, Indigenous-centered voices, and the decolonization of humanity's relationships with Earth and each other.

PARTICIPATORY PHOTOGRAPHY + COLLABORATIVE STORYTELLING

2016–pres Integration of photography, the photographic process, and visual literacy as a tool for inclusion, appropriate authorship and representation, community engagement, experience-centered design, advocacy, and learning in cause-driven organizations. Partners include The Nature Conservancy, Rare, WWF, USAID, and others.

DIR OF EDUCATION (2015-2023) + MANAGING EDITOR (2019-2022) // LENS CULTURE.COM

2015–2023 Manage education programs including 100,000+ completed online portfolio reviews by approx. 200 reviewers; Oversee acquisition and production of editorial content for global photography community with over 3 million active site users.

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR (2003-2012) + MANAGING EDITOR (2000-2006) // ORION MAGAZINE

2000–2012 Led assignments, story development, art direction, and research for bi-monthly periodical focused on people and nature.

GREASE MONKEY + DIRT BAG + CYCLING INDUSTRY COG

1989–2000 Part-time wrenching on team bikes (*road cycling, mostly*) in Santa Barbara and a life on the road, living out of the back of my truck, climbing (*bouldering, mostly*) and occasionally working in the gyms (*new concept at the time!*), throughout California as I waded through my academic studies and worked to establish my photography career. Brief corporate stint (but never wore a suit or owned a tie) running sales and marketing for high-end bicycle component manufacturer, Chris King.

EDUCATION // ECOLOGY + EVOLUTION

1990–1994 B.A. Ecology and Evolution, with additional focus on Classical Philosophy. University of California Santa Barbara.

SELECT EXHIBITIONS + SCREENINGS + PORTFOLIOS

- 2022 “*Fish Forever: Indonesia*”, United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27), Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt
- 2022 “*Imagine All The People Sharing All The World*”, Siena International Photo Awards, Siena, Italy (*group*)
- 2022 “*EnPAX Arts Fellowship: Last Wildest Place*”, United States Institute of Peace, Washington, DC
- 2021 “*Wilson Wewa: The Owyhee*”, ONDA Speaker Series; Wild & Scenic Film Festival
- 2021 “*Last Wildest Place*”, South Orange Performing Arts Center, South Orange, NJ
- 2020 “*Last Wildest Place*”, Photoville NY
- 2020 “*Last Wildest Place*”, Bridge Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- 2020 “*iLCP 15th Anniversary Exhibition*”, WildScreen Online (*group*)
- 2019 “*Reclaiming La Pampa*”, IUCN III Congreso de Áreas Protegidas de Latinoamérica y el Caribe, Lima, Peru
- 2018 “*Conservation Enterprises Retrospective*”, IUCN Communities, Conservation & Livelihoods, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
- 2017 “*Last Wildest Place*”, Adventure Film Festival
- 2016 “*Culture & Conservation*”, Bare Essentials Magazine, (*published portfolio & profile*)
- 2016 “*FARMER*” & “*FISHERMAN*”, SxSWEco (*experiential documentary video art installation*)
- 2016 “*Caringo Island, Philippines*”, Rare (*solo exhibition & video installation*)
- 2015 “*Mosaic of Change*”, UNESCO (*interactive group exhibition*)
- 2013–2015 “*Rock Wall Climbing*”, Mountainfilm, Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Intl Festival of Outdoor Films, EcoFocus Film Festival, Adventure Film Festival, Mendi Film Festival, Brescia Winter Filmfest, Friday Harbor Intl Film Festival, Outside TV, Intl Climbers' Festival, DC Shorts, Under the Stars Film Series
- 2014 “*Fisheries*”, FSTOP Magazine, #63 Documentary Issue (*published portfolio*)

- 2014 "Food Makers", Honghe Photo Week, Yunnan, China
- 2013-2015 "Water, Water Everywhere", Francis McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art, The Museums of Los Gatos, Boedecker Theatre & Naropa Univ, Peninsula College, Armory Center for the Arts in Pasadena, El Paso Museum of Art, Huntington Museum of Art, Alexey von Schlippe Gallery, Univ of CT, Upez African Humanitarian Development Projects Nigeria, Wignall Museum of Contemporary Art at Chaffey College, Allegheny College, Baksun Books & Arts, Sewanee: The University of the South (*video art installation; group*)
- 2013-2014 "Conservation Journal", Adventure Film Festival; Fovea Gallery; Telluride Photo Festival
- 2013 "Soar", Jennifer Schwartz Gallery, Atlanta, GA (*group*)
- 2012-2013 "Picture the Leviathan", Official Selection: Mountainfilm, Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Academy of Natural Sciences, Outside TV, National Academy of Sciences/Environmental Film Festival, New Britain Museum of Art
- 2011-2013 "eel • water • rock • man", Official Selection: Mountainfilm, Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Eco Focus Film Festival, Flickerfest, Environmental Film Festival, Wildlife Conservation Film Festival, Bioneers, Outside TV
- 2010-2013 "People of the Forest", Mountainfilm; Wild & Scenic Film Festival; Durham Art Guild; Harvard Univ
- 2012 "One Earth", Fovea Gallery (*group*)
- 2011 "Changing the Way We Eat", TEDx, New York, NY
- 2010-2011 "Stone River", Official Selection: Mountainfilm, Mountainfilm on Tour, Adventure Film Festival, Port Townsend Film Festival, Berkshire International Film Festival, Frozen River Film Festival, Free Speech TV, Outside TV
- 2010 "Dying Beautifully", Fraction magazine; Obit Magazine (*published portfolios*)
- 2010 "7x7", Storefront Artist Project, Pittsfield, MA (*group*)
- 2009-2010 "Family of Mine", Rayko Gallery, San Francisco, CA (*group*); Ferrin Gallery (*group*)
- 2006-2009 "Farmer", Mountainfilm; Stone Barns Center; Ferrin Gallery; Spike Gallery; Yale Univ
- 2009 "Project 350: Photographers for Earth Initiative", Producers Guild of America, Los Angeles, CA (*group*)
- 2009 "IS183 Faculty Exhibition", Welles Gallery, Lenox, MA
- 2009 "The Unnatural Nature of Food", Fraction Magazine (*published portfolio*)
- 2009 "Cowboy Yoga", Berkshire International Film Festival, Sun Valley Spiritual Festival, Prana Online
- 2008 "Jason Houston: Farmer", Daylight Magazine, Issue #7 (*published portfolio*)
- 2008 "Uncontainable Image", KTAOS Solar Center, Taos, NM (*group*)
- 2008 "Regional Farm & Food Project", Spectrum Theater, Albany, NY
- 2008 "The Last Book", National Library of Argentina, Buenos Aires, Argentina (*group*)
- 2008 "PB3: CLIMATE", Palm Beach 3 Art Expo (*group*)
- 2008 "Fire: Hedgehog Kiln", Ferrin Gallery
- 2007 "Jason Houston: The American Farm", Gastronomica (*published portfolio*)
- 2007 "The Photographers of Berkshire Living", Berkshire Museum (*group*)
- 2006 "Earth", Spike Gallery, New York, NY (*group*)
- 2004 "Robert & Shana ParkeHarrison: Process & Collaboration", DeCordova Museum

SELECT PRESENTATIONS + LECTURES + WORKSHOPS

- 2024 "Collaborative Storytelling: Participatory Photography for learning, engagement, and equity in biodiversity conservation", USAID (*workshop*)
- 2023 "Measuring Impact Showcase: Photography and Collaborative Storytelling", USAID
- 2023 "Last Wildest Place", Red Cross International
- 2022 "Participatory Storytelling: Mexican Mangroves", WWF
- 2022 "Creative Conservation in Colorado: Participatory Photography Workshop", Colorado Mountain College Dillon
- 2021 "Conservation Practices: Photography", Univ of Colorado Boulder (*guest lecture*)
- 2021 "High Desert Speaker Series: The Hope of Wild Places", Oregon Natural Desert Association
- 2020 "Photographing Cause and Science", Skidmore College (*guest lecture*)
- 2020 "2020 ZEKE Award: Last Wildest Place", Photoville NY
- 2020 "Last Wildest Place", Wildscreen Film Festival
- 2019 "Local Lens: Engaging Communities With Participatory Photography", Center for Behavior & The Environment (*webinar*)
- 2019 "Communicating Science: Tropical Ecology in Belize", Wake Forest Univ (*study abroad workshop*)
- 2018 "Communicating Science: Tropical Ecology in Peru", Wake Forest Univ (*study abroad workshop*)
- 2018 "Jason Houston, Concerned Photographer", Skidmore College (*keynote & guest lectures*)
- 2012-2017 "Making a Living Making Photographs That Matter", Adventure Film Festival; San Francisco Art Institute; Univ of Colorado
- 2016 "An Evening with Photographer Jason Houston", Wake Forest Univ (*keynote & guest lectures*)
- 2016 "Photography for a Cause", Boulder Valley Schools Annual Art Symposium (*keynote*)
- 2015 "Conservation Practices: Photography", Univ of Colorado Boulder (*guest lecture*)
- 2015 "Science & Conservation Communication", Duke Univ (*keynote & workshop*)
- 2015 "Mexico's Mesoamerican Reef", WildSpeak, Washington D.C.
- 2015 "Creatively Reinventing Ourselves", Creative Mornings: Denver (*keynote*)
- 2014-2016 Instagram takeovers for @rainforestalliance, @causebeautiful, @visura.co, @communityfish, @ilcp_photographers, @ecotrust, @rare, @maptia, @lensculture
- 2014 "Doing Conservation Photography", Telluride Photo Festival (*keynote*)
- 2014 "Conservation Photography: Make your photos matter", Telluride Photo Festival (*workshop*)
- 2014 "iLCP Presents: Collaborating with Conservation Photographers", Telluride Photo Festival (*workshop*)
- 2014 "Guest Faculty Lecture: Concerned Photography", Anderson Ranch Arts Center
- 2014 "Visual Storytelling", Anderson Ranch Arts Center (*workshop*)

- 2013 *Concerned Photography Today*, Colorado Photographic Arts Center
- 2013 Co-organizer: *Filmmaker & Photographer Workshop*, Adventure Film Festival
- 2013 Co-chair: *Collaborations for Cause*, Blue Earth & Ecotrust
- 2013 *Conservation Photography*, Univ of Colorado Boulder (*guest lecture*)
- 2013 *Authenticity, Ethics & Aesthetics*, Collaborations for Cause
- 2013 *Effective Storytelling in a Noisy World*, Wild & Scenic Film Fest (*workshop*)
- 2010-2013 *People of the Forest*, Harvard University; Duke University; Blue Earth's Collaborations for Cause
- 2012 *Bringing Issues to Light*, Wild & Scenic Film Festival
- 2011 *Photography & Cultural Impact*, New Mexico Museum of Art
- 2011 *Artful Living: Artist Talk with Jason Houston*, Jennifer Schwartz Gallery
- 2010 *Conservation Inspired Photography*, CES Speaker Series at Williams College; Harvard (*keynote*)
- 2010 *Aperture Presents: Eirik Johnson with Jason Houston*, New York Photo Festival
- 2009 *Nature in Media*, New Britain Museum of Art
- 2008 *Artists Imagining the Future*, Art+Environment, Nevada Museum of Art
- 2008 *Global Poverty Initiative: Meet Artist & Activists*, MIT
- 2006-2007 *Art & Activism*, IS183 School of Art; Yale; Darrow School; NOFA Summer Conference (*keynote*)
- 2006 *Master's Tea with Jason Houston*, Yale
- 2005 *The UN's World Summit on Sustainable Development and South Africa's Informal Settlements*, Alfred Univ (*keynote*)
- 2005 *Photography for Social Change*, LeMoyne College
- 2004 *The UN's World Summit on Sustainable Development and South Africa's Informal Settlements*, Univ of Vermont

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016-pres Fellow, Sabin Center for Environment and Sustainability at Wake Forest University
- 2013-pres Senior Fellow, International League of Conservation Photographers (iLCP)
- 2022 EnPAX Arts Fellowship, *Decolonizing Concerned Photography*, Environmental Peacebuilding Association (*project grant*)

SELECT GRANTS + AWARDS + ACCOLADES

- 2022 Siena International Photo Awards, Storyboard Category, *Last Wildest Place*, (*Remarkable Artwork*)
- 2022 American Photography, 2022 Open, *Pandemic Recital*, (*finalists short list*)
- 2020 ZEKE Award for Documentary Photography, *Last Wildest Place* (*first place*)
- 2019 Redsecker Response Fund, *Reclaiming La Pampa: Illegal and unregulated gold mining in the Peruvian Amazon*, iLCP (*project grant*)
- 2017 Folio Awards, Use of Photography: Nature Conservancy, *Keepers of the Flame* (*finalist*)
- 2016 Jonny Copp Foundation's Jonny Copp Award, *Last Wildest Place* (*project grant*)
- 2015 *Origin* magazine, *World's Top Nature, wildlife, and Cultural Photographers*
- 2013 SPD, Photography & Design Interactive Feature: Nature Conservancy, *Water Colors* (*finalist*)
- 2012 American Library Association's Top Ten Books on the Environment, *Reclaiming Our Food*
- 2012 Bloomberg, *Eleven Photographers on Instagram*
- 2011 Mountainfilm Commitment Grant, *Picture the Leviathan* (*project grant*)

OTHER RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2008-pres Juror, curator, and portfolio reviewer for numerous photography awards, portfolio review events, and festivals including Fotofest, ICP, PhotoLucida, PhotoAlliance, Center, PhotoNOLA, Atlanta Celebrates Photography, Griffin Museum of Photography, NYCPhotoWorks, powerHouse, Telluride Photo Festival, SI Newhouse School of Public Communication, Lishui International Photography Festival, Lucie Awards, The Magenta Foundation, and others.
- 2020-2021 Mentor, CoalitionWILD Global Mentorship Programme
- 2019-2020 Mentor, Emerging League Program, International League of Conservation photographers
- 2016-2017 Colorado Facilitator, WRKxFMLY, (Participatory Photography) Working Assumptions Foundation
- 2008-2015 Board member and advisory board member, Blue Earth Alliance
- 2006-2012 Canon Professional Services, Platinum Member
- 2000-2013 National Press Photographer's Association, Professional Member