

John C. Spence  
3141 Holdrege  
Lincoln NE 68503

Telephone: 402-476-2683  
E-mail: spencevideo@gmail.com  
Websites: johnspencephoto.com  
lightstruckpress.com  
johnspenceart.com

Education: Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1969  
Master of Fine Arts, 1972  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Art Department, Major in Photography

Career Summary:

1963 - 1967 Studied architecture, University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
1964 - 1965 Photographer for the Nebraska Educational Television Network  
1966 Traveled in Europe  
1967 Traveled in Japan  
1969 Photographer for the survey by the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery on the painter R. A. Blakelock  
1969 - 1970 Teaching Assistant in Photography, Art Department, University of Nebraska  
1970 Instructor of Photography, Fall Semester, University of Connecticut  
1971 & 1972 Instructor of Photography, SummerVail Workshop, Vail, Colorado  
1971 - 1972 Woods Fellowship for continuation of graduate studies  
1972 Instructor of Painting and Sculpture for Allstate, Art Department, Uni. of Nebr.  
1972 - 1977 Cinematographer/ Editor, Nebraska Educational Television Network  
1974 - 1977 Film Unit Supervisor, Nebraska Educational Television Network  
1977 - present Independent Filmmaker  
1979 Visiting Lecturer, Photography, South Florida University, Tampa, Florida  
Visiting Lecturer, Photography and juror of Great Lakes Regional Photography  
Exhibition, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan  
1978 Photographed Brownville, Nebraska, under a grant from the Nebraska Council on  
the Humanities  
1981 Photographed significant Black men and women in Nebraska under a grant from  
the Nebraska Council on the Humanities  
1982 - 1984 Visiting Assistant Professor, Film Production Art Department,  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
1983 Mid America Arts Alliance/National Endowment to the Arts Fellowship in  
photography  
1984 & 1996 Independent Film Production grant from the Southwest Alternate Media Project

1994

Nebraska Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship

1997

Open Call award from Nebraska ETV for video production

Selected Film Work Done for the Nebraska ETV Network:

Grant Johanneson

Cinematographer

20 minutes of film on the pianist while he was Artist-in-Residence for the Uni. of Nebraska. Location filming in New York City and Massachusetts.

Nebraska for the People

Cinematographer

A 90 minute film about State government.

Becoming Me

Cinematographer

A series of thirteen 15-minute dramatic films for grade school children.

Ralph Blakelock, An American Artist

Cinematographer/Editor

20 minutes of film for this hour program.

Location filming in Colorado and New York.

Land, Yours, Mine, Ours?

Cinematographer/Editor

A 30-minute film dealing with land use.

Grand Generation

Cinematographer/Editor

Approximately twenty-five 7 to 15 minute segments for this weekly series.

Findings

Cinematographer

A 60-minute documentary on the artist Reinhold Marxhausen.

Named Best Cultural Affairs Documentary by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, 1974.

Indian Language Heritage

Cinematographer

Approximately 40 hours of film documenting oral Native American history.

Fiesta Del Valle

Cinematographer

A 30-minute film about the celebration of Mexican Independence Day.

Japanese Studies

Editor

Approximately ten shows of a thirty-two part series of 30-minute programs dealing with Japan's history and culture.

One month spent in Tokyo selecting stock footage from the archives of NHK, Asahi Broadcasting Company, The National Museum and the Japan Foundation.

"Japan: The Visual Arts" received a 1978 Ohio State Award.

The Hired Hand

Producer, Director, Editor

A documentary about farm-oriented hired hands. 60 minutes, color.

Reunion '61-'76

Producer, Director, Editor

A documentary about a 15-year high school reunion.

90 minutes, B&W.

Selected Independent Production:

Loosening the Grip

Cinematographer for two 30-minute documentaries and one 30-minute dramatic film for the University of Mid-America series on alcohol. Location filming in Canada, California, Minnesota and Iowa.

That's Incredible

Film segment for Alan Landsburg

Production's television program, "That's Incredible."

Patrick Racing

Video segments featuring Gordon Johncock and Mario Andretti of the Patrick Indy Car Racing Team for STP, Koni, Bosch and Dixie Corporations.

Nebraska's Hospitals: Caring for You

A 17-minute film for the Nebraska Hospital Association.

The Koenig Connection

A 21-minute film about art on the campus of Concordia State Teachers College and throughout the community of Seward, NE.

Main Street Revitalization

Videographer for four 30-minute videotapes on small town revitalization for the National Main Street Center.

Location taping in 6 states.

Robert Henri and the Art Spirit

A 30 minute film produced by Spence Film

Documentary about the American artist Robert Henri.

Location filming in Paris and Ireland.

Corn and Culture

"The Legacy of Zea Mays" and "Fields of Change." Two 30 minute films about the world history and culture of corn produced by Spence Film Production.

Location filming throughout the United States and Mexico.

Nebraska's Panhandle: A Traveler's Guide

Two 60 minute audio cassettes and booklet extolling the diverse natural, human and artistic resources of the panhandle area of the State of Nebraska for the Nebraska Arts Council.

Yodel - Straight from the Soul

Videographer and Editor

A 60 minute videotape about the history of yodeling.

Blue Train: Making History Dance

Co-Producer, videographer, editor

A 30 minute video production about the inspiration for a site specific, community based dance performance by Martha Bowers.

Linus Burr Smith: Architect, Teacher, Historian

Producer, cinematographer, editor

An 85 minute documentary about the life and times of Linus Burr Smith.

Chairman of the Department of Architecture, University of Nebraska, 1934 to 1964.

The Last Carnival Prize

Producer, videographer, editor

A 63 minute documentary about the history of Carnival chalk figurines and the Bartolomei family business of plaster casting in Omaha, Nebraska, featuring a casting demonstration by John Bartolomei.

Muth Williams: The Artist in the Basement

Producer, videographer, editor

A 41 minute documentary about the artist Muth Williams, who worked for much of his adult life in the basement of his parent's house and only after his death at age 51 was anyone able to see the body of work those years produced.

This film was awarded a Bronze Remi Award at the 2018 Houston International Film Festival in the Short Film Documentary category.

Dave Stewart: The Accidental Artist

Producer, videographer, editor

A 60 minute documentary about Dave Stewart's transformation from professional plumber to acclaimed artist.

Photographic Exhibition Record:

One Man Shows:

1970	One Loose Eye Gallery of Photography Taos, New Mexico Wilber Cross Library University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut
1971	Blandon Art Gallery Fort Dodge, Iowa
1972	Light Impressions Rochester, New York
1976	Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery Lincoln, Nebraska
1977	Nikon Salon

Tokyo, Japan

Sill Art Gallery  
Eastern Michigan University  
1981 Sioux City Art Center  
Sioux City, Iowa  
1989 "Agricultural Artifacts"  
Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery  
2013 "Nebraska Now: John Spence, Photographs"  
Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, Nebraska  
2018 "Nebraska: Room to Move"  
Modern Arts Midtown, Omaha, Nebraska

Group Shows:

1968      Gallery at the Market  
              Omaha, Nebraska  
"Refocus"  
              University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa  
1969      "Just Good Meat"  
              Sheldon Art Gallery  
"Refocus"  
1970      "Just Good Meat"  
              Doane College, Crete, Nebraska  
Faculty Show  
              Museum of Art  
              University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut  
"Photomedia U.S.A."  
              San Diego State College, San Diego, California  
"Refocus"  
1971      "New Photographics/71"  
              Central Washington State College  
              Ellensburg, Washington  
"Refocus"  
1972      "Contemporary Photography"  
              Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery  
"The Festival of the Image"  
              American Center, Paris, France  
"Photography/72"  
              J.B. Speed Art Museum, Louisville, Kentucky  
1974      "Third Annual Photography Invitational"  
              Kansas City Art Institute  
              Kansas City, Missouri

1975 Ohio Silver Gallery Exhibition  
Los Angeles, California

1977 "Mid-America Photography Document"  
Mid-America Arts Alliance  
Shown throughout Nebraska, Kansas,  
Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri.

"The Instant Image"  
Camerawork, San Francisco, California

1978 Kansas City Art Directors Annual Show  
Awarded Silver Best of Show

1979 "American Vision"  
National Artists' Alliance  
New York University

1980 "Silver Interactions"  
University of South Florida  
Tampa, Florida  
One year tour of the Southeast sponsored by the Southern Arts Federation

1981 "Erotic Photography, An Exhibition"  
Stephen Rose Gallery  
Boston, MA

1982 "New Portraiture"  
Farmington Valley Arts Center  
Avon, Connecticut

1982/1983 UNL Faculty Art Show  
Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

1984 "The Dog Show"  
Eye Photography Gallery  
San Francisco, California  
Invitational Photography Exhibition  
Marymount College of Kansas  
Salina, Kansas

1985 "Family: Tradition/Transition"  
Katherine E. Nash Gallery  
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

"Winners"  
Touring exhibition of Visual Arts Fellowship recipients from M-AAA/NEA  
in the states of MO, NE, AR, KS, OK.

"Family"  
Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio

1989 "Cross Section"  
Ford Gallery

Eastern Michigan University

1990     "Picture Perfect"  
            Alinder Gallery  
            Gualala, California  
"Prairie Light Arts Showcase"  
            Museum of Nebraska Art  
            Kearney, Nebraska  
"Eternal Horizon"  
            Sheldon Art Gallery  
            Lincoln, Nebraska  
"The Art of Photography in Nebraska"  
            Haydon Gallery  
            Lincoln, Nebraska

1992     "Landscape as Subject: Contemporary Photography"  
            Nebraska Wesleyan University  
            Lincoln, Nebraska  
The National Agricultural Center  
            Selected to represent Nebraska in National Art Exhibition.  
            Bonner Springs, Kansas

1993     "Homestead to Highrise: Photographs of Nebraska's Architecture"  
            Center for Great Plains Studies  
            Lincoln, Nebraska

1994     "Two of a Kind?"  
            Exhibition with Keith Jacobshagen  
            Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, Nebraska  
"Fragile Giants"  
            Brunnier Gallery  
            Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa  
            This exhibition traveled to six additional sites in Iowa.

1996     "Masters at MONA: The Decade Exhibition"  
            Museum of Nebraska Art  
            Kearney, Nebraska  
"Human Form: The Photographed Nude"  
            Sheldon Art Gallery, University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
            (1998) Brunnier Art Museum, Ames Iowa  
            (2001) San Antonio Museum of Art  
            (2002) Eisentrager-Howard Gallery, UNL

1997     Vivian Kiechel Fine Art, Lincoln, Nebraska  
"UNL Faculty Biennial: Past and Present"  
            Sheldon Art Gallery  
"Midlands Invitational 1997: Photography"  
            Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska

2000 "Visions of the Prairie: the Great Plains at the Dawn of the Millennium"  
Center for Great Plains Studies Art Collection, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

"Contemporary Nebraska Landscapes"  
Department of State Art in Embassies  
Tirana, Albania

2001 "The Man Show"  
Haydon Art Gallery, Lincoln, Nebraska

2009 "Below The Surface"  
Faulconer Gallery, Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa

2015 "This BIG Land"  
Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, Nebraska

2016 "Terra Firma: A Selection of Nebraska Landscapes"  
Gallery 1516, Omaha, Nebraska  
"Structure in Landscape"  
Modern Arts Midtown, Omaha, Nebraska

Photographs Published (selected):

Motive Magazine, October 1970

Motive Magazine, November 1970

The City American Experience  
New York, Oxford University Press, 1970

Young American Photography: Volume 1  
Lustrum Press, 1974

Uncertain the Final Run to Winter  
Windflower Press, Lincoln, Nebraska, 1974

Alvin Turner as Farmer  
Windflower Press, Lincoln, Nebraska, 1974

Exposure  
Journal of The Society for Photographic  
Education, Volume 13:2, May 1975

The Older Nebraska's Voice  
Nebraska Commission on Aging  
Volume 6, No. 6, 1975

Coup and Other Poems  
Windflower Press, Lincoln, Nebraska, 1975

Alumni  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
Department of Art, 1976

Ludi Jr.  
Pentagram Press, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1976

Japan: The Living Tradition  
University of Mid-America, 1977

Photographs

Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery Collections  
Nebraska Art Association, 1977

Camera Mainichi

December, 1977  
Tokyo, Japan

Twelve Photographers A Contemporary mid-America Document

Mid-America Arts Alliance, 1978

Cottonwood Review No. 21

The University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas, 1979

Black Men and Women of Nebraska

Nebraska Black History Preservation Society  
Lincoln, Nebraska, 1981

Erotic Photography, An Exhibition

Demarais Studio Press, Inc.  
Trenton, New Jersey, 1981

Robert Frank - Thank You

Scalo, Zurich, 1996

Close To Home

Light Struck Press, Lincoln, 2005

Photography Commissions:

1986	Fifteen 48 inch x 60 inch color landscapes of Nebraska for the cafeteria in the Nebraska State Capitol.
1988	Thirteen 48 inch x 60 inch color landscapes of Nebraska for the Animal Sciences Building on East Campus of UNL.
1992	Five site specific photographs for the State Dept. of Transportation Headquarters Building in Brainerd, Minnesota

Collections:

American National Bank, Sidney, Nebraska  
Brunnier Art Museum, Iowa State University  
Bryan Hospital, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Clarkson Hospital, Omaha, Nebraska  
Cliff's Notes, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Conagra, Washington, D.C.  
Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska  
Duncan Aviation, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Elkhorn Valley Bank, Norfolk, Nebraska

EPA Region Four Headquarters, Kansas City, Missouri  
Farm Bureau, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Farm Credit Services of America  
Federal Reserve Bank, 10<sup>th</sup> District, Saint Louis, Missouri  
Harris Lab, Lincoln, Nebraska  
HDR, Omaha, Nebraska  
Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska  
Library of the Chief Justice, Nebraska Supreme Court, Nebraska State Capitol Building  
Lincoln Poultry, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Light Work, Syracuse, New York  
Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, Nebraska  
Nebraska Orthopedic Clinic, Lincoln, Nebraska  
NEBCO, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Office of the President, University of Nebraska  
Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Security Federal Bank, Lincoln, Nebraska

Sculpture and Drawing Exhibitions:

1988	"Midwestern Visions: Constructed Realities" Invitational sculpture exhibition Sheldon Art Gallery, Lincoln, Nebraska
1991	"Off the Wall: Constructed Paintings" Exhibition of sculpture in permanent collection Sheldon Art Gallery River Market Regional Exhibition Juried competition - drawing Kansas City Artists Coalition, Kansas City, Missouri
1992	University Place Art Center One man show of drawings and sculpture, Lincoln, Nebraska
1995	Museum of Nebraska Art One man show of drawings and sculpture, Kearney, Nebraska
2000	Haydon Gallery, Lincoln, Nebraska One man show of paintings and sculpture
2001	"7 Nebraskans" "Change of Heart" monoprints Eisentrager Howard Gallery, University of Nebraska - Lincoln
2002	"A Change of Heart" One man show of monoprints, University Place Art Center, Lincoln, NE
2019	"12 <sup>th</sup> Juried Show" Assemblage sculpture, Norfolk Arts Center, Norfolk, Nebraska "Old and New" Work by Dave Stewart

Assemblage sculpture  
Hastings College Department of Visual Arts, Hastings, Nebraska  
“Summer Exhibition”  
Assemblages Sculptures, Modern Arts Midtown, Omaha, Nebraska

Artist-in-Residence:

1995      One month photography residency  
                  Light Work  
                  Syracuse, New York