

## Endel Uiga

(born March 3, 1918, Estonia)  
Photographer, Engineer, Centenarian



### About my mindscapes

Almost 90 years ago I loaded, in darkness of a clothes cabinet, a glass plate into a small black box that had a lens and shutter on the other end. It was a most primitive camera. After taking the picture and soaking the plate in developer, magic happened – a picture appeared and I was hooked to photography for the rest of my life. It took me 60 years, a lot of studying and seminars from Ansel Adams to perfect the art and qualified me to teach college level courses. The principle itself was very simple – how to control the brightness of an exposed silver molecule.

Then in the seventies technology advanced. Instead of silver molecule the picture element was stored as a electric charge in a cell that could be manipulated in many ways. It was called digital technology and it basically changed all photography.

At the same time significant changes in visual art world took place – appearance of abstract art. Instead of making interesting pictures of images and environment, original images were created. This appealed to me and I tried it, using the new digital technology. I call my images **mindscapes**. To an observer they are surprises that are similar to psychologist Rorschach inkblots which generates emotions and imaginations depending on the viewers state of mind. They are different for each viewer and may be pleasant or interesting, appealing or annoying and meaningless. To me sometimes they bring back memories of some experiences of my life and I put a name to the image. That may be meaningless to other observers but I'm very interesting hearing the viewers' reaction. Often it adds to my own imagination. Therefore, let me know what you think!

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