

## PHOTOGRAPHY: ANOTHER VIEW

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Nature photography, to me, should be approached with the idea in mind to capture your personal appraisal of the natural world around you. I believe almost all the technically perfect photographs have been taken. What's left? Your own point of view—which no one can really imitate. Some execute it better than others, however. I also believe that the true artist (with the camera) is seldom completely satisfied with his work. This then creates a continuing drive throughout life.

Rarely have I used any source of illumination other than available light, consequently I take few pictures of owls. My interest lies mainly in depicting birds in flight whenever the opportunity arises. A distinct, sharp image on the print paper need not always be the prime requisite. How often does one see the subject this way in the field?

I use as few films as necessary, but I do not ever take a color photograph with the idea that I can always make a black and white print from it later. Transmission loss is a major factor. Consequently, both a black-and-white camera and a color camera should be at hand at all times. For black and white photography, I use Tri-X most of the time, with Plus-X as an alternate. Other than that, film is the medium and I feel its grain or speed should not be a limiting constraint in shooting an unusual photograph.

Originally, because of weight considerations, I settled with the Pentax system. After years of use, I have found no particular reason to change and have up-dated cameras from time to time. The Spotmatic has been most satisfactory and, as yet, I have not come to revere the completely automatic camera.

The lens used most is the earlier model Takumar 500mm, f5 telephoto. This lens has a rack and pinion focus and, mounted on a rifle stock, provides a combination hard to beat for quick, positive focusing. I alternate between this 500mm and the Takumar 300mm, which I consider an extremely fine lens. Other lenses are utilized and vary from 17mm to 1000mm (Celestron).



Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*), Porterville, California, September, 1974, 300mm lens, F8.0



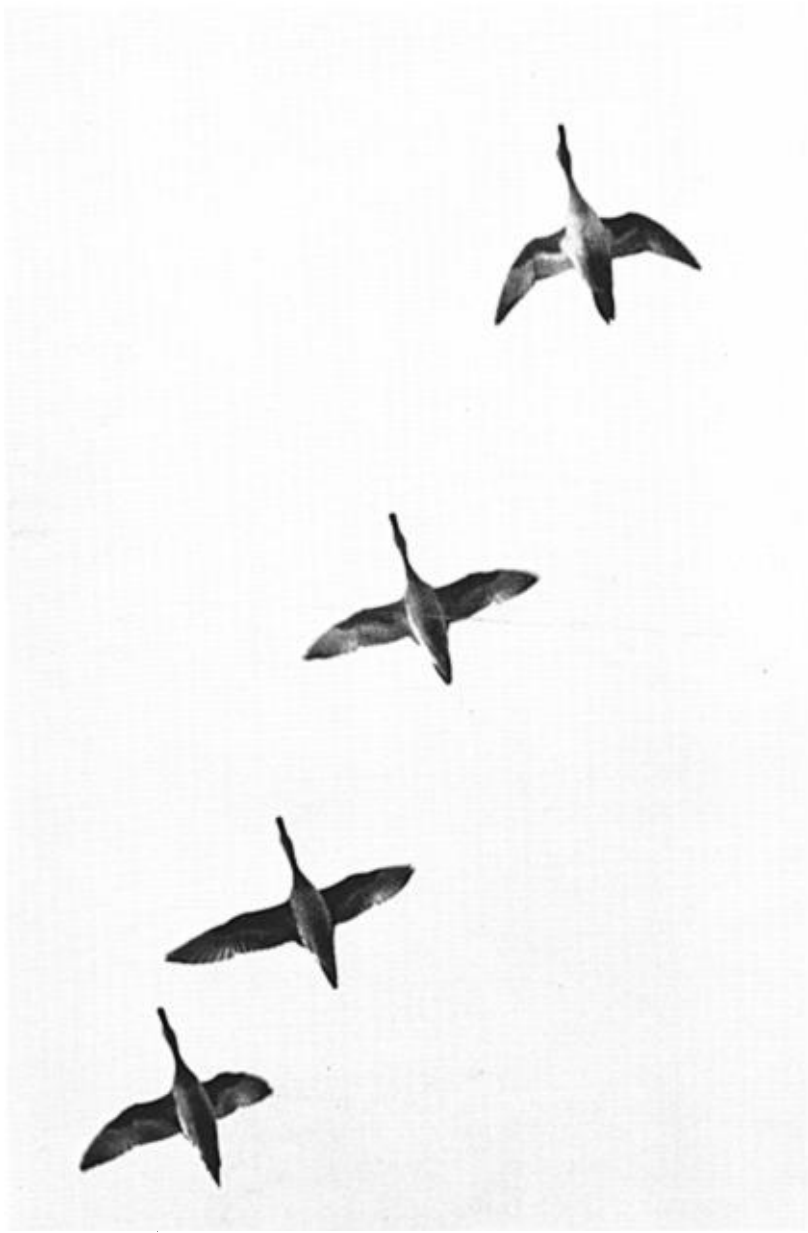
Willetts (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*), Ventura, California, October, 1973, 500mm lens, F9.0



Sandhill Cranes (*Crus canadensis*), Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Burns, Oregon, October, 1971, 500mm lens, F8.0



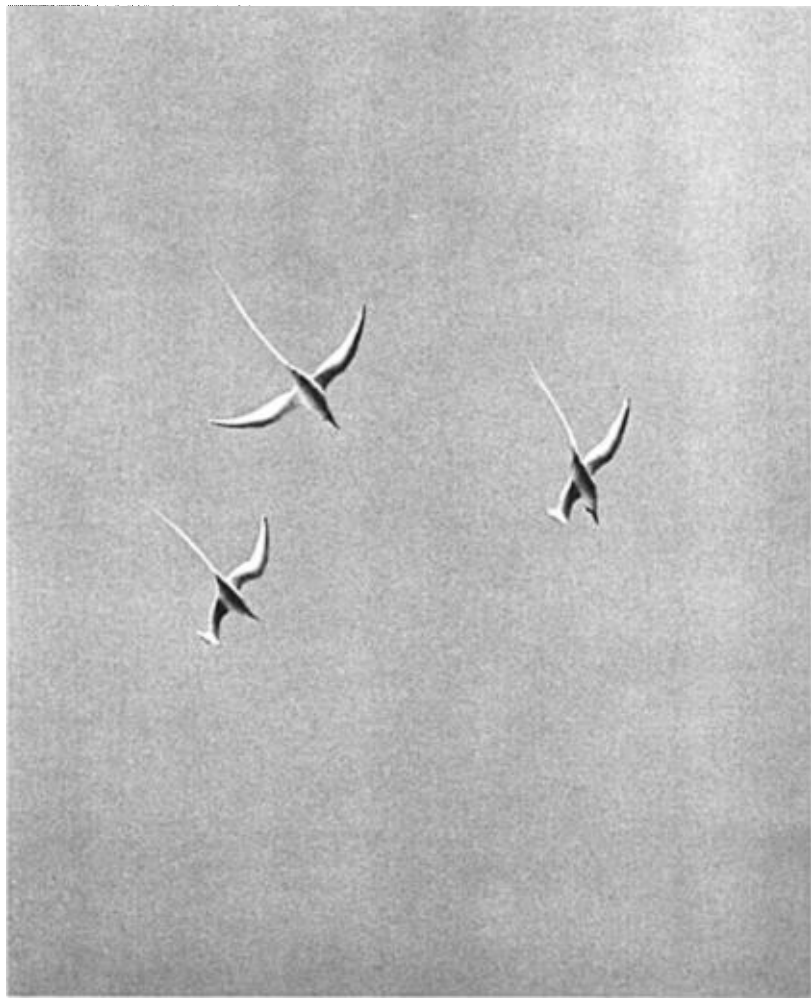
Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura*), Lompoc, California, October, 1970, 100mm lens, F8.0



Pintails (*Anas acuta*), Ventura, California, November, 1976, 500mm lens, F16

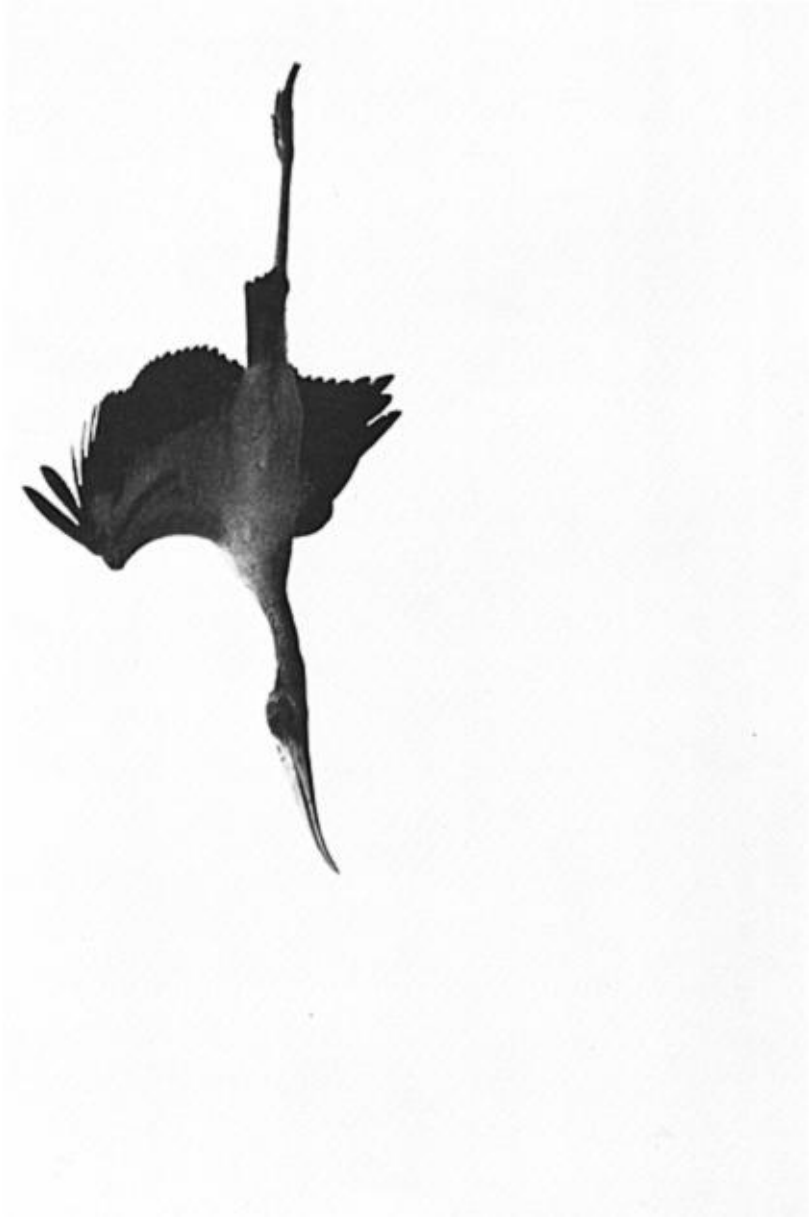


Cactus Finch (*Geospiza scandens*), Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, July, 1973, 135mm, F16



Red-billed Tropicbirds (*Phaethon aethereus*), Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, June, 1975, 300mm lens, F16





Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*), Ventura, California, 1972, 300mm lens, F8



Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*), Goleta, California, July, 1973, 300mm lens, F5.6



Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*), Zuma Beach, California, July, 1970, 135mm lens, F8