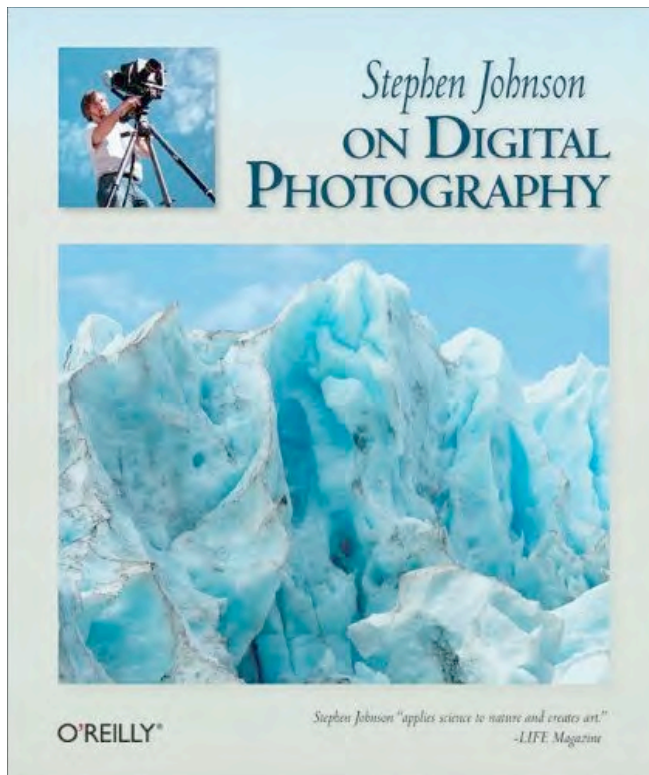


# JOHN PAUL CAPONIGRO

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## REVIEW



## STEPHEN JOHNSON ON DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Stephen Johnson is a pioneer of digital photography. This book is a seminal work. It's well worth reading and keeping on your book shelf for many years to come.

This is not a light read. It is a rewarding read.

This is a very focussed, highly personal book revealing the evolution, craft, and thoughts of one

of contemporary photography's most important practitioners. Though this is not a Photoshop how-to manual, Photoshop techniques are elaborated. Though this is not a history book, the history of photography is illuminated. Though this is not a biography, the artist's arc of development is disclosed in detail. This marriage deftly states that it is the total combination of a medium, its historic evolution, an age, and an individual's interaction with all of these that creates a photographic statement, one which may ultimately influence what photography is and what it is becoming.

The issues that Stephen advances are among the key issues of photography today. These are issues that need a great deal more discussion publicly by a much wider audience and this book is a very fine contribution to advancing that dialog.

Stephen's passion for his own work and practices is sometimes confused with close-mindedness, but this is not the case. After all, he includes images by myself, Jeff Schewe, and Jerry Uelsmann. That he does not make these kinds of images or adopt many of the practices used to make them does not mean he does not appreciate them.

Stephen sticks to his core strengths and passions and he, the book, photography, and we are the better for it.