

DECEMBER 2013

A SPECTACULAR ALL-PHOTOGRAPHY ISSUE

ARIZONA

HIGHWAYS
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“Color is the place where our brain and the universe meet.” — PAUL KLEE

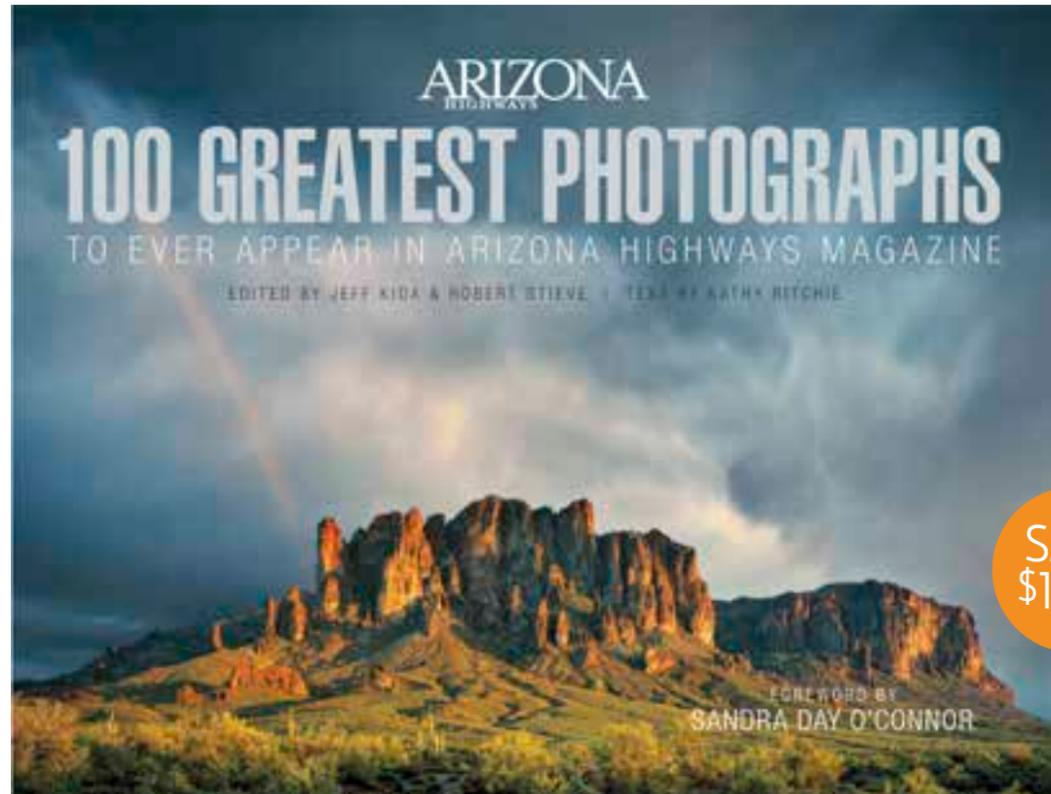
Celebrating *the* Season

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FRONT COVER: Snow-cloaked ponderosa pines, Flagstaff BY DEREK VON BRIESEN
BACK COVER: Sunset at Mitten Ridge, Coconino National Forest BY ELIAS BUTLER

Our Favorite Color

Brown peacocks. I have 2-year-old twins, and everything they've "drawn" this week has been a "brown peacock." If you squint your eyes and open your mind, you can see the otherwise flashy birds amid the scribbles of brown. I've encouraged the girls to try some of Crayola's more colorful colors — vivid tangerine, shocking pink, laser yellow — but they're fascinated with brown, even though they've never seen a brown peacock. Not in nature, not on *Sesame Street*, not on a flashcard. Nevertheless, in the imagination of a 2-year-old, brown peacocks are as real as Santa Claus.

As we get older, we tend to lose that sense of imagination — or, worse, we become closed-minded and start buying into stereotypes. I got an email the other day from a guy named Richard. He lives somewhere in Arizona, but he



PAUL MARKOW

didn't say where. Here's what he did say: "Each and every state has its beauty, and foliage in Arizona is not one of them." In a bitter way, he was suggesting that our state — his state — is devoid of color.

Over the years, I've come to expect that kind of thing from people who have never visited the White Mountains or Red Rock Country or the Vermilion Cliffs, but that's unusual from anyone who lives here. Like most places, there are some laughable stereotypes about Arizona — the one about the landscape being bland is near the top of the list — but, in reality, our state is loaded with color. You'll see that in this month's cover

story, which runs for 60 pages, from our front cover through our back cover.

For several years, we've been dedicating our December issue to nothing but photos, and, with the exception of a few word lovers (bless you), most of you have tipped your hats. I, too, am partial to words, but I recognize the role that photography has played in the history of this magazine. We've done some nice stuff, and this issue keeps pace.

The theme, as you might have gathered, is "color," and it's the brainchild of Kathy Ritchie. KAT, as she's known, is our senior associate editor. I don't remember exactly when she tossed out the idea, but it was at least two years ago. Since then, we've been poring over thousands of images, each with a dominant color. In the layout, which was beautifully designed by Creative Director Barbara Glynn Denney, the colors are presented in individual albums. There's a *White Album*, a *Blue Album*, a *Red Album* ... but, despite a non-verbal lobbying effort by my daughters, there's not a *Brown Album*. Although we do have some lovely browns in our state, especially at the Grand Canyon, we decided to focus on the vibrant colors — yes, Richard, there is vibrant color in Arizona.

The title of the portfolio is *Our Favorite Color*, and we think it's a pretty good collection of photographs. We hope you'll agree. If not, we have more words and pictures coming in January. Meantime, happy holidays, and thank you for spending another year with *Arizona Highways*.

ROBERT STIEVE, EDITOR

Follow me on Twitter: @azhighways

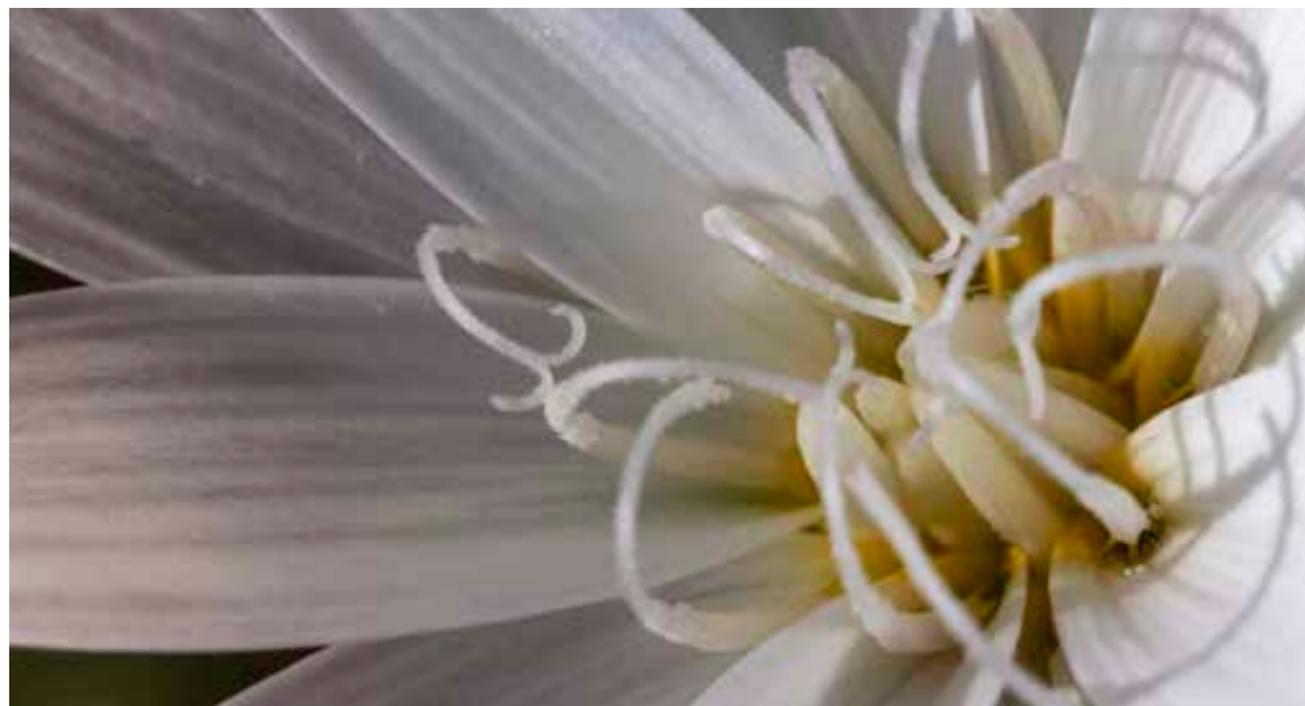
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OUR
FAVORITE

COLOR

December means different things to different people. Christmas, Kwanzaa and Hanukkah are big among the masses. Retailers love it, too, and so do skiers, snowboarders and snowshoers. For us, December means our annual “all-photography” issue. This year’s theme is “color,” but it’s not just another collection of pretty pictures. What follows is a portfolio of Arizona’s most striking landscapes, sorted by our state’s spectrum of reds, greens, golds ... and, of course, whites. As you’ll see, when it comes to color, Arizona is like a big box of crayons.

A PORTFOLIO
EDITED BY JEFF KIDA



WHITE ALBUM [1]

THE WHITE ALBUM

- [1] Desert-chicory flower, Tonto National Forest BY PAUL GILL
- [2] Winter at Oak Creek, near Sedona BY BRUCE D. TAUBERT
- [3] Snow-cloaked spruce trees, San Francisco Peaks BY ROBERT McDONALD
- [4] North Sheba Crater, east of Flagstaff BY TOM BEAN

WHITE ALBUM [2]







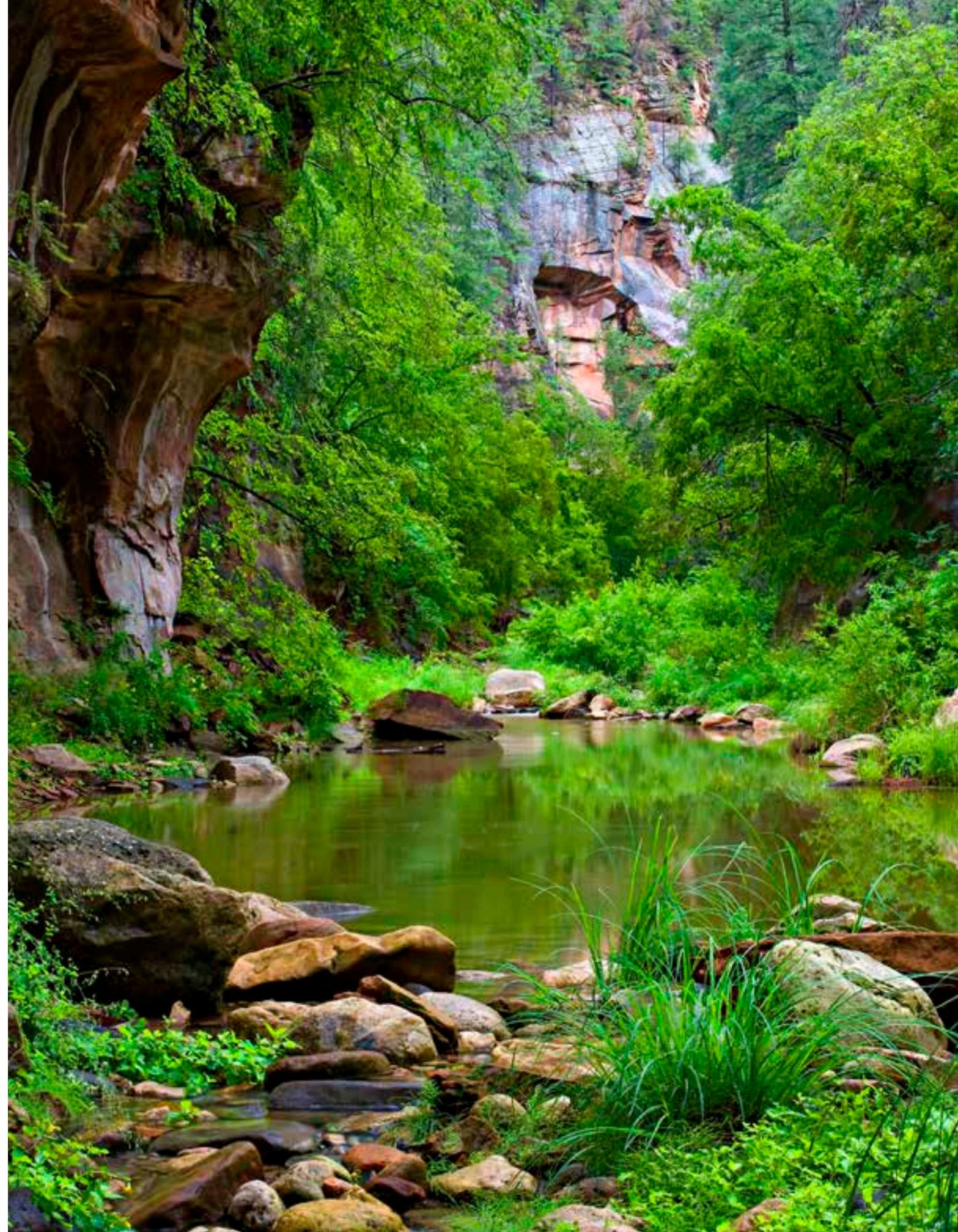


GREEN ALBUM [1]

THE GREEN ALBUM

- [1] Saguaro spines, Tucson Botanical Gardens BY RANDY PRENTICE
- [2] Summer foliage, West Fork of Oak Creek BY DEREK VON BRIESEN
- [3] Tavasci Marsh, Tuzigoot National Monument BY GEORGE H.H. HUEY
- [4] Dayflower along Chevelon Creek, Mogollon Rim BY NICK BEREZENKO
- [5] Summer foliage, White Mountains BY DEREK VON BRIESEN
- [6] Yellow columbine, Oak Creek Canyon BY DEREK VON BRIESEN
- [7] Greenland Lake, Grand Canyon North Rim, Kaibab Plateau BY GEORGE H.H. HUEY

GREEN ALBUM [2]







GREEN ALBUM [5]

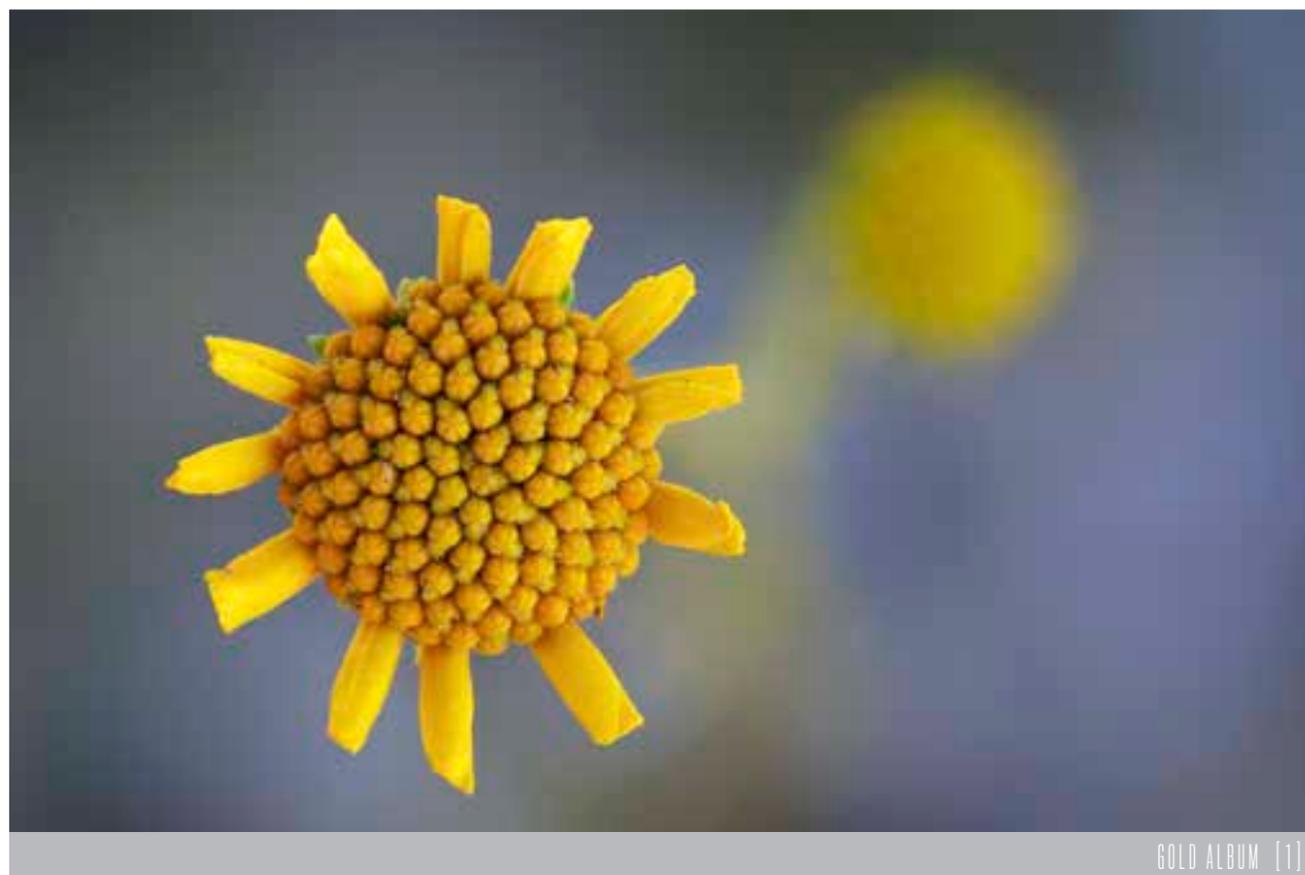


GREEN ALBUM [6]

“Green is the fresh emblem of well-founded hopes. In blue, the spirit can wander, but in green, it can rest.”

— MARY WEBB



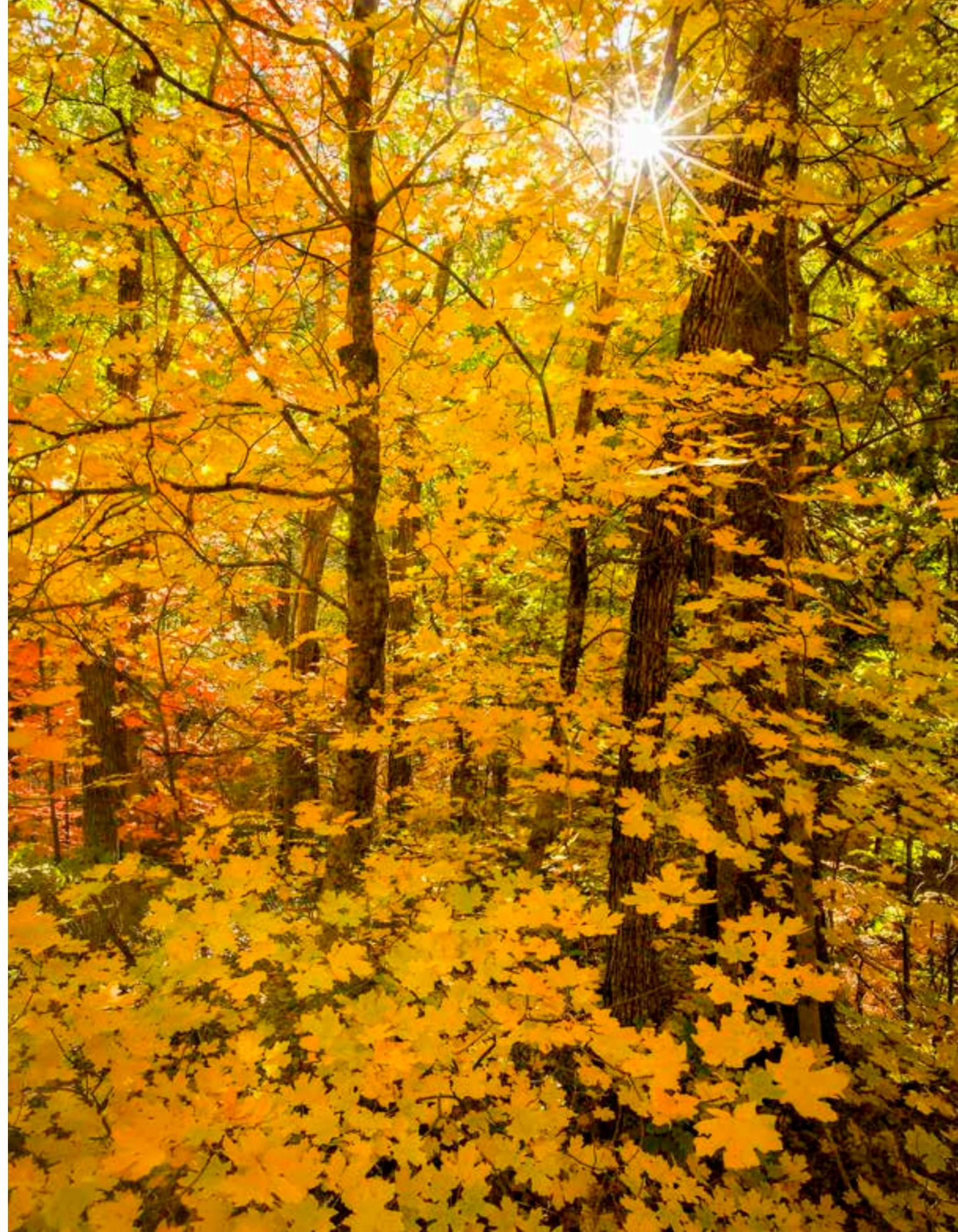


GOLD ALBUM [1]

THE GOLD ALBUM

- [1] Brittlebush flower, near Florence BY EIRINI PAJAK
- [2] Bigtooth maples, West Fork of Oak Creek BY DEREK VON BRIESEN
- [3] Lupine and Mexican goldpoppies, Superstition Wilderness BY COLLEEN MINIUK-SPERRY
- [4] Mormon Lake wildflowers and grasses, Coconino National Forest BY TOM BEAN
- [5] Morning dew on Mexican goldpoppy, Bartlett Lake BY PAUL GILL
- [6] Yellow beeplant, Fossil Springs Wilderness BY NICK BEREZENKO

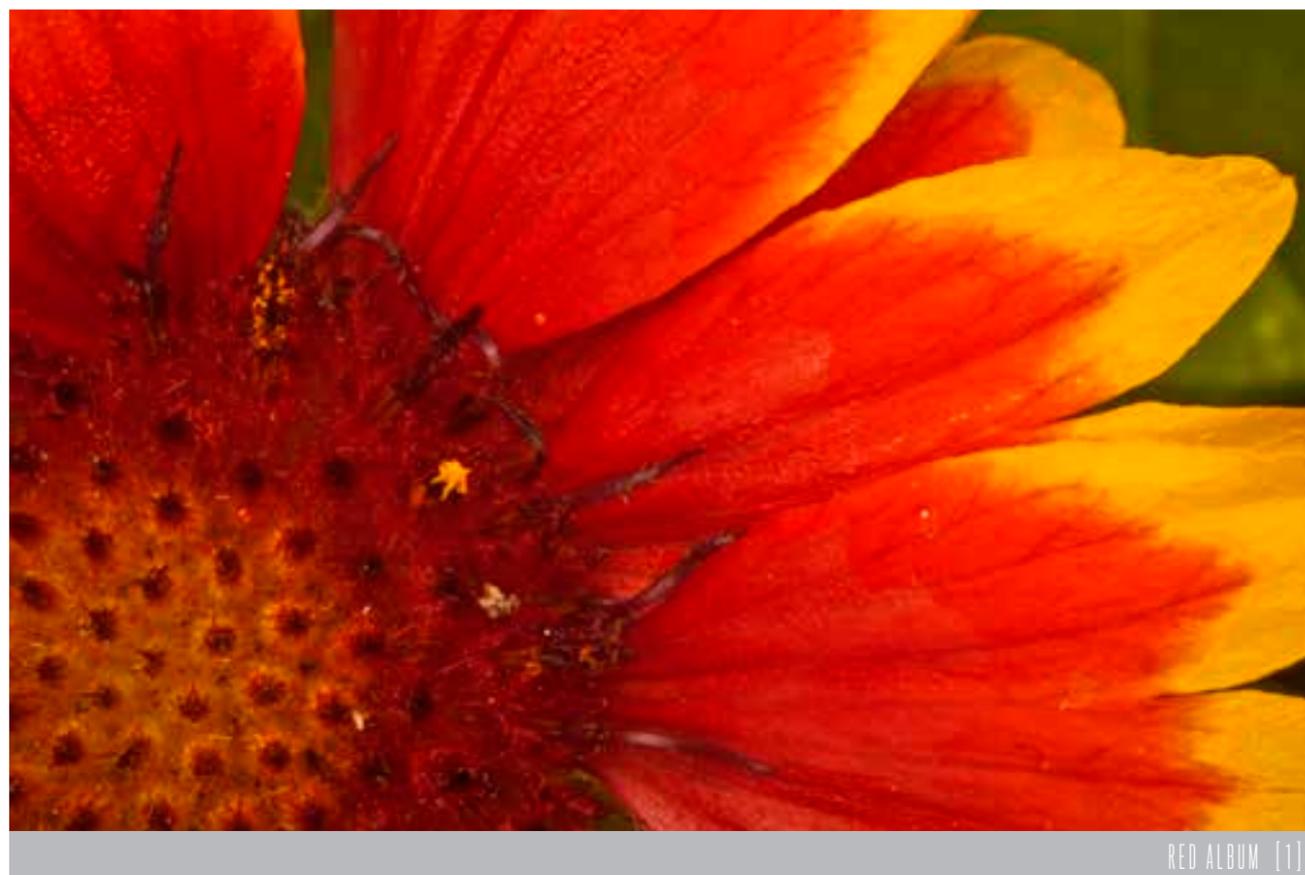
GOLD ALBUM [2]











RED ALBUM [1]

THE RED ALBUM

- [1] Blanketflower, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson BY COLLEEN MINIUK-SPERRY
- [2] Cathedral Rock over Red Rock Crossing, Sedona BY DEREK VON BRIESEN
- [3] Sunrise over Colorado River, Cibola National Wildlife Refuge BY GEORGE STOCKING
- [4] Bigtooth-maple leaf, Mogollon Rim BY NICK BEREZENKO
- [5] Swirling maple leaves, Workman Creek BY CLAIRE CURRAN
- [6] Yucca at sunset, Dragoon Mountains BY CLAIRE CURRAN

RED ALBUM [2]

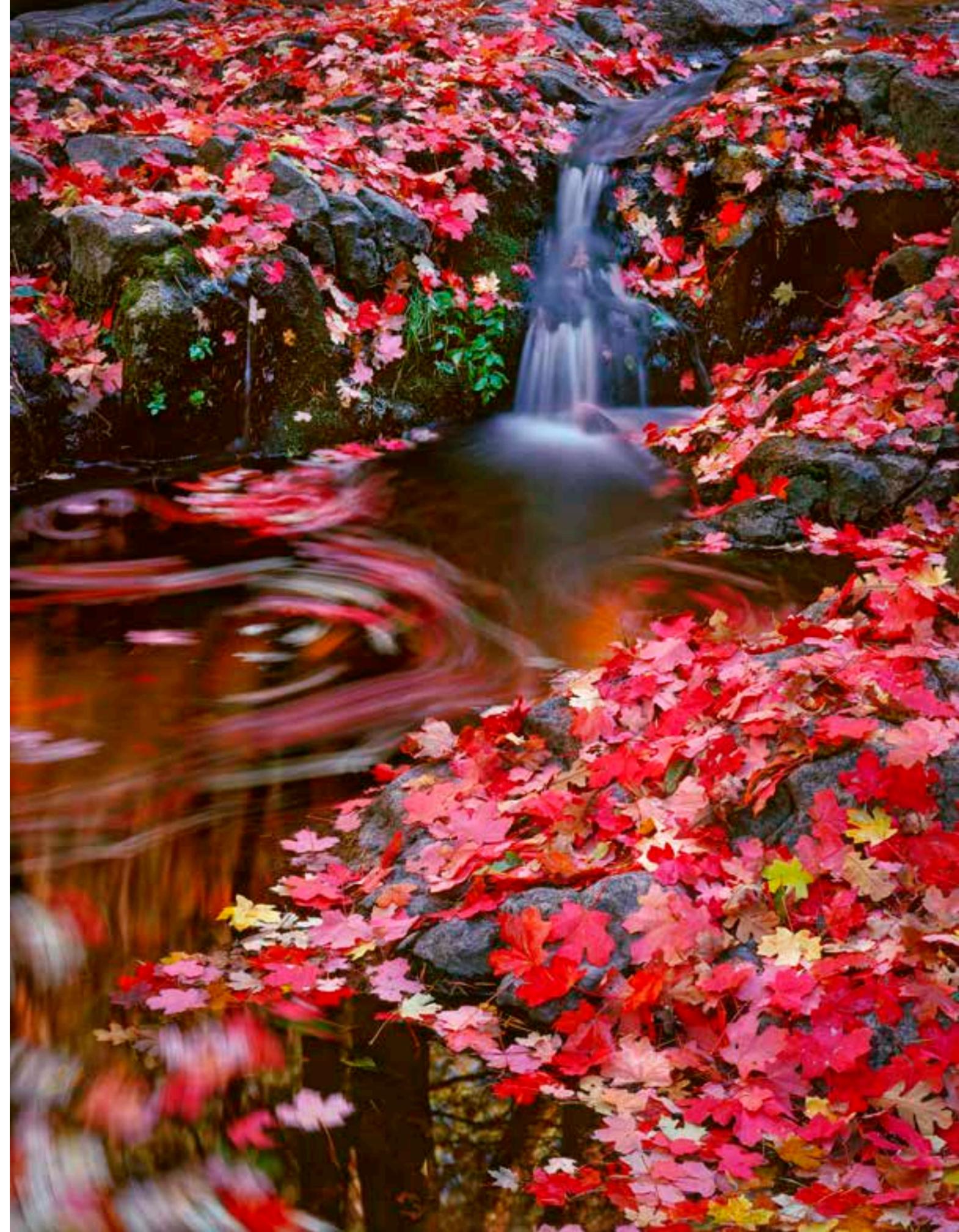






RED ALBUM [4]

*“Mere color, unspoiled by meaning, and unallied with definite form,
can speak to the soul in a thousand different ways.” – OSCAR WILDE*



RED ALBUM [5]





PURPLE ALBUM [1]

THE PURPLE ALBUM

- [1] Datura flower, near Florence BY EIRINI PAJAK
- [2] Signal Hill petroglyphs at sunset, Saguaro National Park BY GEORGE STOCKING
- [3] Dew-covered wild bergamot, White Mountains BY PAUL GILL
- [4] Morning at Lower Antelope Canyon, Navajo Nation BY TOM BROWNOLD
- [5] Beetle and broadleaf gilia, Sonoran Desert BY PAUL GILL
- [6] Sunset over Bear Wallow Canyon, Sedona BY STEVE BRUNO

PURPLE ALBUM [2]



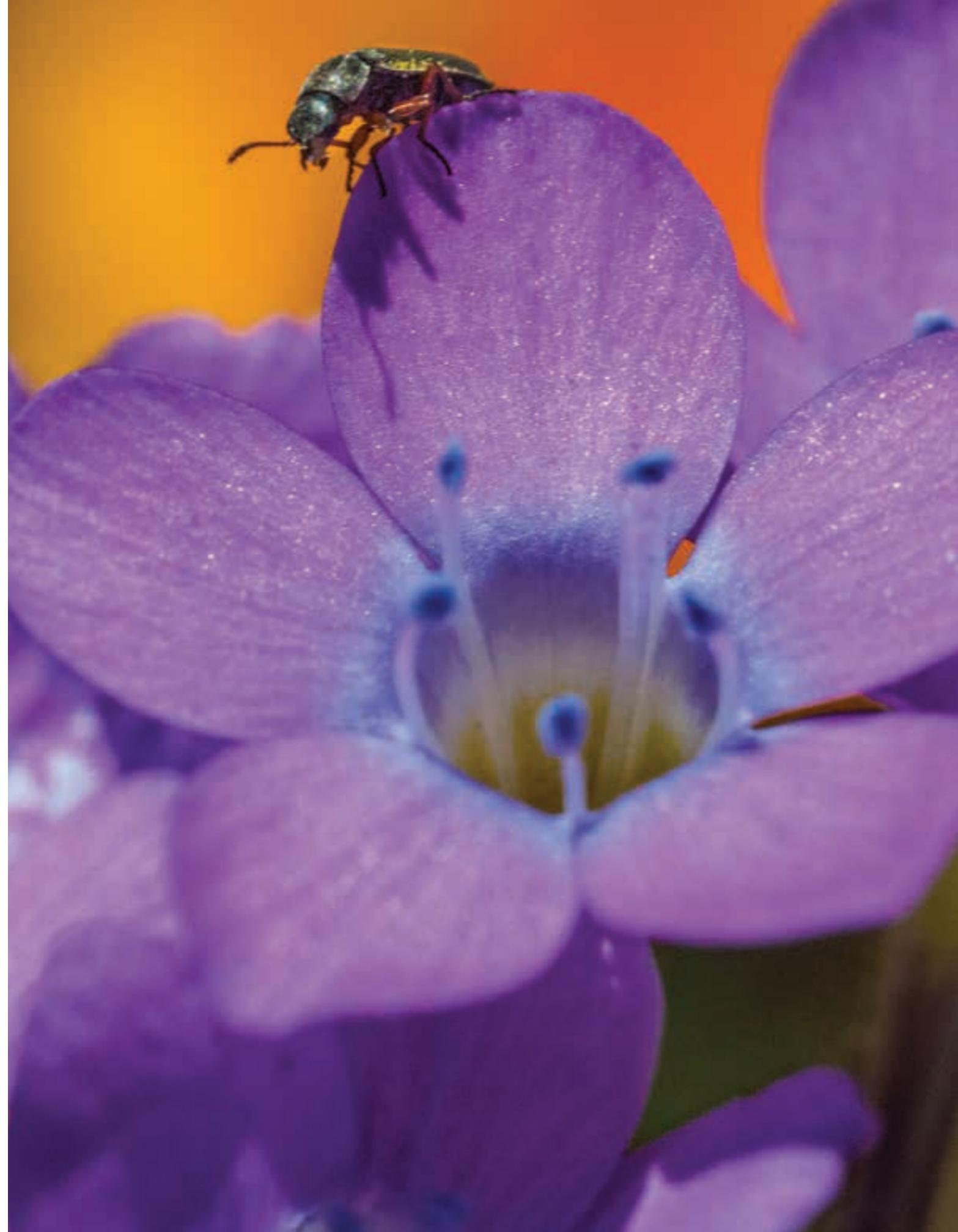




PURPLE ALBUM [4]

“All the other colors are just colors, but purple seems to have a soul. Purple is not just a noun and an adjective, but also a verb; when you look at it, it’s looking back at you.” – UNIEK SWAIN

PURPLE ALBUM [5]





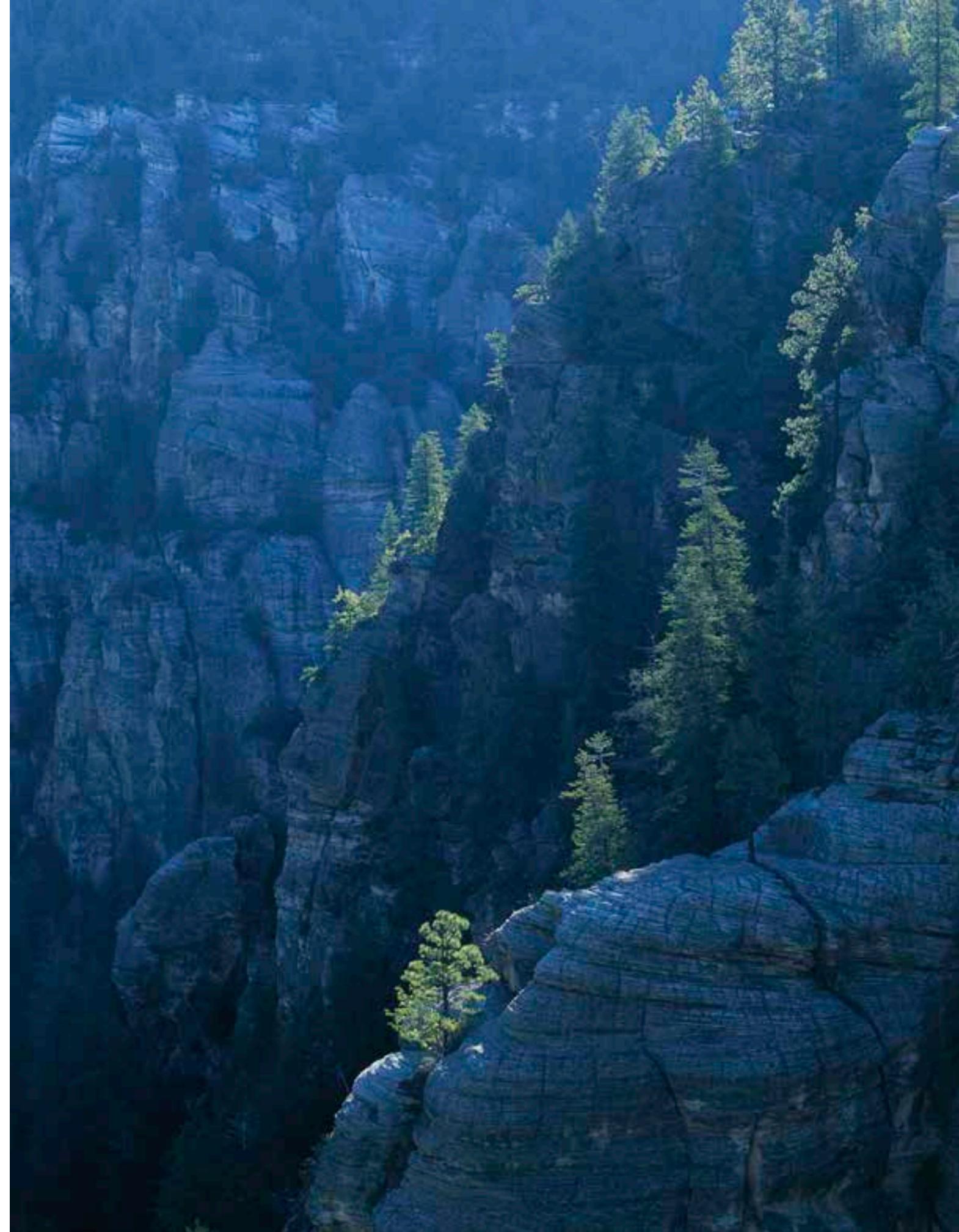


BLUE ALBUM [1]

THE BLUE ALBUM

- [1] Yucca flowers, Pinal Pioneer Parkway BY JACK DYKINGA
- [2] Sunrise at West Clear Creek Wilderness, Mogollon Rim BY STEVE BRUNO
- [3] Starry sky at White Pocket, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument BY SHANE McDERMOTT
- [4] Clouds, sunbeams and hoodoos, Navajo Nation BY CLAIRE CURRAN
- [5] Chollas and saguaros at sunset, Superstition Mountains BY GEORGE STOCKING

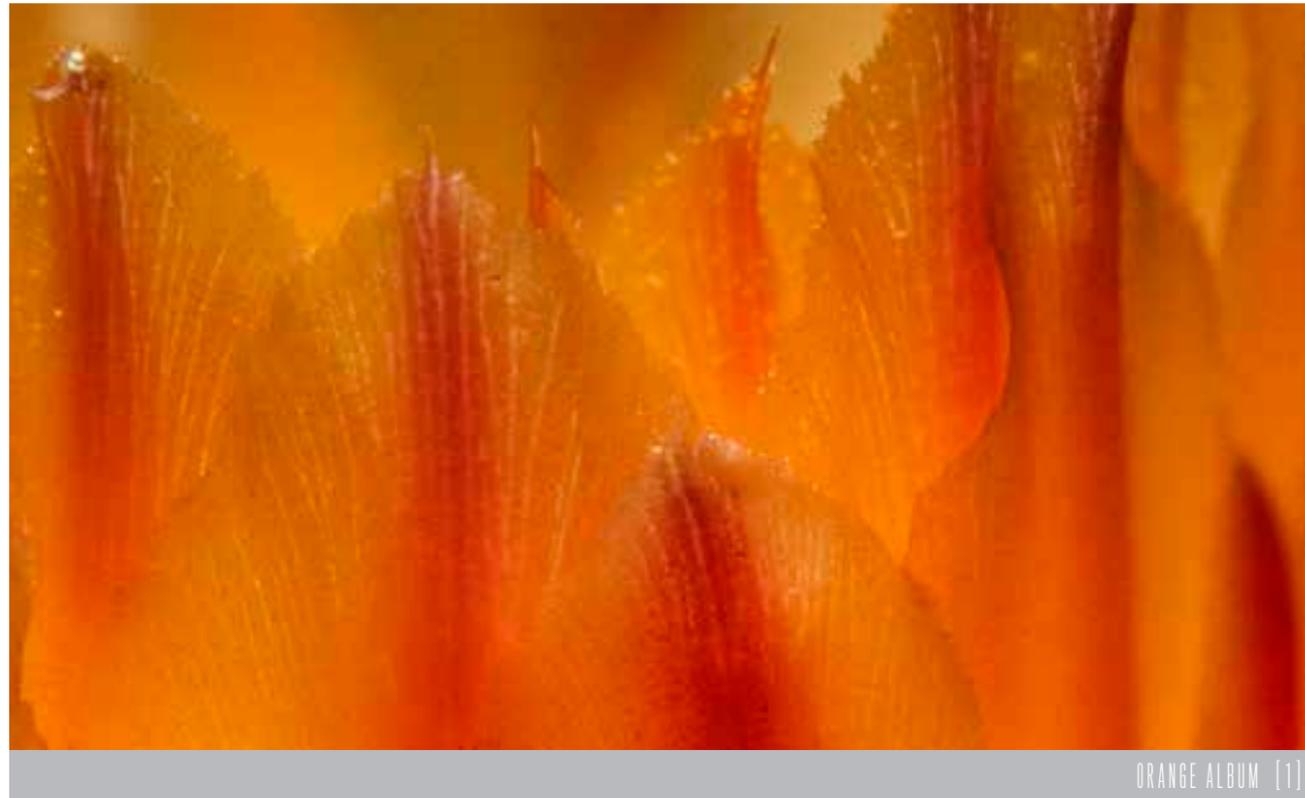
BLUE ALBUM [2]









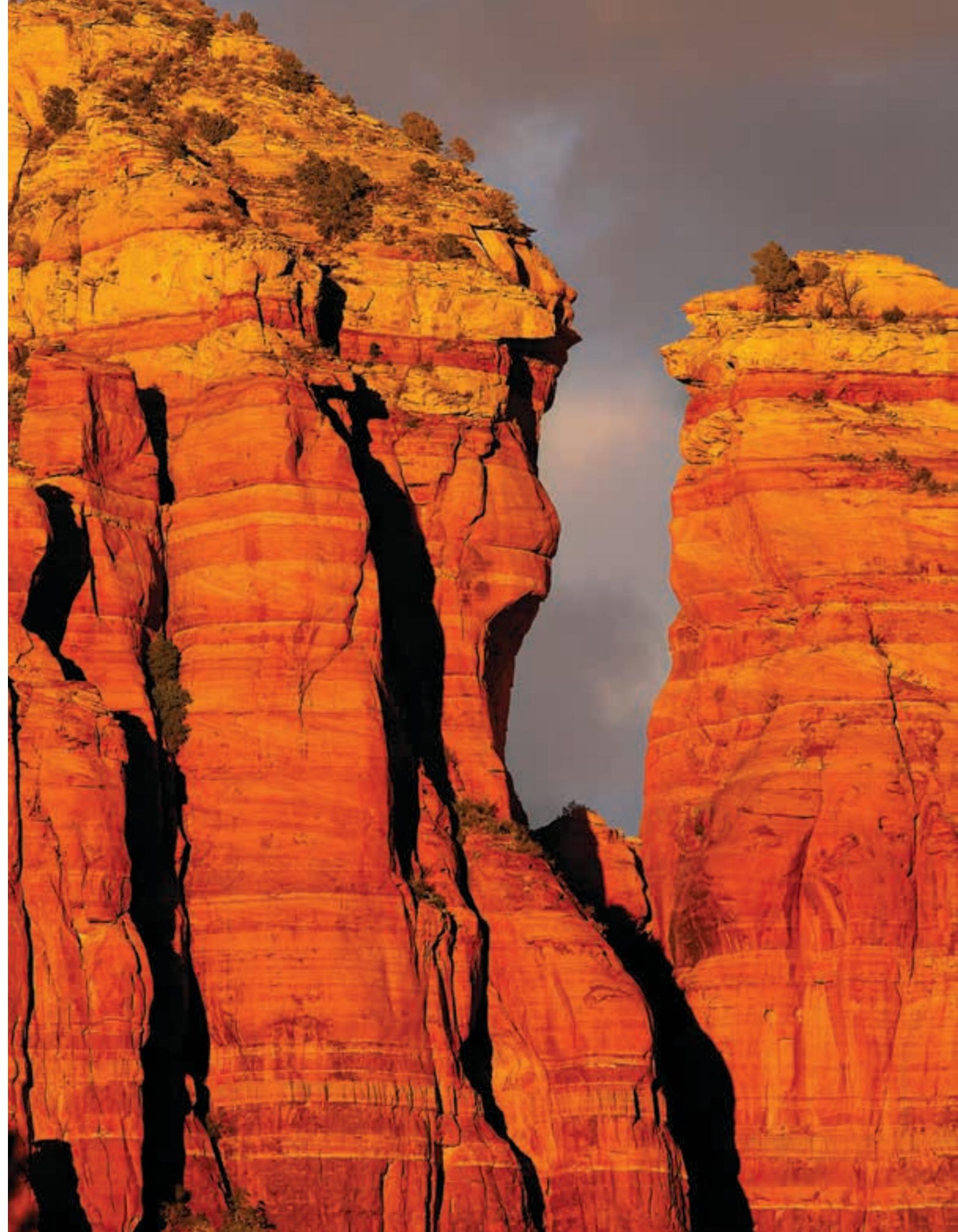


ORANGE ALBUM [1]

THE ORANGE ALBUM

- [1] Barrel-cactus blooms, Sonoran Desert BY PAUL GILL
- [2] Red-rock formations, Sedona BY DEREK VON BRIESEN
- [3] Sunset in Red Rock Country, Sedona BY DEREK VON BRIESEN
- [4] Sunset at Little Painted Desert County Park, near Winslow BY TOM BEAN
- [5] Painted rocks and rainbow, Navajo Nation BY GEORGE STOCKING

ORANGE ALBUM [2]









“Color! What a deep and mysterious language, the language of dreams.” – PAUL GAUGUIN

