

Key West



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Most Memorable Images

The Exquisite
Focus of
Alan Maltz

Dean Walters

Pioneering
Keys' Opera

Parrot Heads, Pirates and Powerboats, Oh My...

Most Memorable Images

The Exquisite Focus of Alan Maltz

BY ANDREA ANAPOL



The Calling Captiva

If ever you've been inspired by a photograph to visit Florida, especially the Keys, chances are it was shot by Alan Maltz.

His photos capture a place, a person, a creature, a mood or a moment in time with such clarity, color, depth and intrigue that the images are almost haunting—their stopping power, instantaneous. “He moves as fresh as dawn itself,

piano. The composer writes the work, but his performance also reveals his pianist’s sensibilities. The image Alan captures is his composition. What happens in the studio is his performance... Alan carries us into a world of transcendent color and



Photo by Mellon Tyrell.



Majestic Moment Florida Everglades

light as a ladybug patrolling the collards, a bee dusting zinnias,” writes Herb Hiller in his introduction to Maltz’s new book, *Florida...Beyond the Blue Horizon*. “Alan with his camera is like a composer at the

unimagined beauty.”

Maltz and his work have been featured in national and regional publications including *ARTnews*, *The New Yorker*, *The Robb Report*, *The Philadelphia*

Inquirer, *The Miami Herald*, *The New York Post*, *Newsday* and *Florida Monthly*, where he was selected as one of the “21 Intriguing Floridians.”

His fine art photography graces >



First Light Lakeland

private, public and corporate collections throughout the country, including The Carter Center and Presidential Library in Atlanta; Hallmark in Kansas City, Kansas; the American Airlines Arena in Miami, and Southwest Florida International

spacious studio and features his cutting-edge fine art, innovative framing designs and published works. Maltz recently opened a second gallery at Hawk's Cay Resort on Duck Key, and was just invited to create a permanent exhibit at the

Florida Fish and Wildlife building in Tallahassee.

In *Florida...Beyond the Blue Horizon*, which is showcased here, he shares his vision of Florida's most secret places, while revealing the hidden aspects of the



City in Charge South Beach
Below: *Portal to the Past* Sarasota

Airport in Fort Myers, Florida.

His other books, *Miami City of Dreams* and *Key West Color*, have received numerous awards and recognitions, including "Best Coffee Table Book of the Year" from the National Association of Independent Publishers. *Celebrities of Nature* was given the "Award of Excellence" from Printing Industries of Florida.

His Duval Street gallery, which was established in January 1999, serves as a



state's most familiar scenes.

"For me this book was a labor of love, at times more of the former," says Maltz.

Those fortunate enough to work with the reclusive master photographer will find him surprisingly approachable, witty, driven, demanding (of himself and others), generous, sensitive, intense and inspiring—much like his photos.

He could live (and work) anywhere, but chooses the Florida Keys. Why? >



First Impressions Bonita Beach

“Because it just gives me a certain feeling,” says Maltz. “It has a certain spirit. I recognized that feeling when I first visited the Keys. I was living in Woodstock, New York at the time, and came to visit a friend in Miami who had a friend in Sugarloaf. The moment I got there, I knew I wanted to live there.”

Three months later he bought that very house and lives there today with his wife Leslie, their family and pets, Spike, the “bearded dragon” lizard; Rose the dog; Wooington/Midnight the cat, and assorted turtles and tropical fish.

Where else would he consider living?

“I’ve been all over, not just Florida but all over the world. Other places are beautiful; they have their charm,” says Maltz. “Maybe Southwest Florida, because when I did the assignment for the airport, I fell in love with that area as well—because of all its natural beauty.”

He was commissioned approximately a year and a half ago by the executive director of the convention bureau for Lee County to shoot images of the area for the airport and a book. Now there are 60 72”x52” fine art prints on canvas on display at the airport in Fort Myers, which can also be viewed on Maltz’s website.

What’s next for Maltz? He’s working on his upcoming book on Southwest Florida and with the Wildlife Foundation of Florida on multiple projects, developing the corporate art aspect of his business and marketing his new book, *Florida... Beyond the Blue Horizon*. ❖

Standard and artist’s limited editions of Florida...Beyond the Blue Horizon are available at the Alan S. Maltz Gallery, 1210 Duval Street, online at www.alanmaltz.com, or in bookstores. Those who purchase at the gallery will have an opportunity to meet the photographer and get the book signed with a personal inscription.



Water Dance Orlando



Inner Journey Big Pine Key