

Jeffrey Milstein NYLA

Born in 1944 in the Bronx, New York. Lives in Woodstock, New York, USA
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When I was young, I had a love of planes and flying. My earliest aerial photographs were taken while flying a rented Cessna 150 around Los Angeles as a teenager. I was fascinated by how everything appeared from above.

Fifty years later, I took to the air again to photograph the man-made landscape – this time with high resolution stabilized cameras and a vision informed by my years spent as an architect and photographer. I was interested in documenting the patterns, layering and complexity of cities, highlighting airports, container ports and recreational facilities, as well as residential and commercial developments, all of which grow organically over time. At an altitude of one to two thousand feet, a view unavailable from the ground opens up. From here, you have grand vistas, yet you are close enough to see intimate details.

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What inspires you?

Great images, flying in helicopters, trying to do better.

How would you characterize yourself in one word?

Procrastinator.

Are you a more introverted or extroverted person?

Extroverted introvert.

Which city do you like the most?

New York City.

Which contemporary artist do you admire the most?

There isn't just one . . . Some of the artists I like most are Jay Maisel, Arnold Newman, Bernd and Hilla Becher, Stephen Shore, Simon Norfolk and Ed Ruscha.

Which camera did you use for this project?

Phase One IQ180, and Pentax 645Z.

How do you promote your work?

The work is promoted by having a website with my images, and my galleries promote the work by presenting exhibitions and showing the work online. I also enter some contests and have an Instagram account. Landing a few museum shows, including one at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, D. C., was also helpful.

How do you finance your photographic projects?

My galleries, Benrubi and Kopeikin in the USA, sell limited edition prints, and I sell some work to magazines like *Time*, *Fortune* and *GQ*, and occasionally for use in advertising, which can pay well. Also, although I am a procrastinator, my friends point out that I get the jobs done, so maybe "determined" is a better description. Although, since Kindergarten, I was always known as the "artist," – so maybe that is the best one word description.



