

Jeff Carpenter- Adjunct Faculty

Biography

Carpenter has a passion for detail, creative visuals and impeccable design, having worked in the graphic design industry since 1998. Several years ago, Jeff Carpenter Studios his graphic design business, branched out into wedding videography. This led to the controversial role of capturing intimate portraits of people with Boudoir Photography in his photographic work. His flair for helping people feel comfortable in an intimate setting and capturing the sensuality needed in this type of media has earned him the trust of his clients. Carpenter recently attended the WPPI (Wedding Photographers and Portrait Photographers International) Conference in Las Vegas and has trained with many photographers in the art of boudoir photography including; Jen Rozenbaum, Jerry Ghionis, Michael Sasser and Amber Henry.

- Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design - Saginaw Valley State University, 1998
- Master of Communications & Digital Graphic Design, 2010 - SVSU
- Adjunct Faculty Instructor at Delta College since 1999
- Member of the Association of International Boudoir Photographers

Artist Statement

In *Duet*, a woman come in for a session in September 2020 that wanted a tribute to her late husband who had recently passed away from cancer. They both were musicians in the Saginaw area. Aware of a location in Bay City (Historic Webster House), I knew of a corner with two seats. I felt compelled to do a setup that resembled a stage, but still felt intimate. This piece called "Duet" portrays the widow singing alone holding her guitar, Cabernet, with her husband's guitar, SRV (Stevie Ray Vaughan). Not shown is a sticker on the back of his guitar that reads "FU@K CANCER". She had no idea that sticker was there and instantly broke into tears at the sight of it.

The setup was simple. A slightly dark room with two AD200 off-camera flashes (one directed towards the woman, the other pointed towards the guitar), like two theatre spotlights. "Duet" is my rendition of sorrow and longing to hang on to the past.

Ever since attending SVSU, I have been a darkroom junkie. I love photography, but could never break into it as a career, until I started exploring Boudoir Photography. This genre has proven to be so much more than just intimate portraits. I have helped women see themselves differently and in a couple of instances, saved their lives. Depression, self-disgrace, and emotional abuse are very real problems in our society, and I have personally seen how this kind of photography has helped women, my client's, breakdown and re-bloom. It is so much more than just photography, it's life.