

Reflections of the Eno

Photographs by Alex Armstrong

Alex Armstrong comes from a long line of artists—his family has been taking photographs since the 1880s. Alex began photographing landscapes in 1966 while living in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Four years later he built his first darkroom and began a decades-long interest in deep-sky astrophotography of galaxies and nebulae. In 1990, he moved to Hillsborough, North Carolina. His photographs of Hillsborough landmarks are on view at numerous locations, including the Orange County Courthouse, St. Matthews's Episcopal Church, and the Eno River State Park Office and Museum. Alex is currently documenting the appearance of the Eno River, focusing on its fauna and habitat. He is also known for his photographs of historical artifacts and won the 1999 NC Numismatic Technical Literary Award for his article “Oblique Angled Technical Photography of Coins.”

Artist's Statement

This is an exhibition of selected photographs from my series “Reflections of the Eno,” documenting various reflections and combinations of optical effects upon the river as seen in the Eno River State Park. The play of wind, water, and light produces effects that are reminiscent of impressionist works of art. Sometimes they include a small piece of reality, such as a rock or leaf. A few of the effects are difficult to photograph as they can form and then quickly disappear. My hope is that you will explore the Eno River and encounter some of these scenes yourself. I wish to thank the people at the Eno River State Park and the Eno River Association for their dedication to the preservation of the park. Without their work, these pictures would not have been possible.