

# Lois Greenfield Captures Dancers with the CFV-50c

2016-02-15 Lois became well known in the 1980's for her groundbreaking images of dancers caught mid air in gravity defying configurations.

Using the 500CM Hasselblad camera, she became intrigued with the square format. It was a challenge to compose dancers within a square image, and that produced unique compositions that became the cornerstone of her signature style. She invested the negative's black border with the dramatic task of not only containing the flying forms, but also in radically cropping them.



The dancers in Lois's lens were transposed from the stage to her studio, where she asked them to abandon choreography in favor of improvisation for the camera. The results of these startling sessions were published in her two early volumes, "Breaking Bounds" 1992, and "Airborne" 1998.

Now Lois shoots with a digital back on the same 500CM Hasselblad body, but her method is the same – shooting one image at a time! For Lois, timing is not about capturing the "peak moment", but about finding the expressive gestures and enigmatic scenarios embedded in the dancers' movements.

Working on assignment with the CVF-50c CMOS Hasselblad back, Lois took these startling images of Peiju Chien-Pott, principal dancer with the Martha Graham Company. Lois was impressed with the superior quality of the skin tones in her images, as well as the detail and sharpness in her digital file. Because of the CMOS sensor, adding in an extra stop of light by increasing the ISO also proved possible without an increase in image noise.

Passionate about teaching, Greenfield offers 2 day Weekend Dance Photography Workshops in her NYC studio. The small group of participants, who will photograph some of Lois's favorite dancers, will get to work with her Hasselblad camera and the CVF-50c CMOS digital back to learn the technique and secrets behind her signature, gravity defying images. The students will also be using Broncolor's newest lights and Scoro packs.

