

News Release

For Immediate Release: March, 2011
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"FLOW"



Fredericksburg, Virginia – The Fredericksburg Center for Creative Arts (FCCA) presents the art exhibit "**FLOW**". The exhibit will showcase the work of photographer **Thomas Vincent Parinello**. The exhibit will be located in the FCCA Members' Gallery and begins with a First Friday Opening Reception on **Friday, April 1 from 6-8:30 pm** and runs through **April 30, 2011**. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

Thomas Vincent Parinello was born in New York in 1973, and grew up on the Eastern end of Long Island. He received his first camera at around 8 years old and with his Mother's influence, his passion for photography grew quickly. Although he has little from his past, he is making up for it steadily with his more recent work.

Thomas has a variety of photos but favors black and white, abstract and artistic work, and of course the random and unexpected shot. He has a flair for the abstract 'lightwork' in which he shoots natural light and light pieces in quite the artistic manner. This work can be deceiving at first but make no mistake; they are not digitally manipulated photos. He has also been influenced by a number of artists both in and outside of photography; more recently prompting his return to the love of film and an increased use of Medium Format that "represents a calling back to our roots when we either got it right, or we didn't".

This philosophy presents a challenge to a community that seems to be more and more enveloped in a digital cover. He relays the importance of shooting properly, even with a digital medium, stressing that it is the “photographer that makes the shot and not the camera. Making a mistake is the best thing that can happen when you shoot, because you will learn to improve upon it the next time around”.

Thomas shows regularly and is an active member at the *Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts* in Fredericksburg, Virginia where he is also a contributing photographer for the website and the monthly newsletter. He placed 3rd in the June regional exhibition for his work “Cold Window” which can be viewed on his website. Also in Fredericksburg is *The Gallery at 915* where Thomas was featured in the summer 2010 show “Three Photographers”.

Thomas is a veteran of the United States Navy, serving from 1998 until 2009. He still works for the Department of the Navy in the Occupational Health & Safety field and does photography in his spare time. He is a certified Reiki practitioner and is also pursuing his master's degree in Counseling Psychology at Seton Hall University in an effort to become a licensed counselor.

Thomas Parinello has lived in Fredericksburg, Virginia since 2009. He has a pet, Chewy, who can also be seen in some of the site photos.

The Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts (FCCA) is an all-volunteer non-profit organization supporting the creative arts in Fredericksburg, Virginia. FCCA is located in the Historic Silversmith House, *circa* 1785 and a Partner of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Monthly, FCCA brings new art exhibits, special programs and events, art trips, and art classes for all ages to the Fredericksburg community. These events are planned and organized entirely by volunteer members, and funded through member and community support.

Location: 813 Sophia Street Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Hours: Open 12-4 p.m. Thursday-Monday & 11-4:00 Saturday (Closed on Tuesday)

Main Phone: (540) 373-5646

Website: <http://www.fccava.org/>