

Comprehensive Biography, Gordon Kreplin, musician and photographer

A concert artist with a camera; a photographic artist with a guitar; a writer; a teacher; a composer; a recording artist - Gordon has many muses. In his work as a concert musician and music educator, Gordon teaches about the aesthetic tools of rhythm, color and composition to audiences and private students alike. In his work as a nationally-recognized photography professional, Gordon Kreplin teaches lighting for environmental portraiture at state-level professional photographer conventions. For him, those tools are the essence of both music and photography.

Mr. Kreplin's first career was as an internationally-touring concert classical guitarist. Continental US, European, South American and Caribbean concert audiences enjoyed his performances over a twenty-year period. He graduated from American University in 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, concentrating in music and studying guitar under John Marlow. He furthered his guitar studies with Jose Tomas at the prestigious Oscar Espla Conservatory in Alicante, Spain for two years. While studying with Tomas, Mr. Kreplin was awarded a scholarship by the Spanish government to perform in Andres Segovia's famed month-long master class, "Musica en Compostela" in Santiago de Compostela. Gordon has taught music at George Washington University, Virginia Commonwealth University and the Conservatorio da Horta in Faial, Portugal. Beyond the concert stage, Gordon released three successful recordings, gave many years of educational music programs through the NC Visiting Artists program and in the DC metro area, premiered several major compositions for classical guitar written for him by contemporary composers, and himself wrote classical compositions for solo guitar, guitar and voice, guitar and saxophone, all of which enjoyed regional performances.

In 1995, Gordon and his wife created a boutique record label and recording studio business, Ascencion Recordings, devoted to audiophile classical recording. As an outgrowth of Gordon's photography and design work creating album covers, Ascencion Photography was born. In 1998, Ascencion Photography began providing contemporary classical portraiture, location and studio. For the past 17 years, Gordon as portrait artist has specialized in environmental family portraiture. Kreplin is an active photographic fine artist, studying rural landscape, rural and urban decay, and still life in color, infrared, and black and white. He prints his own work in artisan fashion and his work is carried in several major galleries on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. In 2015, the studio was re-branded from Ascencion Photography to Gordon Kreplin, Photographic Artist.

Kreplin pursues annual continuing education and professional competitions in the photographic arts to continuously refine his craft and develop professionally. Kreplin's PPA Master Photographer Degree, four years in the making, was awarded in January 2012. He received his Photographic Craftsman Degree in 2014. A full list of degrees, awards and honors can be found on Gordon's C.V..

Gordon Kreplin, M.Photo, Cr, is a recipient of international 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2015 Photographer of the Year Awards by PPA. He received Kodak Gallery Awards for in 2014 and 2015 at VPPA conventions, and a Lexjet Sunset Award for 2015. He also received an ASP State Elite Award in 2015.

Kreplin was accepted as an Affiliate PPA Judge in 2014; currently there are only 104 PPA Affiliate Judges worldwide. He travels nationally to judge professional photographic competitions and to teach lighting for environmental portraiture at state-level conventions; his program is "Walk into the Light." He also teaches about composition in music and in photography - the intersection between compositional elements in visual and musical forms of expression. This multi-media presentation is "Expression in Music and Imaging."

Kreplin is currently on the Board of the North Carolina Music Teachers Association (NCMTA), chairing the String Section. He is a current member of Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), NCMTA, the Guitar Foundation, Professional Photographers of America (PPA), the American Society of Photographers (ASP), Professional Photographers of North Carolina (PPNC) and Professional Photographers of Virginia (VPPA), and Rotary International. All of these organizations subscribe to the highest ethical standards in music, photography, community service and/or in business.

Kreplin was for many years an active Rotarian. He served as the District 7720 Chair for Polio Plus from 2011 to 2014 and was tasked with fundraising to End Polio Now. Gordon Kreplin makes his home on the Outer Banks with his wife and partner, Cathy. Together, they have three grown daughters, three grandchildren, two cats, a successful business for portrait photography and music instruction, and much gratitude for their many blessings.

Learn more at websites www.usportraitartist.com and www.ncmusicteachers.com. For bookings or more information, call 252-449-8997.

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