

Sheena Macintyre Wilkie – Visual Storyteller

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Sheena Wilkie is a visual storyteller, educator, photographer, and emerging watercolour artist based in the Fraser Valley. With more than 35 years of experience in communications, photography, publishing, and teaching, she helps people develop creativity and observation through photography, sketchbooks, and visual storytelling.

Sheena Wilkie has a 35-year background in communications, both in traditional and new media, creating visual and print narratives for organizations including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Air Canada, Canadian Blood Services, the Canadian Football League, the Olympic Integrated Security Unit, the Canadian Association for Photographic Art, and the Canadian Red Cross.

Seeking to expand her creative and communications skills, Wilkie returned to BCIT and earned an Honours Diploma in Communications for New Media, specializing in Graphic Art and Photography. Upon graduation, she became a professional photographer, opening Sheena Studios. She later taught communications and photography at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) before founding her own private photography school, Photo Gurus, where she combined technical instruction with a passion for helping others develop their creative vision.

An award-winning photographer, Wilkie is a Fellow and Honorary Member of the Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA), a CAPA-certified photography judge, and the former longtime Editor-in-Chief of Canadian Photography magazine. She has served on CAPA's Board of Directors several times over the past 25 years and remains an active advocate for the arts and visual storytelling in Canada.

Throughout her career, Wilkie has been drawn to the power of visual storytelling to build understanding, strengthen community, and preserve the stories that shape our shared experience. Her work has consistently focused on helping individuals and organizations communicate their stories through images, words, and visual narrative.

Today, Wilkie's creative practice extends beyond photography into sketchbook work, observational drawing, and watercolour painting. Drawing on decades of experience behind the lens, she explores the relationship between observation, creativity, and personal expression. Whether working with a camera, a sketchbook, or a paintbrush, she is interested in how the simple act of paying attention can reveal beauty and meaning in the ordinary, and the often-overlooked connections that bind us all.

As an educator, Wilkie enjoys encouraging others to discover their own creative voice. Her current workshops focus on mobile phone photography as an accessible tool for observation and visual storytelling, helping participants see the camera not merely as a device for taking pictures, but as a way of engaging more deeply with the world around them. She is particularly interested in the connection between photography, reflection, sketchbooks, and the creative process.

Through her work in the arts and her involvement in church and community life, Wilkie seeks to foster curiosity, creativity, and a deeper appreciation for the stories that surround us. She lives and works on Teq'qéyex (Sumas Mountain) in the Fraser Valley, where she continues to develop her artistic practice and develop educational programs that connect photography, observation, sketchbooks, painting, and visual storytelling.