

**STEPHEN GORMAN**  
**Resume**

Bachelor of Arts, Wesleyan University 1982  
Master of Environmental Studies, Yale School of the Environment 1988  
Field Geologist in Nevada and Alaska for TexasGulf and Bear Creek Mining 1980-1981  
National Wild and Scenic River Studies for the National Park Service 1988-1989  
Outward Bound Wilderness Instructor 1982-1990  
Registered Maine Guide 1990 -  
Artist-in-Residence aboard Inuit-operated expedition ship throughout the Canadian and Greenlandic Arctic 2006-2010  
Award winning Environmental author and artist, published a dozen books 1991-present  
Co-led Smithsonian Institution expeditions in the sub-arctic 2015, 2016, 2018  
Published dozens of articles about environmental issues 1990-present

Stephen Gorman's imagery and books tighten the bonds between people and place. His powerful connection to his subject matter results in evocative stories and images that offer a unique artistic perspective on the cultural and environmental issues of our time. His art focuses on understanding how we depend on the ecosystems around us to sustain our material and spiritual lives, how we adapt to and modify the landscapes in which we live and work, and how our cultural values and our national mythologies shape our relationships with the world we live in and the diverse societies we share it with. With profound empathy, knowledge, and respect, Stephen works where culture and the environment come together.

Raised overseas, educated in a foreign language, at an early age Stephen developed a deep longing to explore and understand his own native land, people, and culture. He searched for and confronted his American identity and engaged with the stubborn facts of our history. Working on a cattle ranch in Wyoming, in remote mining camps in Alaska and Nevada, and as a wilderness guide throughout the North American wilderness, he relived the foundational American experience of the mythical Frontier, and his art asks that the viewer do the same. His art inspires us to look in the mirror and acknowledge who we are and how our national legacy of conquest, exploitation, and individual gain continues to shape our actions and beliefs.

Stephen holds a master's degree in Environmental Studies from Yale University, where he studied the mythology of the American Frontier and how it shapes the American worldview to this day. American art and literature tell the story of our national Genesis: how the conquest of the wilderness and the subjugation and displacement of the Indigenous peoples were central to the creation of our national identity. The iconic art and literature of the American Frontier continues to fuel our unshakeable expectation of limitless natural resources, an ever-expanding economy, a belief in the promises of our God-given Manifest Destiny, a fundamental faith in infinite progress, and the conviction that it is mythical rugged individuals, and not real vibrant communities, that matter.

Working in the tradition of artist-explorers such as Alexander von Humboldt, George Catlin, Frederic Church, William Bradford, Rockwell Kent, and Edward S. Curtis, Stephen has literally spent years in the field. Using the power of visual images and written words to help shape the

way we think about nature and culture, he sets off into the outback for days, weeks and sometimes even months at a time in search of compelling stories and striking images of the natural world and the men and women who live and work upon the land. To portray the spirit of these special and endangered wildlife populations, landscapes, and traditional cultures, Stephen uses his sharply honed photography, writing, interpersonal, and wilderness survival skills, journeying deep into remote regions, returning from each expedition with stories and photographs that can only be crafted in our planet's last truly wild and historic landscapes.

From 2006 to 2010 Stephen was Artist-in-Residence aboard an Inuit-owned and operated Arctic expedition vessel. In that position he was invited to explore the farthest reaches of the Canadian and Greenlandic Arctic and to portray the land, wildlife, and people of the Inuit homeland. The photographs for his book, *Arctic Visions - Encounters at the Top of the World*, which was commissioned by the Inuit of Nunavik, were created during that residency.

In 2017 Stephen was the only American photographer chosen by the U.S. Department of State to exhibit his Arctic photographs in an exhibition celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary. That exhibition - *Eyes on the Arctic - U.S. - Canadian Cooperation in the North* toured the United States Embassy and U.S. Consulates across Canada. His current exhibition, *Down to the Bone*, a collaboration with legendary *The New Yorker* staff artist Edward Koren, opened at the Peabody-Essex Museum in Salem, MA in Spring 2022 and will run through the Spring of 2023.

A Benjamin Franklin Award winner, Stephen is the author and photographer of many books, including *The American Wilderness: Journeys into Distant and Historic Landscapes*; *Thoreau's New England*; *Wild New England*; *Northeastern Wilds - Journeys of Discovery in the Northern Forest*, which was a finalist for the IPPY Award in 2003; and *Arctic Visions - Encounters at the Top of the World*, which was commissioned by the Inuit of Nunavik, and which won the Benjamin Franklin Award. Stephen has been featured on the Canadian Broadcast Corporation (CBC) and NBC, and he has been a frequent guest on National Public Radio (NPR) programs about both his books and humans and the environment. Throughout his career Stephen has worked on cultural and environmental assignments for leading periodicals such as *National Geographic*, *Discovery Channel*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Men's Journal*, *Sierra*, and *Audubon*.

*"Please tell Steve how proud I am of the work he has pulled together — it really makes the challenge of climate change so visible and visceral. While few people remain in open denial of climate change, so many are afraid to embrace the opportunities already available that can start the change we need. But change is hard — even when it can make our lives better today in so many ways.*

*My hope is that the old adage "a picture is worth a thousand words" proves to be true when folks visit the exhibit that Steve and Edward Koren have pulled together. If not, I may just have to continue to give more endless speeches to try to get folks to move with the scope and pace that science demands. Who would want that?"*

— Gina McCarthy, White House National Climate Advisor to President Biden, and Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency Under President Obama

*"These remarkable images need to be seen, and widely. We risk trading the splendor of our world for bones and ash. And nothing I've seen has ever made that clearer."*

- Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature* and founder of [360.org](http://360.org)