

## **Biologist Turns Microscopic Crystals into Vibrant New Art Form**

*Artist Lee Hendrickson will be Meeting Potential Licensors at the Licensing Expo*

PHOENIX -- Crystals have long been used for harnessing energy and healing. Biologist turned photographer, Lee Hendrickson, is using crystals to turn a 35-year career in science into a vibrant and powerful new art form.

Hendrickson, a career research scientist, author and inventor, grows intricate crystal patterns, creating a kaleidoscope of multi-dimensional designs. His unique talents caught the eye of Rinekwall, a renowned California-based design company, which teamed with Hendrickson to create a new line of home décor products.

Hendrickson, who recently signed a license with Rinekwall for wallpaper, will be meeting with companies at the 2015 Licensing Expo in Las Vegas, June 9-11.

Decades of lab work in molecular biology and pharmaceutical formulation -- along with a passion for photography and design -- have transformed Hendrickson from scientist to modern artist. His ability to capture these complex patterns with a high-resolution digital imaging microscope brings an unseen world of light and pattern into public view.

The scientific process involves growing the crystals on a microscope slide and the intricate beauty of these "molecular landscapes" is magnified thousands of times. The vibrant color palette often seen is the result of the natural process of light refracting through the crystals, producing a rainbow of colors. Though highly representational, the resulting image's aesthetic feels both contemporary and abstract.

"Some crystals have the unique property to behave like a prism," Hendrickson said. "So as the light then passes through the crystal formations on its way to the camera, the different colors of the visible spectrum can be revealed."

The story behind Hendrickson's artwork often fascinates the viewer as much as the natural elegance of the subject. Hendrickson has begun working with new crystals, including caffeine and wine crystals, to build his creative pattern collection.

It was in 1980 that Hendrickson's eyes were opened to the beautiful hidden world of crystals. During this period he grew his first crystals and took his first photograph through a microscope of these hidden gems. In 2005 Lee founded his company Side Street Photographics and began pursuing and exhibiting his photography.

To learn more about Hendrickson and his uniquely beautiful artistic perspective please visit <http://www.photographyofcrystals.com/>

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