Rand Smith
“SOLO”
$400

**Image Description:** I’m a textbook introvert and somewhat of a loner. I enjoy being part of the pack sometimes with family and friends and loved ones, but largely prefer my solitude and need that solitude more often than not. Some of my favorite places are desolate barren landscapes and one of my favorite places in the world is the Great Sand Dunes here in Colorado. The person in the image isn’t me, but if I had to choose an image that represents ‘who I am’ I’d have to say this one would be it. I originally called it “SOLO” and it’s a lone person walking along a ridge in the sand dunes looking small with the weight and immenseness of the dunes looming in the background. Sometimes that immenseness appeals to my adventurous side and represents more to explore and more to experience, and sometimes that immenseness is the weight of the world and its issues, along with my own, looming overhead.

**Location of Image:** Great Sand Dunes, Colorado

**Type of Camera and Lens Used:** Nikon D750, 28-300 (f/3.5-5.6)

**Camera Settings Used:** 1/250 sec, f11, ISO 450, 230mm

**Artist Statement:** I can trace my desire to capture moments on camera back to when I was a child playing with my Matchbox cars and I’d line them up and do photoshoots with them. I think the real significance of photography came when I saw my first dolphin at Sea World. As a kid growing up in New Mexico I had a fascination with dolphins. Snapping that photo of the first dolphin I’d ever seen in person and coming home and printing it and framing it to have it on my wall as a reminder of that experience made the camera a very special tool for me early on. However, my true love for photography only surfaced in the last 10 years while watching friends taking photos on a trip where their perspectives made me look at things differently. I’m a self-taught photographer and over the past few years my passion and eye for photography has grown and evolved. I’m thankful for photography because it helps me express myself creatively and increases my desire to get out and explore the world. - RAND

**Website/Social Media Accounts:** www.RAND.photography
Instagram: www.instagram.com/denverrand