

# SEPARATION POINT

THE EDGE OF WILDNESS



PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
**JASON RUSSELL POOLE**

WORDS & MUSIC BY  
**BENJIE HOWARD**

## MEDITATION ON AN ALTERNATIVE FUTURE

by Erin Currier – painter

*Separation Point documents the adventure and camaraderie of two imaginative and introspective friends on an emancipatory quest. Nearly three-quarters of a century after the publication of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, Benjie Howard and Jason Russell Poole take the wheel on a path well forged: a quintessentially American spiritual pilgrimage, inspired by the open road.*

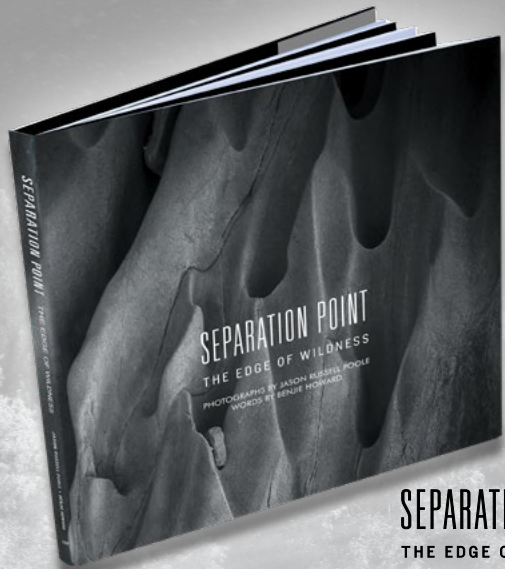
## READING THE HIEROGLYPHICS OF NATURE

by Godfrey Reggio – director of *Koyaanisqatsi*

*We see the world through language, but our language may no longer describe our world. Over a ten-year period, Jason Russell Poole and Benjie Howard left one world to try to see another. They breached a separation point and used the edges of our world to frame a wilderness beyond. They began to read the hieroglyphics of nature. Their search for literacy is not unlike how humans first learned to read, long before pictographs and alphabets, through metaphors of earth, air, water, and fire. It is into this elemental place that Poole and Howard have submerged, entering the wilderness where language was born.*

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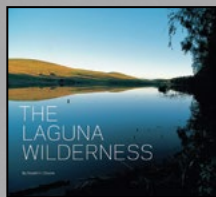




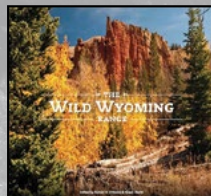
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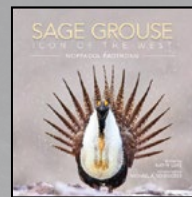
**The Laguna Wilderness**  
by Ron Chilcote



**The Wild Wyoming**  
by Ron Chilcote



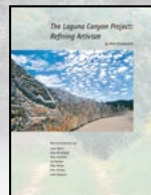
**Hybrids 0-3.5**  
by Paul Paiement



**Sage Grouse:  
Icon of the West**  
by Noppadol Paothong



**Mexico at the Hour  
of Combat**  
Sabino Osuna's Photographs  
of the Mexican Revolution  
edited by Ronald Chilcote



**The Laguna Canyon  
Project**  
by Mark Chamberlain

**W**hat began as a Grand Canyon river trip involving two friends—one a Northwestern poet, musician, and river guide, the other a British photographer—came to be, over the course of a decade, the book at hand.

Jason Russell Poole's photographs explore a metaphysical landscape. The harsh visage of a policeman and dark plumes from a power plant give way to a Native American powwow. There is stillness in a river's rapid; rocks become abstractions and clouds take on forms like architecture. Poole explores the precarious condition of America, hoping to reexamine our relationship with nature at a time of crisis for the Earth's stability. Most of all, he seeks "to allow a wildness within to expand" as he explores the American West.

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