

*Project Statement*

*My images are part of a personal journey—a search for answers to fundamental questions regarding life, meaning, and the ultimate nature of reality. This quest has taken me to every corner of India and the surrounding Himalayan regions, including Nepal, Bhutan, Zaskar, and Ladakh. Along the way, I have engaged with Buddhist philosophers, Vedantic yogis, spiritualists, scientists, and charlatans alike. Many of these images were captured within remote Himalayan monasteries dating back over 1,500 years.*

*Constant interaction with Vedic and Buddhist scholars has led me to move beyond the traditional concept of a "Creator God" found in organized religion. Such frameworks often fail to comprehend the unconditioned, non-dual, and omnipresent force of existence. To me, the divine is not a glorified "personality" sitting apart from the universe, directing the minute details of daily life. Instead, I explore the idea that the Universal Mind does not exist separately from the universe, but within it and as it.*

*The universe was not arbitrarily created by outside intervention; it is self-born and governed by the eternal Law of Cause and Effect. In this view, the impressions of all objects lie dormant within the depths of the Universal Mind until activated by the working of Karma. They are then projected into the space-time dimensions we recognize as the material world. The universe is not only self-actuating, but self-determining.*

*As I continue on my unfinished search I find it pertinent to quote a sanskrit shlok (verse) written 3000 years ago by a Indian monk named Adi Shankracharya.*

मनोबुद्धयहङ्कार चित्तानि नाहं न च श्रोत्रजिह्वे न च घ्राणनेत्रे ।  
न च व्योम भूमिर्न तेजो न वायुः चिदानन्दरूपः शिवोऽहम् शिवोऽहम् ॥ १॥

*Translation : Neither am I the Mind, nor Intelligence nor Ego, Neither am I the organs of Hearing (Ears), nor that of Tasting (Tongue), Smelling (Nose) or Seeing (Eyes), Neither am I the Sky (Space), nor the Earth (Matter), Neither the Fire nor the Air,*

**I am that Eternal, Pure, Blissful & Primary Consciousness**

**I am Shiva, I am Shiva !!!!!**

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