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NEW HAMPSHIRE PHOTOGRAPHER PAUL WAINWRIGHT NAMED FINALIST IN 2010 NEW ENGLAND BOOK AWARDS

Large-format photographer's new book, A Space for Faith: The Colonial Meetinghouses of New England, a collection of photographs by Paul Wainwright, has been selected as one of 5 finalists in the prestigious New England Book Awards.

Atkinson, New Hampshire, August 10, 2010 – New Hampshire Photographer Paul Wainwright's new book, *A Space for Faith: The Colonial Meetinghouses of New England* (www.aspaceforfaith.com) has been selected as one of five finalists in the non-fiction category for the 2010 New England Book Awards.

This prestigious award is granted annually by the New England Independent Booksellers Association (www.newenglandbooks.org) to recognize authors who have produced work that makes a significant contribution to the region's culture. Past winners include Ken Burns, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Linda Greenlaw, Bill Bryson and Roy Blount, Jr. The winners will be announced at their annual trade show September 30 – October 2, 2010.

A Space for Faith: The Colonial Meetinghouses of New England is a collection of Wainwright's classic black and white photographs that paints a composite portrait of these once ubiquitous landmarks of the New England landscape. Only a few remain as they were – touched only by time – and Wainwright's photographs give us a glimpse into an age when life was simpler.

Wainwright, who has long considered himself to be a photographer with a “day job,” discovered his creative passion with his first darkroom at age 12. In 2001, when the “day job” he had held for 24 years at Bell Laboratories was eliminated, he embraced his love of photography and re-created his life.

“I took a leap of faith.” Wainwright says, “I’ll admit that like many of us who suddenly find ourselves without a job, I was scared. But that leap of faith led me to create my book, *A Space for Faith*, which wouldn’t exist if I’d still been working in the corporate world.” Wainwright is now a successful landscape and architectural photographer.

Wainwright works with a wooden large-format camera, sheet film, and develops all his images in his darkroom. Every photograph is carefully and individually created. He prefers to *create a photograph* rather than “shoot” or “take a picture” and uses traditional processes which force him to slow down and really think about what he wants his images to be.

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Drawn to the project to capture images that reflect our Puritan heritage, Wainwright says, “They were religious dissidents who came to New England so they could live apart from the Church of England. Their lives were simple, and their belief in God was central to their lives. I believe my meetinghouse photographs reflect the Puritans’ simple, well-ordered lives and inspire my quest to simplify my own life.”

A Space for Faith: The Colonial Meetinghouses of New England is available for purchase on the book’s web site, www.aspaceforfaith.com.

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