



# Terri Gold

STILL POINTS IN A TURNING WORLD:  
IN CHAD

“In the Sahel desert in Chad, the nomadic Wodaabe people spend months apart, searching out pastures for their herds and shelter for the families.

When the rains are good, the clans celebrate with an extraordinary courtship ritual and beauty contest called The Gerewol, and it's the men who are on parade.

Chad's sweltering desert region seems an unlikely place to be so concerned with beauty, yet it is an integral part of the Wodaabe culture. They consider themselves to be the most beautiful people on earth.

They display their beauty as a spiritual act, full of dignity and honor. Each person is an artist, and they are their art—a living canvas. The intensity rises as they dance all night in their technicolor Dreamcoat, a surreal line-dance. Many different arrangements are made at the festival, some for the night, some for a lifetime. All is possible at the Gerewol...



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All the images are created with a camera converted to capture the infrared light spectrum.

From the beginning of my career, I searched for a film that could portray the world how I experienced it, with all its mysteries. I began making images using infrared film and creating split-toned images in the darkroom. I now use a digital camera converted to infrared and the digital darkroom.

Working with infrared light adds an element of iridescence and mystery, which I feel suits the surreal sense of time when traveling to places where different millennia customs coexist side by side.







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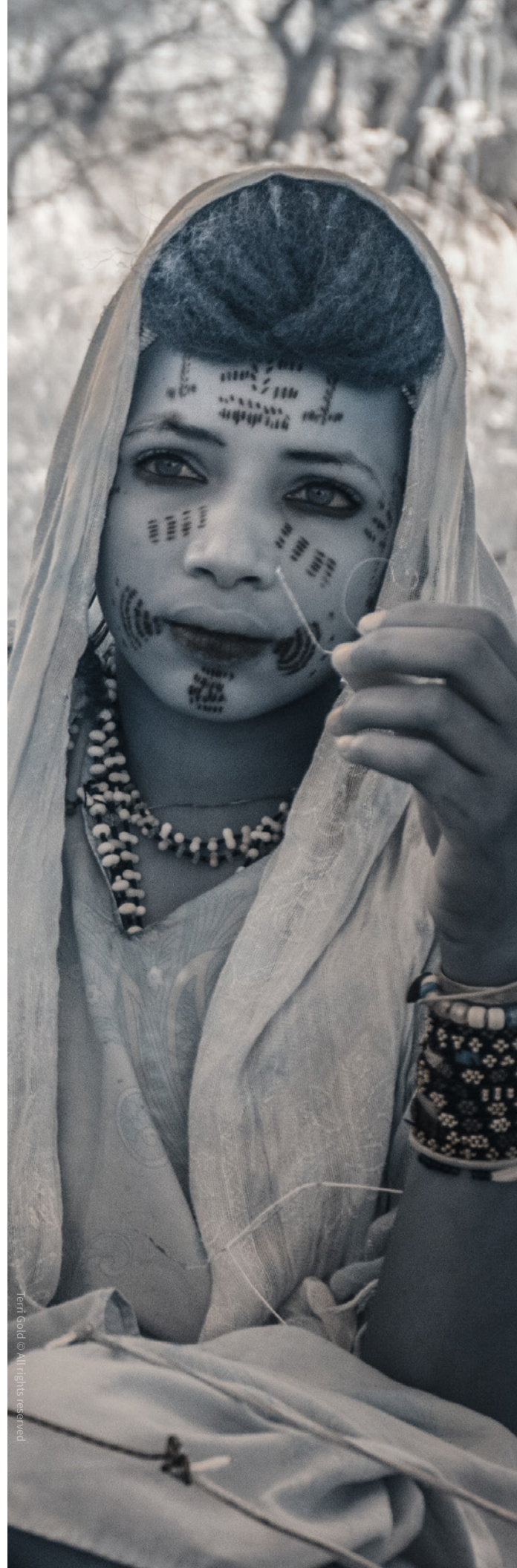
**T**erri Gold is a photographer known for her poetic infrared imagery of people from the globe's remote corners.

Her ongoing project, "Still Points in a Turning World," explores our universal cross-cultural truths: the importance of family, community, ritual, and the incredible diversity of its expression.

Her work has garnered many awards, is shown in galleries internationally, and published extensively. She had a solo show at the Salomon Arts Gallery in New York in 2018.

Her work won the Grand Prize in Shadow and Light magazine competition in 2019 and in The Santa Fe Photographic Workshops' "Diversity" competition. She has received recent awards in the International Photography Awards, Prix de la Photographie, Paris (Px3), Humanity Photo Awards, the Black and White Spider Awards, Julia Cameron Awards, All About Photo Travel magazine and award.

She is always happiest with a camera or three in her hands.



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“

**A**s the timeless  
past meets the  
imminent future,  
indigenous

cultures that still follow their  
traditional way of life are rapidly  
disappearing.

At risk is a vast archive of knowledge  
and expertise. What is the value  
of ancient practices? What will  
be discarded, and what will be  
treasured? If we appreciate every  
realm's mysteries, we may gain a  
deeper understanding of that which  
lies both behind and ahead of us.”

- Terri Gold



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