



A Book of Spruce Resin

Photography by J. G. Porter

Spruce Resin

Whatever you would like to know about Spruce resin, you should first know this: it sticks. It is extraordinarily sticky and it absolutely refuses to come off using ordinary soaps. It oozed onto the camera, my clothes, and my hands. My fingers were glued together for days. Eventually I applied some ethyl alcohol - which worked - sort of.

However, beyond the perils of resin, is the beauty of resin. When the light is right, resin beams and glows in various shades of ambers, golds, and yellows. Some oozes are almost clear - with little rainbows. However, of the dozens and dozens of photographs I take of resin, only a few work nicely. Some for their inner glow, some for their peculiar formations, and some just because they were interesting for a cluster of undefinable reasons.

Sunlight, whether full, diffuse or reflected, is the artistic director and determines what works and what does not. All one need do is shift the camera about until something looks good and ... snap.

These photographs were taken on the dozen or so spruce trees in the little condo community in which we live.

** * **

"Resin is produced and secreted by trees to protect themselves from various sorts of damage. The volatile liquid component evaporates leaving incredibly sticky gobs that form a protective covering not unlike scabs that form when we scrape, cut, or gouge, our skin.

If an ooze is lucky, it will find a protective niche, and, after several million years, might be transformed into amber."

<http://www.madehow.com/Volume-7/Amber.html>

*A Book of Spruce Resin
Copyright © 2015 J. G. Porter
gerryporter1@gmail.com*











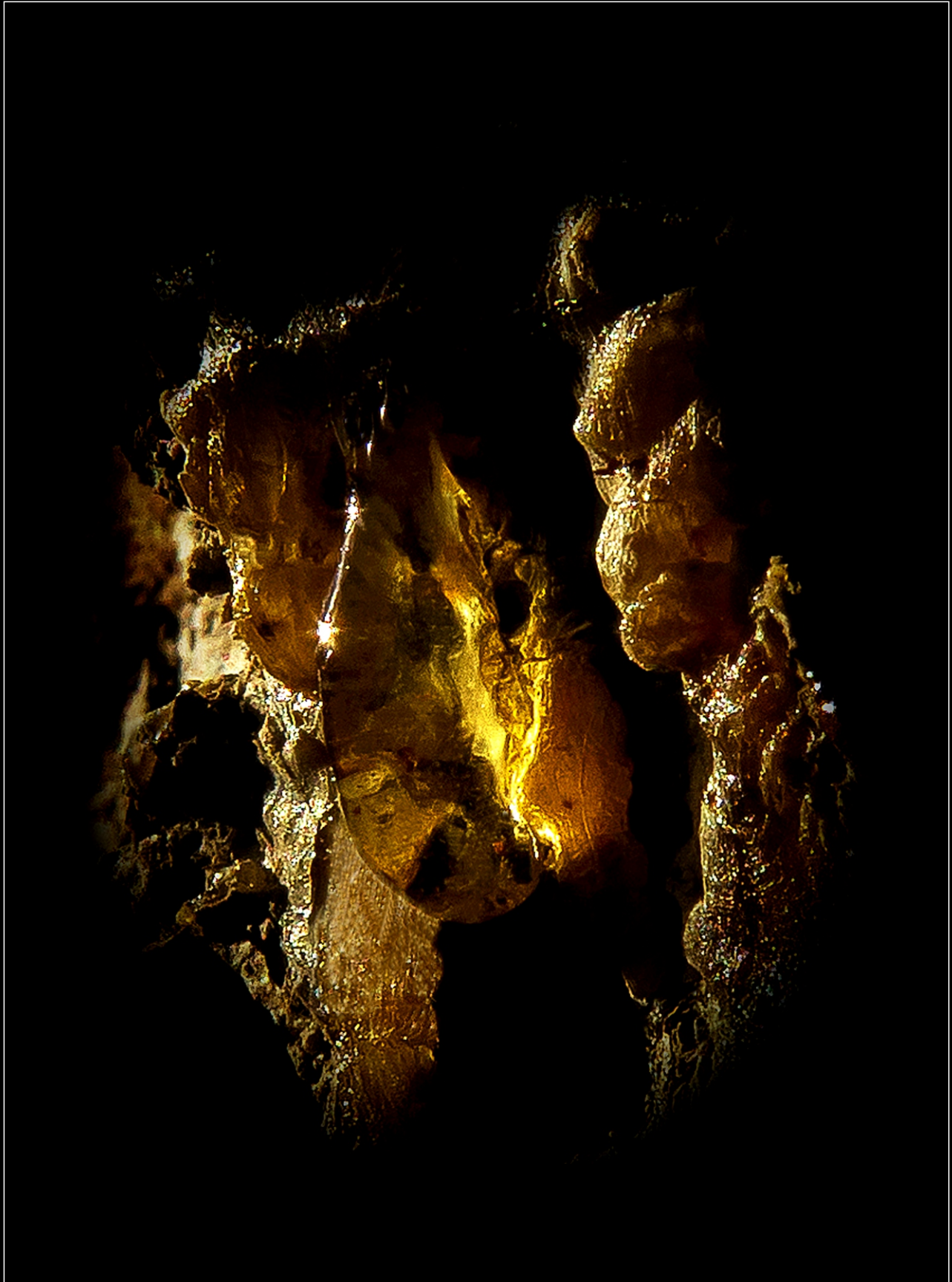


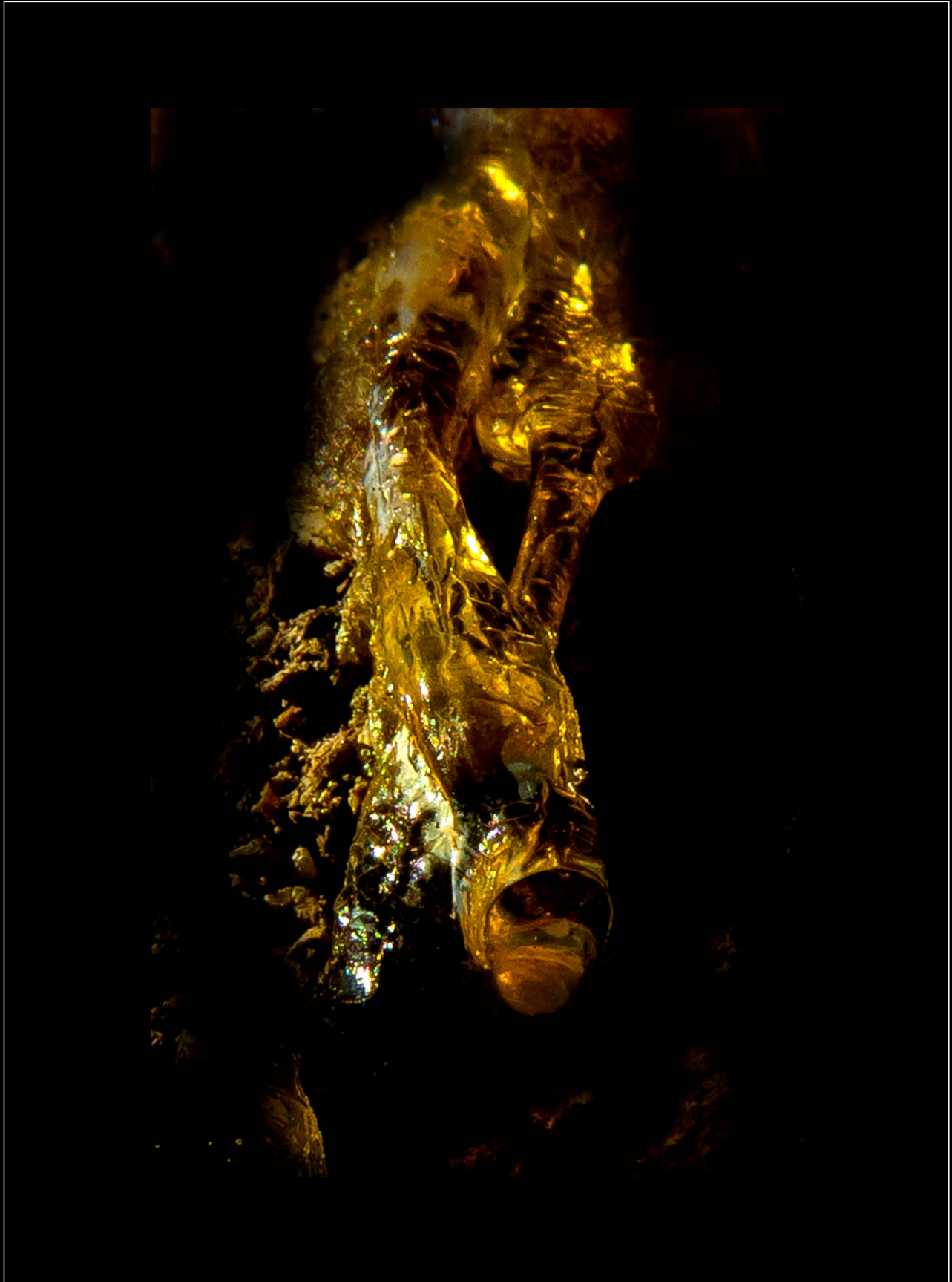






































J. G. Porter

Likeness by C. S. Henry

gerryporter1@gmail.com