



NINA J. CHUNG

ICELAND on the EDGE

NINA J. CHUNG



Photography & book design by Nina J. Chung

ICELAND ON THE EDGE

COPYRIGHT

NINAJ. CHUNG

NINAJCHUNG.COM



## Contents

Introduction

Birch trees

Birds

Basalt - volcanic rocks

Landmannalaugar - the Highlands

Vík / Myrdal - black sand beach

Puffin island

Moss & lichen

Volcano

Sheep Portraits / sheep roundups

Shettanes porsteinn west of Borgarfjörður

Island dance company / dancers

Waterfalls throughout Iceland

Ephemeral waves

West Fjords - oldest region of Iceland

Onions

Post 2010 eruption of Eyjafjallajökull glaciers

Horses / Skagsfjörður horse roundup

Colors & Patterns





01 - Acheyrarfusa waterfall, 2010

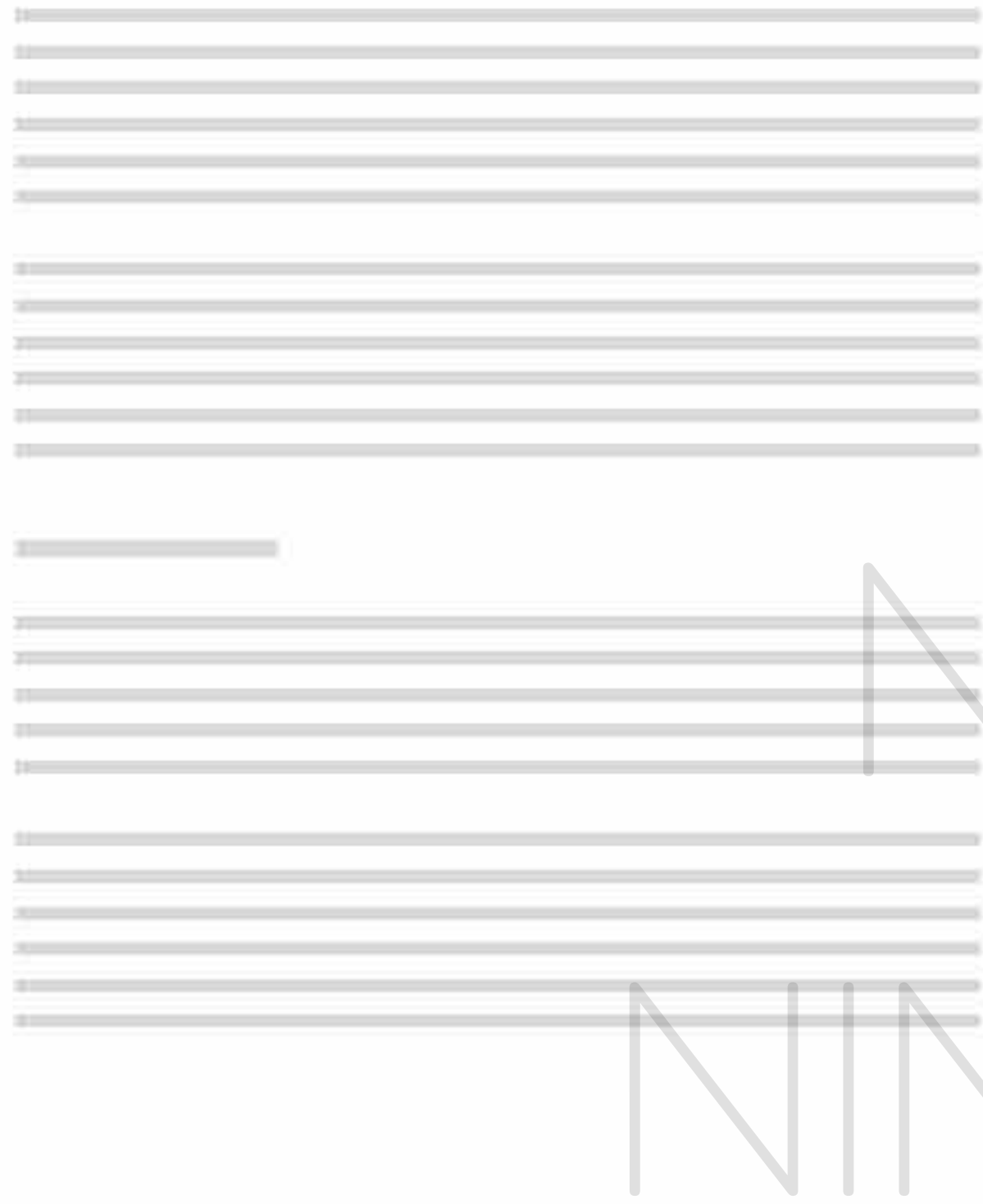


02 - Had night Riding through the fresh snow, 2010

COPYRIGHT

CHUNG

NINACHUNG.COM







05. Dettifoss waterfall mist rising, 2010



06. The White Mare

07 Birch, 2010







08 Sheep dots roam through Landmannalaugar in the Highlands, 2009

COPYRIGHT



09 Ljótípollar crater, 2009

MINIACHUNG.COM



RIGHT  
CHUNG  
JUNG.COM

10. Lovisa frozen under glacier waterfall, 2010

CO

NINA

NINAO

11 Iceland moss (*Cetraria islandica*) is actually lichen. 2009







COPYRIGHT

NINA J. CHUNG

NINACHUNG.COM



RIGHT

HUNG

G.COM





COPYRIGHT

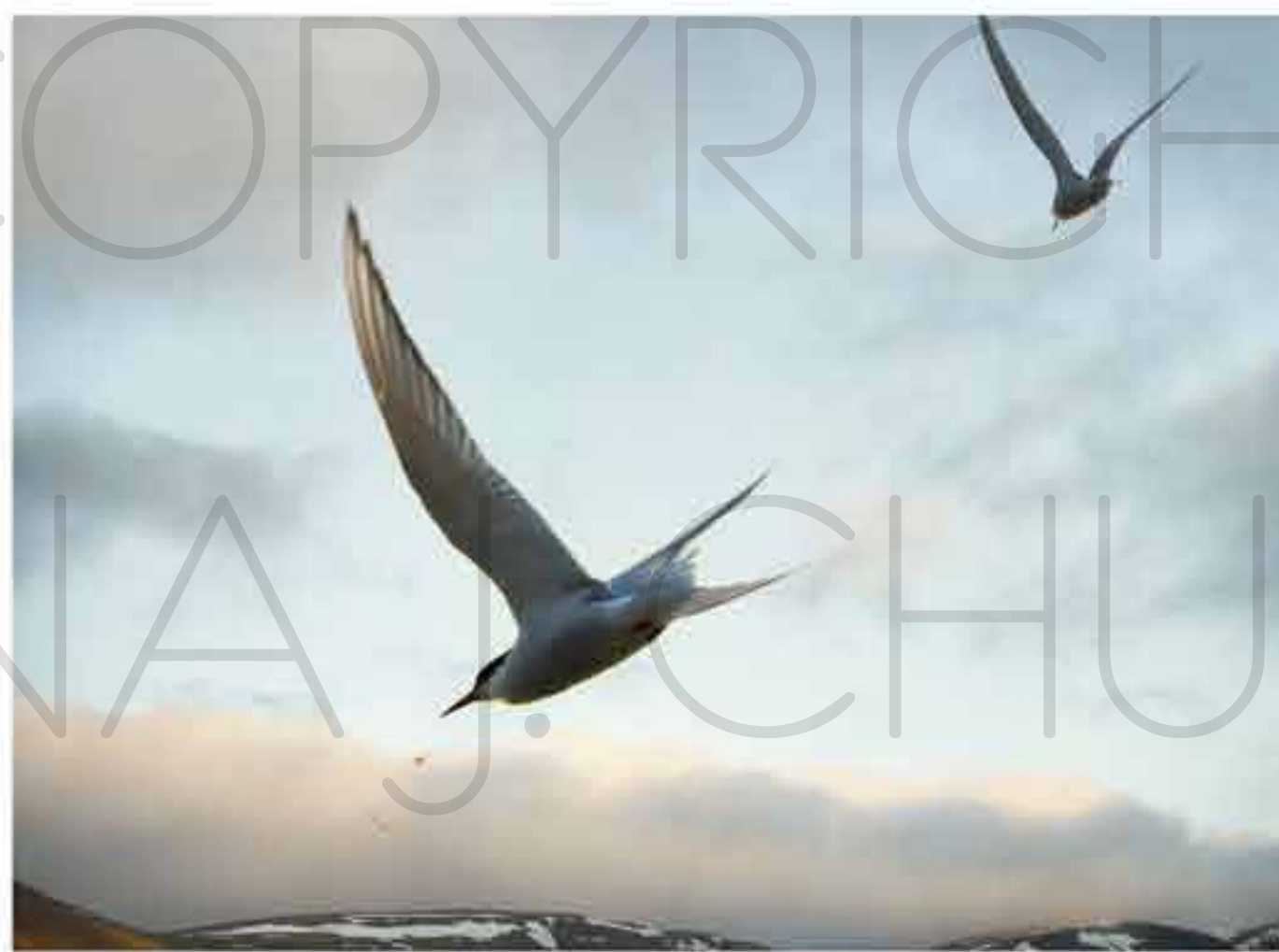
NINA J. CHUING

NINACHU





17 Waves II, 2009



18 Arctic terns, 2010



17 Waves III, 2009

NINACHUNG.COM





21 Choreographing with waves, 2009



22 Alan Socestipa, 2009

NINACHUNG.COM



CO  
YRIGHT  
NINA  
J. CHUNG  
NINA  
CHUNG.COM



NINACHUNG.COM

COF  
NINA  
NINACH

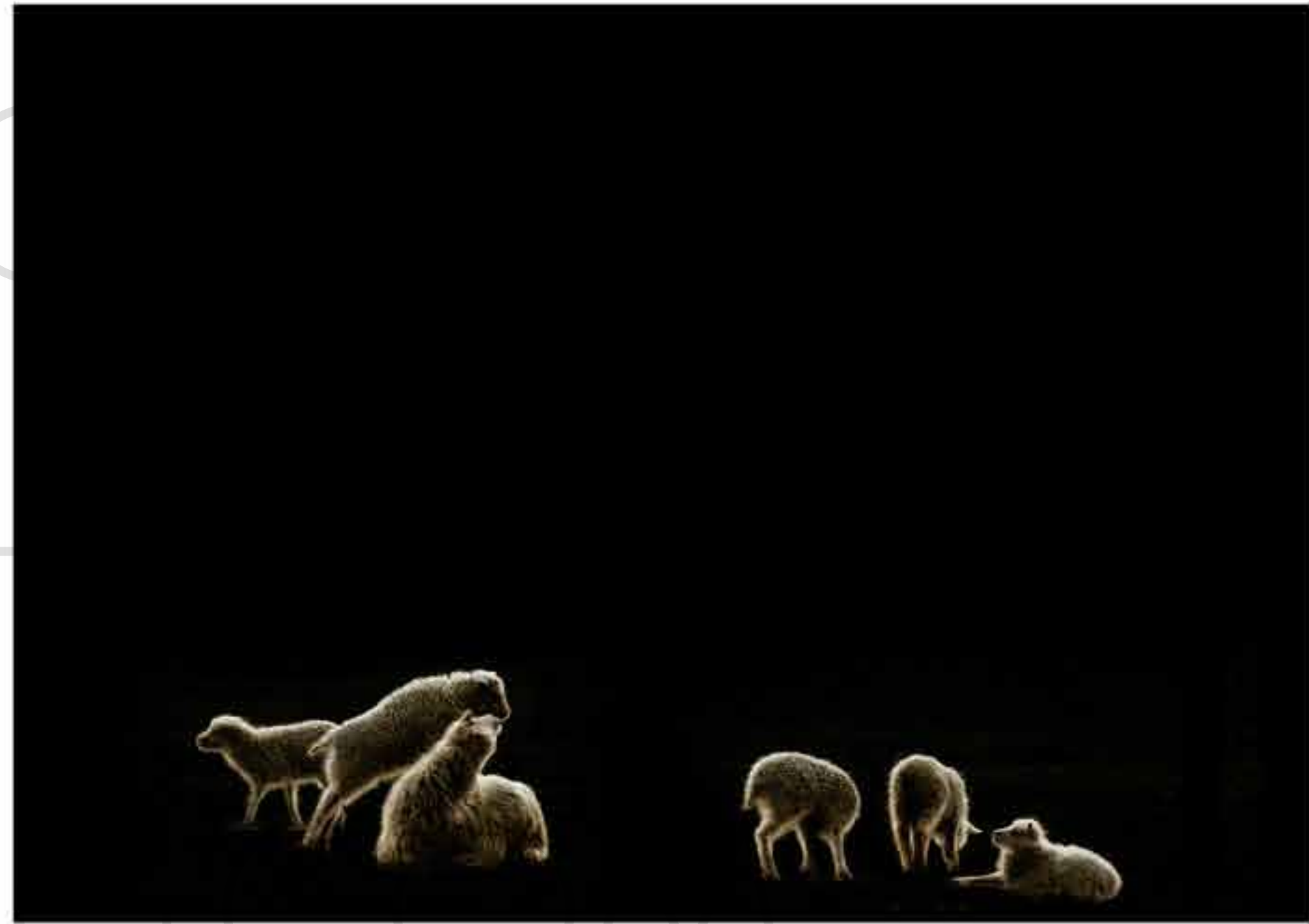








26 Raven patrol, 2009



27 Sheep affection, 2010

COPY  
NINACH  
NINACH









COPYRIGHT  
NINA J. CHUNG  
NINACHUNG.COM











35 : Oystercatcher catching a breeze on Puffin Island, 2010



35: Grimsey Island's basalt, 2010



36: Puffin Portrait, 2010

COPYRIGHT

NINA J. CHIU

NINACHU





37. Rock devouring waves, 2009



38. Colliding figures in the West Fjords, 2010

NINACHUNG.COM



COPYRIGHT  
NINA J. CHUNO  
NINACHUNO.COM



41: Eider ducks on Lake Myvatn, 2010



42 Námaskarð has a myriad of hot mud springs in widely different colours, 2009



43 Námaskarð's geology smokes sulphur, 2009



COPYRIGHT  
NINA J. CHUNG  
NINACHUNG.COM





45 Landscape edge, 2010



46 Black sheep, 2009





CO  
NINA  
NINAO



NINACHU





51: Vertical birch lines, 2010



52: Third eye within the subconscious (right photo), 2010



53 Wind swept birch, 2010



54 Climbing the black lava cave, 2009







56 Winter into Spring, 2010



57 Birch before bloom, 2010

COPYRIGHT  
CHUNING  
NINACHUNG.COM

COPYRIGHT

NINA I. CHUNG



NINACHUNG.COM





COPYRIGHT

NINA J. CHUNG

NINACHUNG.COM



COPYRIGHT

NINA J. CHUNG

NINACHUNG.COM













NINACHUNG.COM

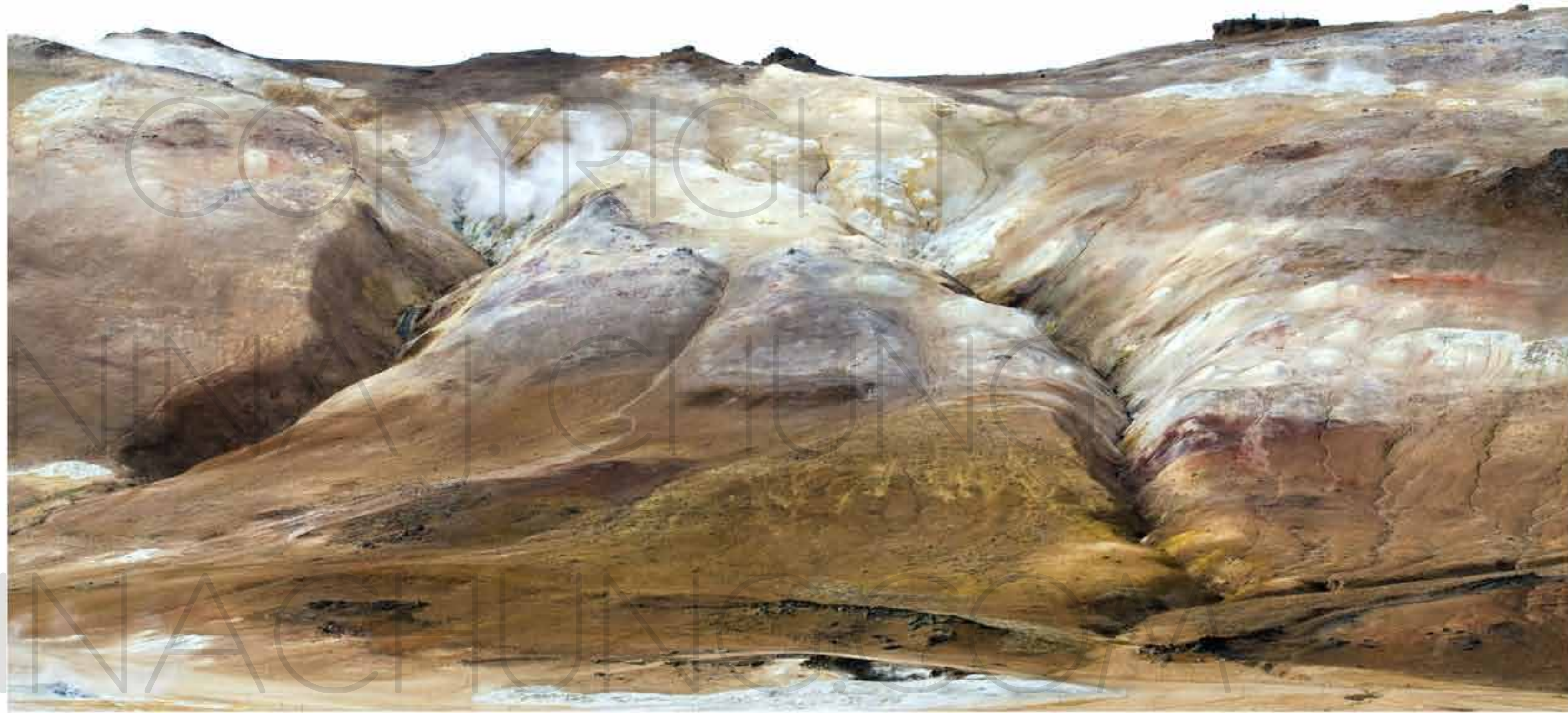
COPYRIGHT

NINAJ. COM

NINACHUING.COM



68 | Shafellens homes a suspicious rooster, 2009.





COPYRIGHT  
J. CHUNG  
NINACHUNG.COM

COP  
NINA  
NINAC





73 Bandaged hay, 2010



74 Peace in the highlands under 24 hours of sunlight, 2010









NINACHUNG.COM



NINACHUNG.COM



Drying Fish Scraps, 2009





81- Mist rising on moss: 2009.

NIN





Landmannalaugar's sheep roundup, 2009





NINACHUNG.COM





NINACHUNG.COM







89 Black Ice 2010



89 Black ash breccias 2010

91 Kettle holes in front of Gigjökull, 2010





Arrangements left by nature I



Arrangements left by nature I



Arrangements left by nature III



Arrangements left by nature IV

NINACHUNG.COM











COPYRIGHT

UNG

G.COM







Luminosity at dawn, 2010.



Harvesting the volcano, 2010.

COPYRIGHT

NINA J. CHUNG

NINACHUNG.COM







Jökulsárgljöfur canyon, 2010





CO  
NIN  
NINA





COPY

NINAJ.

NINACHU













COPYRIGHT

NINJA.HUNG

NINJA.HUNG.COM



112: Black Ash on ice, 2010



NINACHUNG.COM



COPYRIGHT  
NINIA J. CHUNG  
NINIA CHUNG.CC



115 Black sand beach at VKI 2009

Echo & Narcissus, 2010

NINA

NINA













NINACHUNG.COM



25 Lovisa on the rocks, 2009







RIGHT  
CHUNG  
JUNG.COM







APPENDIX:

- 01 Aldeyjarfoss waterfall is located in north Iceland in the region of the Sprengisandur Highland Road. The basalt design and architecture is extraordinary. 2010
- 02 Young 4 year old horse fleeing through the snow on Fjalladyrd Farm in north/east Iceland. 2010
- 03 Family of sheep venture through the West Fjords under the midnight sun in summer. 2010
- 04 Reynisdrangar are basalt sea stacks under the mountain Reynisfjall near the village Vik í Mýrdal, southern Iceland. 2009
- 05 Dettifoss waterfall (closeup of the mist rising from spring into summer temperature change and the impact of the water falling. The ice is stained by volcanic dust after Eyjafjallajökull's eruption in 2010.
- 06 The White Mare's stunning pose captured in a field of wild horses in southern landscape.
- 07 Birch trees: the only forest forming tree species to survive/return to the present interglacial is downy birch (Betula pubescens). 2010
- 08 Landmannalaugar is a region near the volcano Hekla in the southern Highlands. There are tiny puffy dots of sheep grazing on the nutritious lichen. 2009
- 09 Ljótípollur (Ugly pool). Is an explosion crater located in the Highlands This lake occupies the southernmost crater of the long eruptive fissure, which was created during an enormous eruption in 1477. There is a sediment of copper in the lake (turquoise) & iron (red color.) 2009
- 10 Lovisa frozen under glacier waterfall. Lovisa Osk Gunnarsdottir (dancer/choreographer/actress) studied at the JSB School of Dance and the Ballet Academy in Stockholm. She dances with the Iceland Dance Company. Lovisa has a natural ability to let herself become the mood within the surroundings, 2009
- 11 Iceland moss (Cetraria islandica) is a lichen whose appearance gives it something of the appearance of moss. Color varies considerably, being sometimes almost entirely greyish white; and grows to a height of from 3 to 4 in., the branches being channelled or rolled into tubes, which terminate in flattened lobes with fringed edges. The variations of patterns and the texture alone can create an imaginative intrigue. 2009
- 12 Raven parents fly about looking for meals for their new born young; nesting on the dried vegetation on the black sand beaches in the east fjord region. 2010
- 13 Sheep eyes fascinated my psyche; something haunting. 2009
- 14 Oddur Petursson 82 years old (engineer and olympic sking athlete) was wonderfully energetic and shared ancient Viking saga stories throughout our adventure with his grandson, Oddur Jr., in the Westfjords. The oldest region of Iceland in the northwest coastline far north of Iceland. 2010
- 15 Basalt wall is an extrusive volcanic rock; usually greyish black and fine-grained; the shape and patterns vary depending on the temperature cooling process as the mineral composition. 2009

- 16 High tide rolling in unforvincingly at Vik í Mýrdal. 2009
- 17 White foam surreal waves, 2009
- 18 Artic Terns bird has a circumpolar breeding distribution covering the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions of Europe, Asia, and North America. These birds strongly migratory, seeing two summers each year as it migrates from its northern breeding grounds along a winding route to the oceans around Antarctica and back, a round trip of about 44,300 miles each year and Iceland being a breeding stop during their journey. 2009
- 19 Dettifoss waterfall is the most powerful waterfall in Europe. During winter into spring when the snow and ice still cover a mass of the waterfall, one can observe the cracks slowly emerging ready to collapse huge sheets of ice and snow. 2010
- 20 .Vik í Mýrdal during a windy rainstorm. 2009
- 21 Hannes & I drove out to Vik before sunrise to choreograph the shoot to the flow of the violent dangerous waves. Hannes Egilsson dances with the Iceland Dance Company. 2009
- 22 Cloud formations fascinated my imagination, I can see a spaceship in slow motion passing through the sky. 2009
- 23 Sundown at Vik in November was a painful eight hour wait in the cold alone completely wet for this tremendous moment. 2009
- 24 Reincarnating the "Death of Ophelia" floating poetically in a geothermal hot pool in the west Fjords, 2010
- 25 Floki Vilgerdardson, later nicknamed Raven-Floki, was a Norwegian Viking who set out to seek this new land. On his ship he also had three ravens and whenever he thought he was near land he released the ravens one by one so that they could show him the right way. The ravens always came back to the ship but one day the third raven flew forwards. Floki followed that raven and found the new land.
- 26 Raven patrolling the cliffs by between Selfoss and Skógafoss in south Iceland. 2009
- 27 Observing the affection between the sheep. 2010
- 28 Jökulsárgljúfur canyon 2010
- 29 Jökulsárgljúfur canyon basalt interiors. 2010
- 30 Violent volcanism creates these natural newly formed basalt rock at the rim of the crater captured soon after Eyjafjallajökull's dramatic eruption. 2010
- 31 The steep glacier tongue pushes out massive ice sheets which during the process of gravity pushing and pulling creating crevasses floats carves these magnificent sculptures onto Fjallsarjökull Glacier Lagoon. 2010
- 32 Four different observations from a helicopter of the glaciers etched dramatically in black ash after Eyjafjallajökull's eruption . This stage of the ice only lives for only a few weeks. Due to wind, rain, snow washing the volcano dust into the ocean. A extremely rare recording of the glaciers. 2010

- 33 Saracs are giant solitary remains of what once were 500 feet glaciers covering Eyjafjallajökull volcano post 2010 eruption. Ice climbers shutter at the thought of being near such ice towers ready to collapse violently at any moment. 2010
- 34 Fjallsarjökull Glacier Lagoon invites these beautiful ice sheet sculptures. 2010
- 35 The oyster catchers are a group of waders that reside and breed in regions throughout Iceland. 2010
- 36 Grimsey is a small island with a community of about 100 inhabitants, who base their livelihood almost solely on the fisheries but also on limited agriculture and the bird cliffs, which saved them several times from famine The Arctic Circle crosses it and the sun does not set there at summer solstice. The island's structure is basalt, and a bird breeding paradise. Huge puffin colony breeds here in spring. 2010
- 37 Portrait of Oyster catchers posing on Puffin Island. 2010
- 38 Volcanic rock devours the violent incoming crashing waves. 2009
- 39 Hordis & Steve collide in the West Fjords; "Strandir" an amazing coastline in the West Fjords energizes. 2010
- 40 The Red Sands of Rauðisandur ; while much of the rest of Iceland is renowned for its amazing black sand beaches, the Red Sands of Rauðisandur, as their name suggests, are a stripe of a different colour. Wide expanses of fine shell-sand beaches give rise to a pinkish-reddish hue that glistens magically when the sun shines. 2010
- 41 Lake Mývatn is a shallow eutrophic lake situated in an area of active volcanism in the north of Iceland, near Krafla volcano. The lake and its surrounding wetlands have an exceptionally rich fauna of waterbirds, especially ducks. The lake was created by a large basaltic lava eruption 2300 years ago, and the surrounding landscape is dominated by volcanic landforms, including lava pillars and rootless vents (pseudocraters). 2010
- 42 Námaskarð: one of the substances condensing out of the steaming hot mud is Sulphur, and that was mined in Námaskarð until the middle of the 19th century. 2010
- 43 Námaskarð lies between Námafjall and Dal fjall and east of Námafjall. It's a myriad of hot mud springs in widely different colours, located at Hverarönd, Hot Spring Strip in north Iceland. Solfatara are openings in the earth's crust through which sulfurous vapors rise.. 2010
- 44 Dettifoss is a waterfall in Vatnajökull National Park in Northeast Iceland, and is reputed to be the most powerful waterfall in Europe. The canyon of rocks are covered by melting snow and black volcano ash. 2010
- 45 Striking new emerging landscape after 2010 eruption, which melted the ice. 2010
- 46 Black sheep. 2009
- 47 Basalt sculpted in time at Jökulsárgljúfur canyon 2010
- 48 Lovisa on the cliffs makes me recollect the beautiful paintings of Maxfield Parrish. 2010

- 49 Haughty greetings from a ram in the West Fjords. I loved the drives to a destination due to these unusual moments encountered in the landscape. 2010
- 50 The Mid-Atlantic Ridge: The Mid-Atlantic Ridge (MAR) is a mid-ocean ridge, a divergent tectonic plate boundary located along the floor of the Atlantic Ocean, and part of the longest mountain range in the world. It separates the Eurasian Plate and North American Plate in the North Atlantic, and the African Plate from the South American Plate in the South Atlantic. This division in which Iceland has the highest volcanic activity.Iceland is enlarging as it tears itself apart by an inch every year at this ridge. 2009
- 51 Reading between the birch, 2010
- 52 Sheep eye observes through the sunconscious. 2009
- 53 Birch trees are formed through the landscape by the weather conditions. The intensely high winds drap and slant the the birch like silver snakes rising across the textural vegetation. 2010
- 54 Clawing up the black cave edge. 2009
- 55 Ancient volcanic explosions carved these clawing lava flow textures in the south Highlands mountains where the sheep are busy grazing. 2009
- 56 Lake Mývatn in winter. 2010
- 57 Poetic birch 2010
- 58 Sheep aligned across a prestine landscape. 2010
- 59 Eliizabeth a tour guide of mine, went fishing for my dinner: the freshest fish I have ever tasted! 2010
- 60 Frozen waterfall. 2010
- 61 West Fjords; This is the oldest and wildest region – remote and stunningly beautiful with countless fjords, precipitous mountains, amazing coastal roads and hidden gems. Sparsely populated untouched landcape. 2010
- 62 Lovisa swept by Seljalandsfoss waterfall in south Iceland. 2009
- 63 Goats enjoying the end of winter with fresh snowfall. 2010
- 64 Helicopter ride towards the volcanic central Highlands. 2010
- 65 Estuary is a partly enclosed coastal body of water with one or more rivers flowing into it; with a free connection to the open sea. This is the meeting of fresh and salt sea water which has different oxygen composition. The green is concentrated levels of copper in the water. 2010
- 66 Ariel view heading towards the central Highlands. 2010
- 67 Three studies of waterfalls, glacier lakes and rock formations in the south central Highlands. 2010
- 68 Roosters on a Snæfellsnes farm. 2009

- 69 Námaskarð is surrounded by sulphurous mud springs called solfataras and steam springs called fumaroles. Though you will scarcely find any pure water spring in this wonderful geothermal site of Iceland, the beauty of the colorful minerals defines the landscape. Another thing that is sure to strike you about Námaskarð is the sheer lack of vegetation. The high temperature range makes it impossible altogether. The constant emission of the fumes has made the ground utterly sterile and acidic, unfit to sustain any floras and faunas. 2010
- 70 Waterfall at Skogafoss, south Iceland. 2009
- 71 Sheep grazing in the southern farmlands. 2009
- 72 Cottongrass blooming through the volcanic Highlands in mid-summer. 2010
- 73 Hay bundles left over from winter. 2010
- 74 Enjoying the summer in the Highlands for the adventurous sheep. 2010
- 75 Playful antics on a farmland in summer. 2010
- 76 Seljalandsfoss is one of the most famous waterfalls of Iceland; it falls 200 feet and the truly adventurous can walk behind the waterfall to experience the sensation and power. 2009
- 77 Four observations of lichen growth. 2010
- 78 Mos have unique structure, patterns and shapes throughout the Icelandic landscape. 2009
- 79 Three sheep in the Highlands in summer suspiciously eyeing my every move. 2010
- 80 Natural hot springs are situated all throughout Iceland; Steve & Hjordis enjoy the mineral rich energizing dip in the West Fjords. 2010
- 81 Mist rising off the moss landscape early in the morning. 2009
- 82 Ivory mane. 2009
- 83 Sheep Roundup through Landmannalaugar is a festive event for the farmers of Iceland. Kristinn Guðnason is the "King of the mountains" and in charge of men and beast. He, his fellow farmers and their ancestors have been gathering sheep in this area for centuries and know all there is to know about this old tradition. I the farmers manage the flock, drive sheep down hill sides, across rivers and out of sheltered valleys to their resting place for the night, only to go out again the next day to gather more. There is singing at night in the cabins when the farmers celebrate a successful day in the mountains. One can not get any closer to the heart and soul of the true Icelanders – the farmers. 2009
- 84 The Highlands of Iceland cover most of the interior of Iceland; mostly an uninhabitable volcanic desert, because the water precipitating as rain or snow infiltrates so quickly into the ground that it is unavailable for plant growth, which results largely in a surface of grey, black or brown earth, lava and volcanic ashes. Most of the numerous glaciers, such as Vatnajökull, Langjökull and Hofsjökull, are also part of the Icelandic Highlands. the most interesting parts of Iceland with volcanic activity are to be found in the Highlands, such as Landmannalaugar and the region around Askja and Herðubreið. 2010

- 85 Skagafjörður's annual Horse Roundup in 2009, (a far north county in Iceland; where horses outnumber the people residing there) A violent snowstorm broke just as thousands of horses were being rounded up to cross a huge river bank. This is one of the rarest moments since a snowstorm rarely breaks violently in September. The chaos rose extreme high levels of fight or flight adrenaline in capturing these rare fleeting moments. 2009
- 86 Three stages of Skagafjörður's annual Horse Roundup in 2009,
- 87 Skagafjörður's riders storming through the chaos. 2009
- 88 Glaciers that laid on top of Iceland since the Ice age; melted rapidly to produce a view of a new landscape edge from melting after Eyjafjallajökull eruption in 2010.
- 89 Black ice, glaciers are blue and white in collar but the black is over a foot thick after the eruption which mask the ice into a shadow. 2010
- 90 Black ash etched crevasses creating the slash of the dramatic glaciers. 2010
- 91 Kettle holes produced by huge ice exploding down the landscape; drained a river previously flowing through the Highlands. 2010
- 92 Stones arranged by nature in 4 variations. I was fascinated by how the wind moving the water currents and volcanic chemistry leaves behind wonderful design signatures.
- 93 Fascinated by lines and indentations in stone. 2009
- 94 The meaningful but meaningless point of leaving our footprint behind. Nature is completely oblivious to the human footprint, it will evolve without hesitation.
- 95 Dimmuburgi ("black castles") Imagination will abduct you to dream in Dimmuburgi with its bizarre pillars, natural arches and caves. .
- 96 Basalt bridge in the West Fjords. 2010
- 97 Young puffins chatting before their practice dives. 2010
- 98 Lovisa flows on Puffin Island. 2010
- 99 Sundown, 2009
- 100 An artic fox alert shot a storm of birds up into the sky. 2010
- 101 Hanging and drying the last bit of the fish to to utilized for export.
- 102 Bakkaflói BAY\_ STEVE-- Vikurskarð pass in the west to Bakkaflói bay in the east, and spans the entire area from the northeast coastline south to Vatnajökull glacier. The active forces of ice and fire, which are still shaping the landscape, have created countless pearls of nature in endless contrast and variety. We invite you to explore everything the region has to offer and hope to entice you to pay us a visit to experience for yourself the diverse attractions of North-east Iceland.
- 103 Black stallion. 2010
- 104 Cave studies. 2009

105 Concerned mares: being a petite woman (verses tall icelandic people) I had problems shooting the horses after they were gathered for the farmers to separate their stock. I climbed on top of 4 feet wood bars for a couple hours under horrendous weather conditions to capture some very intimate & caring relations between the horses.

106 Skagafljörður was hit by an unexpected snowstorm; the moss rusting into deep autumn is pixelated in design by the snowstorm hurling it's way across the grazing sheep. 2009

107 Dimmuburgi's ghostly birch trees. 2010

108 Námaskarð's active mud pools steaming vents, solfataras fields, sulphur-encrusted earth and boiling mud expected me at Námafall. 2010

109 Lichen / moss. 2009

110 Vegetation in Iceland is textured with frost by the chilly conditions. 2009

111 Eyjafjallajökull produced this dramatic landscape by the crater. 2010

112 The 2010 eruptions of Eyjafjallajökull were volcanic events at Eyjafjöll, produced these ephemeral moments of glacier ice walls etched in black ash; which only sustains for a few weeks. 2010

113 Intricate lagoon sculptures. 2010

114 Glacier lagoon castle. 2010

115 Vík - black sand beach on the southern coastline. 2009

116 Natural hot springs are situated all throughout Iceland; Steve & Hjordis enjoy the mineral rich energizing dip in the West Fjords. 2010

117 I spotted three sheep fleeing for their freedom deeper into the black desert. 2009

118 Parts of the Eyjafjallajökull glacier tongue are forced forward through constrictions in the landscape, pressure builds and once abruptly released moves the ice in quick jolts creating unfamiliar horrifying sounds of crevasses opening into the glacier tongue.

119 Basalt layers. 2009

120 Timelessly between the rocks, 2010

121 Embracing the terror of cold unforgiving waves. 2009

122 Lovisa on the rocks at Vík. 2009

123 Reynisdrangar basalt sea stacks situated under the mountain Reynisfjall near the village Vík í Mýrdal, southern Iceland. Legend says that the stacks originated when two trolls dragged a three-masted ship to land unsuccessfully and when daylight broke they became needles of rock. Otherwise a bird paradise and know for violent ship wrecks. 2009

124 The Snæfellsnes is a peninsula situated to the west of Borgarfjörður, in western of Iceland. This region is the setting of the novel Journey to the Center of the Earth by the French author Jules Verne. 2009

125 Grandpa Oddur reminiscing & reflecting the past 82 years of his life in the West Fjords... 2010

126 The imaginative recollections of events that are produced from admiring this old abandoned ship with it's past adventures. 2010

125 Grandpa Oddur reminiscing & reflecting the past 82 years of his life in the West Fjords... 2010

126 The imaginative recollections of events that are produced from admiring this old abandoned ship with it's past adventures. 2010

127 Eyjafjallajökull volcano smoking between eruptions in 2010.

COPYRIGHT

NINAJ. CHUNG

NINACHUNG.COM