

***HAPPY 4TH OF JULY EVERYONE!***



***Summer Fireworks  
over the Navy Pier in Chicago***

~~~~~

***Wednesday evening  
June 13th, 2012***



***After over a month of constant travel all over the U.S. for portrait deliveries and new sittings (and some fireworks already too: see above) we are finally settling back into life here in Charlotte with much to celebrate.***

***Our 4th of July this year will begin with a morning bike ride with friends, then move on to a picnic in the park and finally an evening BBQ party to look forward to up at Lake Norman with fireworks over the water.***

***It should be a memorable day and we very much wish the same for all of our family, friends, and clients here in the U.S.***

*Just a few photos below from special homeward bound moments on the road this past month ~ beautiful Longwood Gardens in southern Pennsylvania and an afternoon and evening in downtown Chicago.*



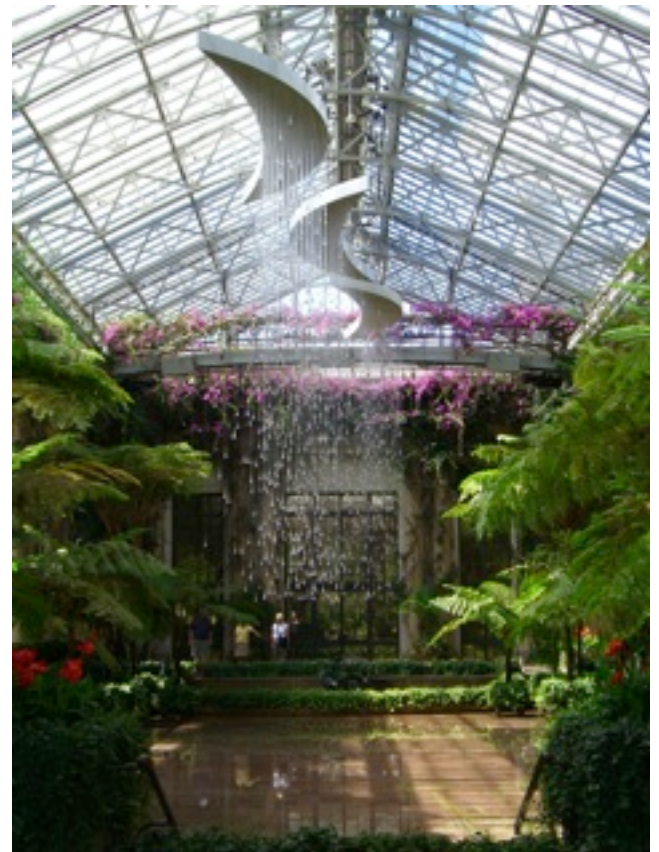
*Above is a shot from one of the many fountain shows throughout Longwood Gardens that are synchronized to music during set times day and night.*

*We especially appreciated the extensive orchid collections and waterlily displays at these famous gardens, along with the very “on trend” Green Wall found off of the East Conservatory  
See photo to the right.*





*Fabulous light installations (many fiber optics) by British Artist, Bruce Munro, were being set up all throughout the gardens and conservatories while we were there. His show will continue on day and night throughout this summer. The lilypads (below) made from old CD's, were the only installation designed to best "shine" during the daytime hours when we were there.*







*And a few more shots from our fresh and cool day at the gardens.....*





*~ Lovely orchids ~*



*And water lilies...*





*We were able to take advantage of another beautiful break in the hot June weather while in Chicago three weeks ago. A great afternoon spent downtown enjoying the architecture and art throughout the downtown and in Millennium Park*



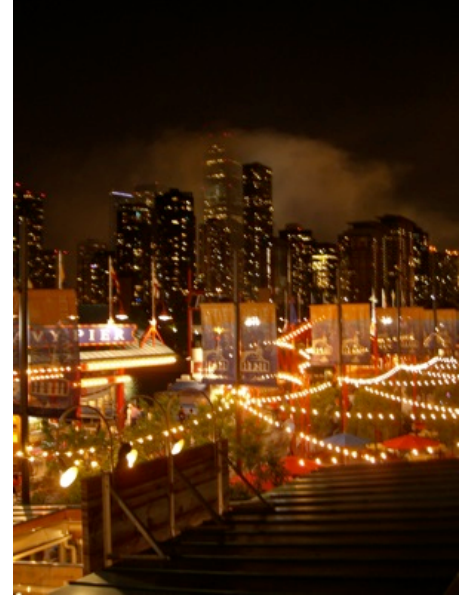




*Then the opening concert of the 2012 Grant Park Music Festival began...  
I shot a video, but I don't know how to attach those yet!*



*As the free concert in the park ended, we followed the crowd and walked over to the Navy Pier for the evening's fun and the big fireworks display ~ shots below from after the fireworks.*



*Now John is busy this summer working on his official portrait of our North Carolina governor ~ who was such a pleasure to work with and giving of her time. This will be our first 4th of July in the U.S. since we purchased our home in Lucca 12 years ago, and we cannot think of a more patriotic way to celebrate this special season!*

*Also attached as separate pdf files to this email are the following:*

- 1. A pdf email unveiling all 7 of the recently delivered portraits.*
- 2. A pdf recipe for my favorite seafood paella ~ in celebration of our week in Spain this spring.*
- 3. A pdf of a few "Tales from the Road" ~ reflections from our 1000's of miles on the American road this past month. Hopefully, good for a laugh.*

*Cheers!*

*k & j*

*[www.johnseibelswalker.com](http://www.johnseibelswalker.com)*

*Charlotte*