Photographer Drew Doggett &

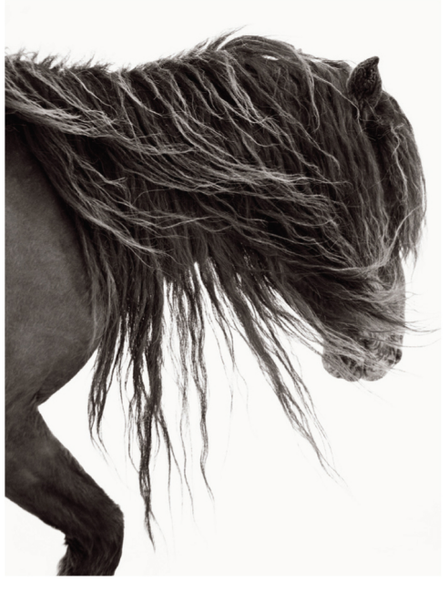
THE HORSES OF SABLE ISLAND

By Diana Pinck

Photographer Drew Doggett moved to New York City after graduating from Vanderbilt University in Nashville to study fashion photography. He had the great fortune to apprentice and work with renowned fashion photographer Steven Klein and portrait photographer Mark Seliger. In 2009, Drew decided it was time to launch his own career in fine art photography. For his body of work, he decided to focus on documenting the beauty and inhabitants of remote and exotic locations like Nepal, Ethiopia, and most recently, Sable Island.

After his trip to Nepal in 2009, Drew founded Art Cares, a 10-year program that donates the proceeds of his book *Slow Road to China*, and art prints from the book, to charities in that area. His stunning collection from Ethiopia titled *Omo: Expressions of a People* had the great honor of being accepted into the permanent archives of the Smithsonian Museum in 2012.

Then Drew was off to spend time on the isolated Sable Island, which lies off of the coast of Nova Scotia, to capture the rugged beauty of the terrain and the wild horses that have inhabited it for more than two centuries. In the past, Sable Island was often referred to as 'Shipwreck Island' or 'The Graveyard of the Atlantic,' because over 350 ships are documented to have crashed on its uninviting shores. It is believed that the horses on the island are descendants of horses that managed to swim to safety. Thriving in this natural habitat, the horses have no predators and have evolved into a distinct, strong breed marked by their beautiful shaggy manes.



"I remember walking through the fog for hours and then suddenly, like an apparition from another time, the horses would appear in front of me."

Thick patches of fog cover Sable Island for more than 250 days of the year, and Drew recalls sometimes walking through the fog for hours before hearing the hoofs of the horses pounding toward him from a distance. Suddenly they would emerge out of the fog, like apparitions from another time, he said. Drew's extraordinary black and white photos manage to capture the beauty and strength of the horses, their relationship to each other, and the stark land that they inhabit.

Drew's current exhibit, *Discovering the Horses of Sable Island*, will be on display at Sylvester & Co in Amagansett through September 30. He is already getting ready for his next collections, one about the Tuareg people of the Sahara Desert, and the other about racing sailboats in Newport, Rhode Island and the British Virgin Islands. I cannot wait to see where this talented young photographer will take us next.

To see more photographs by Drew Doggett, visit www.drewdoggett.com or see his exhibit at Sylvester & Co, 154 Main Street, Amagansett, NY (www.sylvesterathome.com; 631.267.9777).