

ViewFinder

Etobicoke Camera Club

Volume 50 No. 6



April 2011

Image of the Month



Upside Down

Gunter Hailbach ©

COMPETITION RESULTS: PHOTOGRAPHER'S CHOICE 2

Congratulations to all the winners.

<i>Judges</i>
Philip Sun, Christopher Siou and Wayne Johnson

Photographers choice 2	Submitted	Accepted	Average score
Intermediate	67	67	
Advanced	60	60	
Super Set	45	45	
Total	172	172	

<i>Results : Intermediate</i>			
G	27	DORIS WOUDEMBERG	Commanding cougar
S	25	CLIVE TONGE	Chilly Chickadee
HM	25	CLIVE TONGE	Scotsdale Barn
HM	24	DAVID FALCONER	Symmetry
HM	24	DIANE DORAN	Feeding Kingbird
HM	24	DIANE DORAN	Nest-Building Hawk
HM	24	JOHN MARKLE	Leuty Beach
HM	24	JOHN MARKLE	Moonlit F18
HM	24	JOHN MARKLE	Humming Bird
HM	24	MARY CHAMBERLAIN	Fireboat
HM	24	RICHARD MORENCY	Rose Diffusion

<i>Results : Advanced</i>			
G	24	GUNTER HAIBACH	UpsideDown
S	24	ELAINE FREEDMAN	Piper Alert
HM	23	DAVID BODNARYK	St Basil's Cathedral
HM	23	GERALD SEWELL	Misty Morning
HM	23	GUNTER HAIBACH	Steel Structure
HM	23	JANET PATTERSON	Country Fence
HM	23	JUDY ROE	Turkish Spice Market
HM	23	KENNETH HARRY	Curved Light
HM	23	SANDRA LAURIN	Love
HM	23	TONY PAINE	Seen at a Wedding
HM	23	VINCE ELLERY	Squares
HM	23	JOCELYN UBALDINO	Roman Baths 6419
HM	23	JOCELYN UBALDINO	Sandro 2108

<i>Results : Super Set</i>			
G	25	MICHEL GAGNON	Impressions of Valensole
S	24	JOHN ROIAS	Like the wind
HM	24	CAROLYN FRANCIS-SCOBIE	Sun's Masterpiece
HM	24	DIANE SAWATZKY	French Tess
HM	24	JUDY GRIFFIN	Zabriski Point
HM	24	KAS STONE	Manitoulin Farm

Memo from the Editors

This will be the last edition of the year.

There will be a small edition during the summer which will include photos from the annual dinner and the year end award winners. Any material that comes across the desk in May and June will be included.

Please remember us while you are vacationing or sitting on the deck at the cottage. We NEED MATERIAL for the September edition

The lines are still open at -----
eccview@rogers.com

April Meetings

April 4th

Steve Russell who is a Toronto Star Photographer, gave an interesting and lively seminar on Action Photography - Winter Olympics.

April 11th

The awards were given for Architecture, Print 2 and Photographers Choice 2. As well there was a show by June West titled "A year in High Park"

April 18th

First there was the Annual General Meeting followed by several audio-visual shows made by several members, including John Roias, Kas Stone, Mike Mattos, Elaine Freedman, Carm Griffin, Sandra and Bob Hawkins, Mike Marshall, Brian Quan, Diane Sawatzky and Judy Griffin.

April 25th

Easter Monday

May Meetings

May 2nd

A presentation by Barbara Bender of the Toronto Focal Forum and the Richmond Hill Camera Club on Creativity and Playfulness

May 9th

Annual Banquet
Strate's Banquet Hall
365 Evans Ave

Information which may be of interest to members

Competitions

PHOTO LIFE EMERGING PHOTOGRAPHERS 2011 COMPETITION

Deadline May 20, 2011

www.photolife.com

Smithsonian Magazine Photo contest 2011
Participate in the Smithsonian magazine's
9th Annual Photo Contest,
Enter photographs in any of five categories—Altered Images, Americana, the Natural World, People and Travel—and compete to win cash prizes as well as the opportunity to have your work printed in Smithsonian magazine and exhibited in the Smithsonian Institution.

Deadline: 1st December 2011

[www.smithsonianmag.com/photocontest/
9th-annual/](http://www.smithsonianmag.com/photocontest/9th-annual/)

THE ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW 2011
is a world-class international exhibition of
photographic art which will occur August
13 – October 16 at the elegant two-level
Lyceum Theatre Gallery, in San Diego. This
is the seventh year of the Art of Photogra-
phy Show. This major photographic exhi-
bition is an ideal forum for photographers
to exhibit and sell their work, reaching a
very large community of art collectors, af-
fluent individuals, corporate heads, civic
leaders and very influential people who

make up the Art of Photography Show
audience. Deadline: May 17th

www.artofphotographyshow.com

CAPA ANNUAL DIGITAL AV SHOW COM-
PETITION -- MAY 1st – **extended to 15 May
2011 (new)**

A computer, some images and inexpensive
software and you can produce a digital AV
show

Closing Date: May 1st each year

Photo Essay - any subject except travel,
with commentary and/or music.

Travel Essay - a time-travel sequence or an
in-depth study of a travel subject or geo-
graphical area, with commentary and/or
music.

See email from Judy Higham on April 28th
for more informatio .

Passed on by From Andy Heics (**new**)
PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK NOW 2011

Hi everyone, CAPA is pleased to be one of
the sponsors for this exciting event. Read
on to discover how you can win
\$25,000.00 as the grand prize winner in
this year's book contest, as well as other
cash prizes in the categories.

Exciting news – Photography Book Now
2011 is here, and the call for entries is on.
Blurb is now accepting submissions for the

fourth annual juried competition. This is your chance to get your best work in front of world-renowned experts and take a shot at the \$25,000 grand prize.

Photography Book Now (PBN) is a celebration of the most creative, most innovative, and finest photography books – and the people behind them. Last year Blurb received more than 2,300 submissions from over 40 countries, and this year they're hoping for even more submissions from Blurbarians and other self-published bookmakers worldwide.

And you can enter your book in some great new categories for 2011:

- Fine Art
- Documentary
- Travel
- Student

This is the first time Blurb has opened up the PBN competition to non-professional student work, and they're excited to reward and celebrate up-and-coming talent.

Also new this time around:

- \$5,000 cash prizes to the winners in each of the four categories
- \$1,500 cash prizes to each of the category winners of the People's Choice competition

The submission deadline is July 14 – so head on over to <http://pbn.blurb.com> and put your book in the running for some excellent prizes and international recognition

Photography Magazines

www.outdoorphotographycanada.com

Focus on nature/outdoor photography

www.popphoto.com

Articles, equipment reviews

Local Web sites which include course offerings

There are several courses being offered over the summer by :

St Lawrence College (**new**)

www.stlawrencecollege.ca/parttime/DistanceEd.htm

University of Waterloo (**new**)

ce.uwaterloo.ca/DigitalPhotographyVideo.html

Mark Trusz

www.picturetheweb.com/ptw/ptwhome.htm

Lee Kramer

www.innerscapes.ca/innerscapes/Home.html

Doug Wilson

www.jdwilsonphotography.com/

Rob Kennedy

rkennedy000@sympatico.ca

www.robkennedyphotos.com

Robert Shechter

Travel photographer and Lecturer
www.robertphoto.ca
416 638-6574, cell 416 407-5733

Local Events

Canadian Camera Conference 2011 (June 29 – July 3,)

Check out the presenters web sites. They are sure to inspire you.

www.capaconference.com

The Photographic, Video, and Digital Imaging Show (May 13 - 15 at the International Centre)

www.henrys.ca/Show/Imaging-Show.html

ProFusion expo 2011 (June 17_18 2100 at the Toronto Congress Centre). Canadian Professional Photography Expom (new)
<http://www.profusionphotoexpo.com/>

Interesting Web sites

[-www.daytripperphoto.com/Daytripper_Photo/Welcome.html](http://www.daytripperphoto.com/Daytripper_Photo/Welcome.html)

[-www.luminous-landscape.com/index.shtml](http://www.luminous-landscape.com/index.shtml)

[-www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/07/10/35-beautiful-photography-websites](http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/07/10/35-beautiful-photography-websites)

[-photography.nationalgeographic.com/photography/photogalleries/](http://photography.nationalgeographic.com/photography/photogalleries/)

http://www.nativedigital.co.uk/shop/pdf/cm_photo_intro.pdf (new)

This is a very comprehensive pdf on colour management. It is recommended by the Royal Photographic Society .

Contributions

From Judy Griffin

LUMINOSITY SHARPENING (new)

Doris Woudenberg peaked my interest and curiosity when she mentioned using “luminosity sharpening” in optimising her Gold-winning image, so I thought it would be a good idea to look this technique up, as I had never heard of it before.

Scott Kelby, one of the Photoshop gurus, likes using it because he says it is quicker and easier to use, and helps avoid halos and colour artefacts (spots and noise) when you add significant sharpening to your image.

Below are the steps:

- 1) Open your image and apply the Unsharp Mask to sharpen – This is found under Filters >Sharpening>Unsharp Mask. His direction for nice, punchy sharpening is generally - Amount: 125, Radius: 1, Threshold: 3.
- 2) Then go to Edit menu and choose Fade Unsharp Mask. (Think of the fade slider as an “undo” because it

allows you to move the slider to decrease the percentage of sharpness, if you feel you have gone too far with your sharpening.) If you need to adjust do so, or ignore the fade slider if you are happy with the sharpness.

- 3) Change the Fade dialog Mode menu from Normal to Luminosity – this applies the sharpening to just the luminosity (detail) areas of your image and not colour areas thus helping to avoid halos & artefacts. Click OK to accept.

That's it.

From Catherine Roe

PIXEL BENDER AND JULIET'S BALCONY

(new)

My husband, John Anderton introduced me to Pixel Bender (must give credit where credit is due). Pixel Bender is a filter that lets you create many different versions of an image. My favourite is Oil Painting, but there are several other applications.

Here is my before and after picture of Juliet's Balcony. The original image is of an apartment building in Venice. I cropped, sharpened, straightened, and enhanced the colour in photoshop, then went to filters and chose Pixel Bender, and then chose Oil Painting. I then adjusted the levels to adjust my brush stroke, stylization, etc. to get the result I wanted.

Using Pixel Bender, you can only adjust the entire picture, but as Kas pointed out to me, you might be able to use layers in Photoshop to isolate a single part of the image to be the focus of the "oil painting"



or the exception. I haven't tried this, but it would be worth trying.

Pixel Bender is a free filter that works with Photoshop CS5. You can download it at this address:

<http://labs.adobe.com/technologies/pixelbenderplugin/>

From Tim Grey

Below is an extract from a question and answer email from Tim Grey, an educator in digital photography and imaging
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COLOUR CASTS

This techniques comes across as being pure magic (which is why I like to present it!), and it can be incredibly helpful when you have an extreme color cast. This can happen with digital captures when the color temperature is set to a wrong value, but usually this degree of color cast comes from things such as old color photos that have become faded or otherwise shifted in color with time.

The first step is to create a copy of the Background image layer by dragging that layer to the Create a New Layer button at the bottom of the Layers palette. Then you need to determine the color of the color cast so you can compensate for it. To do so, select Filter > Blur > Average from the menu. This will convert this layer to a single color that represents the average color of all pixels in the image. Of course, this is the problem color, so you need to determine the opposite of it so you can apply it as a compensation for the color cast. To determine that opposite color, select Image > Adjustments > Invert from the menu. This will convert the layer to the opposite of the average layer, which means it is the opposite of the color cast.

To apply this color to the underlying image, set the blend mode to Color using the dropdown at the top-left of the Layers palette. This blend mode will cause the layer to alter only the color of the underlying image, completely offsetting the strong color cast. The problem is, this will result in too strong an effect, with a color cast that is the opposite of the original, but much stronger. To tone things down and produce an image without a color cast, simply reduce the Opacity using the slider at the top-right of the Layers palette. Adjust the value until you have a perfectly neutral color in the image.

The final result will represent relatively accurate color, but it will probably appear a bit flat and possibly lacking saturation. To compensate for this you'll need to boost saturation (using a Hue/Saturation adjustment layer) and contrast (using Levels or Curves).

Reproduced courtesy of Tim Grey
<http://www.timgrey.com>

We would encourage all members to to have a look at this web site. Tim's work combines several of his greatest passions: technology, teaching, photography, writing, and travel. He has been focused on digital photography and imaging for over 10 years.

He has written more than a dozen books on digital imaging for photographers including, 'Photoshop CS4 workflow' and 'Take your best shot'. He publishes the 'Ask Tim Grey Newsletter' and the 'Digital dark-room Quarterly'

From Diane G. Brown

ARE YOU READY FOR A NEW CHALLENGE?

My intention in this article is not to provide a "how to..." on creating a photo book but to present a brief overview of the possibilities offered by online companies. Who doesn't have a hard drive full of jpeg files they have intended to cull and put in an interesting format to share with friends and family. Perhaps you'll be inspired to look at this format as an alternative to producing a slideshow, making an album, using a digital photo frame or simply filling a shoebox with prints. Creating a photo book can be a very satisfying endeavor! Recently, I completed a third "chef-d'oeuvre" and enjoyed producing another original, dare I say, artistic work. Chef-d'oeuvre = masterpiece, in my own mind!

The First Steps

If you have no experience in this area, most sites provide a comprehensive user guide or "Help" section; Picaboo even offers a short video.

Firstly you must select the size and style of book you think would best suit your project: square or rectangular, plain or thematic. An endless variety of background themes are provided to enhance your work: seasonal, sports, travel and special occasions to name a few.

Organize all the selected shots in folders and place them on your desktop to facilitate uploading them.

You can have complete control of your project or you can allow the app to organize your photos and produce a book in "auto create".

Customizing your work

Once downloaded, it is a simple matter of clicking and dragging the selected photo onto the highlighted page. Speaking from experience, "undo" is an extremely useful tool

If you decide to embrace your creative self, you are faced with numerous choices and the tools to implement them. Different companies provide some specialized tools, which you will soon discover with experimentation!

Backgrounds can be a solid colour, textured or patterned. It is possible to use one of your photos as the background and adjust its opacity. Spreading a photo across two pages can also provide a dramatic impact.

Layouts vary in design as well as the number of photos displayed on the page.

These pre-designed layouts can be resized or moved about on the page. Once inserted in a "photo box" your shots can be resized and cropped. Individual pages can have different backgrounds and/or layouts.

Pages can be duplicated, inserted or deleted with the click of the mouse. Rearranging pages is just a matter of clicking and dragging.

Text or Captions

Printed matter can be just as important as your photographs. Again, you decide - font, size and colour. I found inserting information either from the web or word processor was simply a matter of storing it on a word document then copying and pasting it into a text block. Inserting a certificate proved equally easy . I scanned it and saving it as a jpeg uploaded it with my other files. Then I dragged it into a photo box and resized it.

Covers

There are a number of styles to choose from: wrap-around, padded or leather. Depending on the style selected, you may be able to personalize the cover design with a photo as well as text and even add text to the spine.

The Finished Product

Although apps should automatically do a spell check as well warn you of the potential low quality of a picture, when you are ready to submit your work for publication, don't forget to proof your work. Some sites will allow you to share a digital copy of your work with friends on Facebook. The price of the finished product depends on the style as well as the size and number of pages. Online discounts are frequently

available. It is certainly worthwhile going to the links below and providing your e-mail address so these promotions can be sent directly to you .

You will be amazed at what you will be able to create.

EXPERIMENT!

BE PATIENT!

But above all

HAVE FUN!

Online Sites

In the last edition of the Viewfinder, Maggie Sales lauded "Photobook Canada" providing a link to their site where her enchanting book on Venice is featured.

I have successfully produced two books using "Shutterfly" and found their site easy to navigate and their application suited to my needs. The finished product was of a high quality.

I am impressed with the "Picaboo" site but have not as yet used it.

Mixbook was a little temperamental, crashing frequently, so I am hesitant to endorse the site.

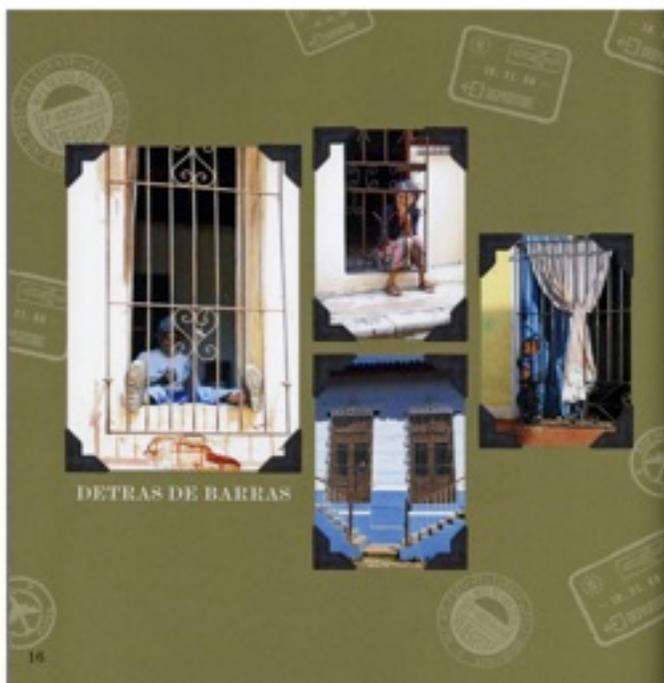
www.photobookcanada.com

www.shutterfly.com/photo-books

www.picaboo.com

www.mixbook.com

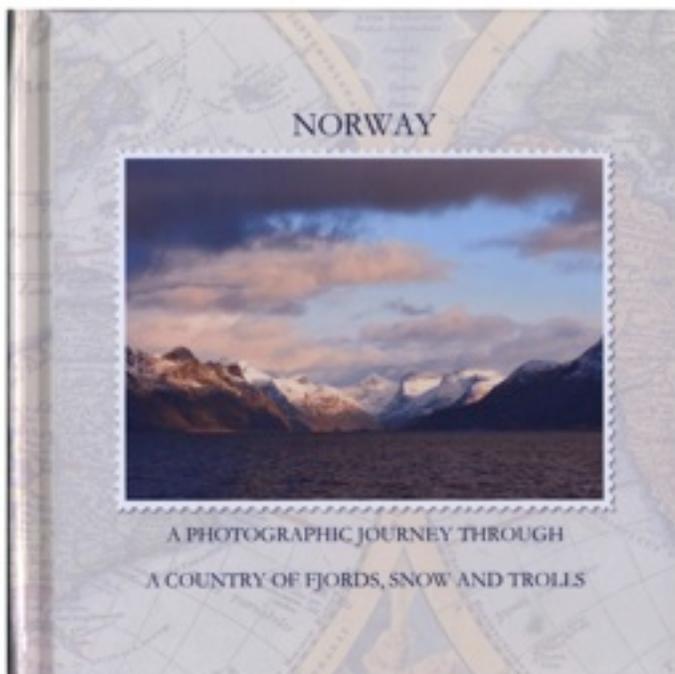
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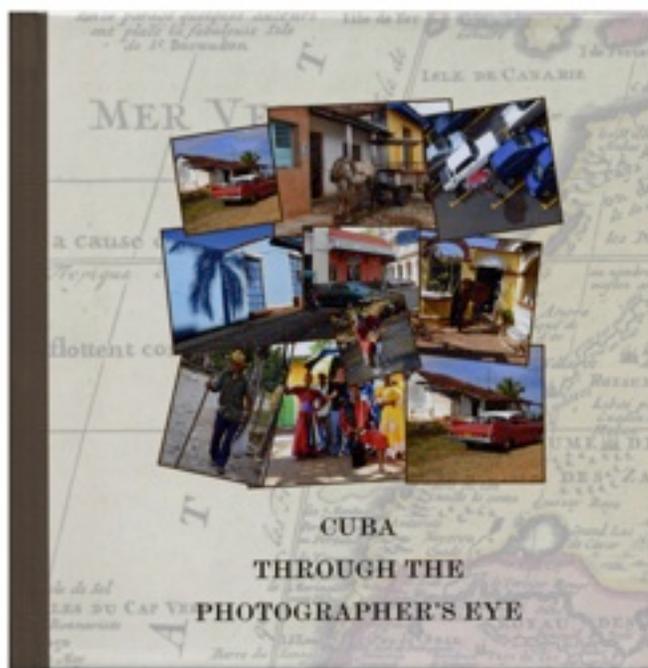
Sample page with caption



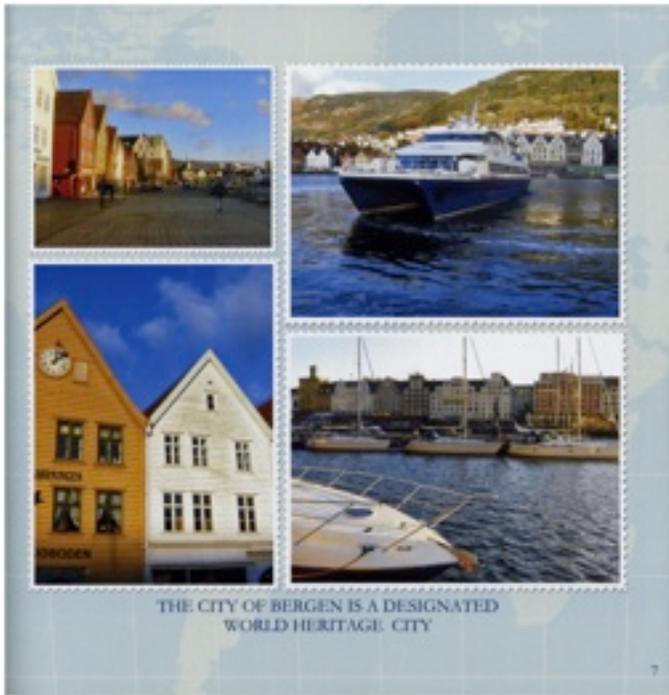
Sample Scanned Certificate



Cover for Norway Book



Front Cover



Norway Sample Page with Caption



Sample Page with no caption