

VIEWFINDER



VOL 62. NO.4
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In this issue:

Meet the Editor	1	Competitions - Altered Reality	9
Feature Article	2	Speakers	12
Competitions - AV	8	Outings	30

Photo credit: John Fraser

*“If you can memorize
a photograph,
its life is over”*

Sam Abell

Photographer

Meet the Editor – John Fraser

Viewfinder is the Etobicoke Camera Club newsletter. Its goal is to share our members' success's and the events at the club that help us on that journey. If you have anything you would like to contribute, please consider submitting it. Our members will appreciate it.



The Etobicoke Camera Club introduced me to the Art in photography. No longer satisfied with just memory photographs, the club helps me strive for photographs that others will also enjoy.

Contact: info@etobicokecameraclub.org

Feature Article

Solo Travel Through The Years

by Shirley Trentowsky

Travel experience as a single person, especially for women can be a daunting experience especially if you are uncomfortable with departing from the safety and companionship of family or friends. You want to travel and your friends are all in relationships and only travel with their partners, unable to get vacation time, not interested in the same type of vacation. Budgets could also differ. You fear that others will think you do not have friends, you will be lonely etc. So, what to do? Take fear in hand and organize your own trip. Will this be joining an organized group or heading out by yourself with your own itinerary?

Joining a group with a common interest is the easiest way to begin travel on your own. ie. Photo, Birders, Nature, Gardens etc. There is a structured itinerary with no concern re accommodation, meals, and safety within a group. It is still different from going with friends since you now need to make connections with others.

You may not have the comfort of sharing the day's experience and planning free time. If sharing accommodation, you could be matched with someone who is a good travel companion, 'not necessarily to be joined at the hip', but someone with whom you can develop a good relationship, maybe even plan future trips together. That was my experience on a trip to China. A woman I met kept in touch and joined me on an African Safari the following year.

In South America I added an extension to a group tour which left me on my own in Machu Pichou. When the group moved on I was surprised that no-one else had noticed this option on the itinerary but now could not arrange to do so. It was daunting to face being in South America on my own when we had been advised to stay with our guide



Tourista Hotel

Feature Article

as there was an unwritten code that tourists were then safer from pick pockets etc. Staying overnight in the 'Tourista Hotel' hotel high up in the Andes just outside the gates to the Machu Pichou archaeological site was a spiritual experience. Watching the mist move in in the evening and out in the early morning now seems worth the anxiety I experienced. It's a memory I treasure. My only regret is that I did not have the photography skill, equipment and experience I now have. Were I with a photography group we would have been outside to enjoy the experience. Instead my timid approach was to remain in my room and photograph through the window. It was easy to join other groups while walking through the ruins. Being alone on the trails, although frightening at times offered the joy of peace, solitude and of just "being" as I stopped to listen to the breeze

gently blowing through the leaves and marvelling in the view of the mountain peaks and steep valleys. Being with others may not allow for such precious moments.



Morning Mist

In 1974, I was not ready to consider fully independent travel. It was a transition time in my life when leaving full time good paying employment to return to University. What was I thinking? Spend education money on a vacation? I went to a travel agent who encouraged me to join an inexpensive camping trip from the UK throughout Europe, Russia and Scandinavia with a bus load of international travellers. Shared experiences including camping duties, pitching and taking down tents every day or two, cooking, shopping for food plus the adventure of travel two, cooking sh was a a great way to make friends. From then on I have taken many trips on my own when timing didn't work out with friends.

Feature Article



Campsite in Russia

On a later trip I joined a tour group traveling to the Galapagos. Sharing accommodation with the tour guide was a bonus. Here the task was to watch out for each other as we navigated over uneven volcanic surfaces, wet areas,

streams and keeping our distance from wild life. In the photo seal pups nibbled at our guides ankles. It gave us a few chuckles as he danced around. For him it was an opportunity to teach us on the need to avoid contact for fear of the parent later rejecting the pups.



Helping Hands over Uneven Terrain.

Feature Article

Traveling independently on your own itinerary requires considerable research, planning and confidence. If the entire trip is organized and accommodation booked prior to leaving, independent travel will be easier. Free-lance requires constant work to implement while travelling such as finding accommodation in each city visited, locating restaurants, using guide books to navigate your way around, needing to always watch your luggage, securing your documents and money etc. I used this approach for a trip to Greece many years ago. This was not for the faint of heart. I stayed in Youth Hostels mainly but would book into hotels when I needed to do laundry. It didn't take long to realize that I could go to small cafes where other solo travellers frequented. There I'd find out about interesting places to go, sometimes spend the day with them and, if I weren't so timid, join their group for onward travel.

A good way to gain experience and confidence is to go on a 2 or 3 day tour. Going to a restaurant on your own is good preparation for the times you end up alone for meals while traveling. Already formed subgroups can make it challenging especially if you are not outgoing or assertive. Unfortunately many tours can be expensive with the single supplement. Some tour companies offer incentives for specific rooms/cabins especially



© Shirley Trentowsky

Zodiac Cruise off Sable Island

Feature Article

if booking a year or more in advance. For example, if interested in adventure travel, 'Adventure Canada' has no single supplements in certain cabins if booked early. Once all are booked, a single supplement of 50% applies as is usual with most tours. Also early booking discounts can be a bonus if you like to plan well in advance. My first trip with Adventure Canada to Sable Island was booked over a year in advance. This gave me a 15% early booking discount in a double cabin with no single supplement. It was a treat to see the seals and feral horses while on a zodiac cruise along the shore. We helped each other during the transfers into and out of the zodiacs along with the crew. Adjusting each other's water proof jackets to fully cover backsides became the norm especially when we bounced around when the water became rough.

I no longer consider sharing accommodation with a stranger. I research finding tour companies that have a modest or no single supplement or travel with friends. Recent travel has been sharing accommodation with a friend during Photo Tours to the Palouse with Denise Ippolito and Churchill with James Cowie of Photo Tour Trekkers. (Imagine almost meeting a bear approx. 50-60 ft away).



Curious Polar Bear

Feature Article

In June I will travel with a friend on a Photo Tour to Newfoundland, again led by James Cowie of Photo Tour Trekkers. Small groups are the best way to travel, not only for the ease of moving in and out of vehicles but getting to know your travel companions.

My experience spans over many years before some options became available as now. I was timid and lacked confidence but my desire to travel drew me out. What I say is “Give it a go”. Beware of safety”. Do research on what is out there”. If your friends are not available, not interested in your type of travel, join travel groups that focus on your area of interest. Demonstrate that you are independent, friendly and interested in people, the tour and activities. Guaranteed you will make new friends. It can often be up to the solo traveler to educate others and be a inspiration to others who may travel solo in the future.

Theme - AV Show

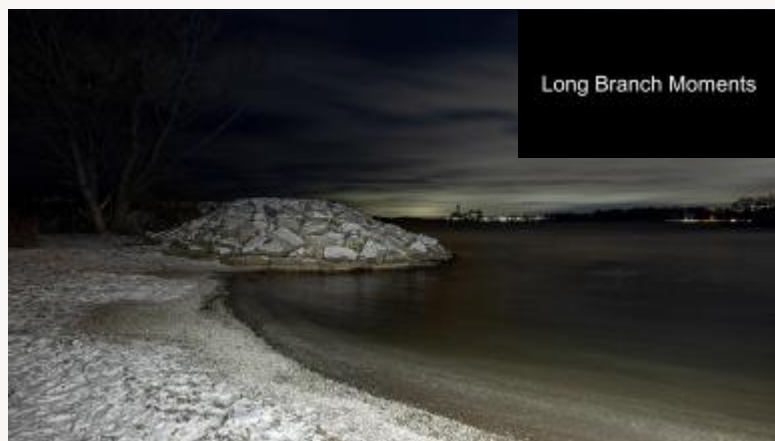
Competition Results and Highlights

All competition images may be viewed on our [Website Photo Gallery](#) or www.etobicokecameraclub.smugmug.com



Gold—Theresa Bryson

Silver— Ralph Kroman



HM—Anita Ziminski

Theme - Altered Reality

Competition Results and Highlights

All competition images may be viewed on our [Website Photo Gallery](#) or www.etobicokecameraclub.smugmug.com



Advanced
GOLD & GOM Leanne Hay
Heavens Sunrise



Superset
GOLD
Mandy Samarzija
Rebirth



Advanced GOLD Linda Smith Stump Art



Intermediate GOLD Penny Rintoul The legacy of the Explorers

RESULTS OF ALTERED REALITY COMPETITION held FEBRUARY 2023

Level	Full Name	Title	SCORE	RIBBON
INTERMEDIATE				
I	PENNY RINTOUL	The legacy of the	24	GOLD
I	PENNY RINTOUL	We bones are		
		here, waiting for	23.5	SILVER
I	PENNY RINTOUL	Liquifying Christ	23	HM
I	PAUL CORDINGLEY	The Wizard's First	22.5	HM
ADVANCED				
A	LEANNE HAY	Heaven's Sunrise	23.5	GOLD&GOM
A	LINDA SMITH	Stump Art	23.5	GOLD
A	ROMAN GDYCZYNSKI	Flowers around CN	22.5	SILVER
A	STEPHEN DUNN	Pond Vortex	22	HM
SUPERSET				
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	REBIRTH	26.5	GOLD
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Beware what lures	26	SILVER
S	SAM ELOGIO	The Portal	25	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	TOXIC	25	HM
S	MICHEL GAGNON	Smooooking....!	25	HM
S	DORIS WOUDENBERG	Docking	24	HM
S	DORIS WOUDENBERG	Saturn and it's	24	HM
S	EVA MICHALAK	Rescue by Ice	24	HM

Level	Submitted	Accepted
Intermediate	15	15
Advanced	14	14
Superset	44	42
Total	73	71

Judges	Affiliation
Randy Nickerson	Oshawa Camera Club
Eric Chan	Chinese-Canadian Photographic Society
Parvez Khatib	no club affiliation

Sam Abell Presented

“The Poetic Photographic Essay”

on Monday, February 6, 2023

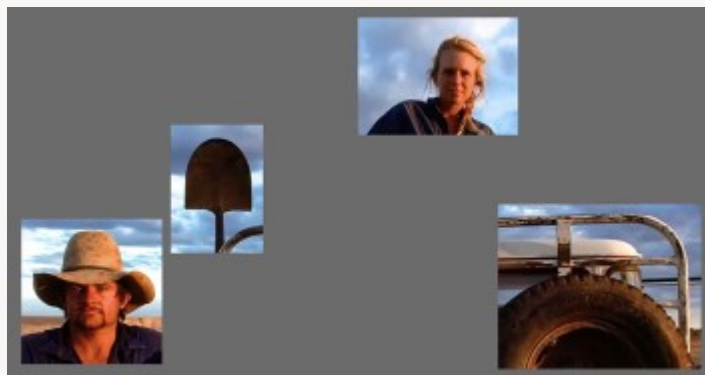


Sam Abell’s renowned career as a documentary photographer has been devoted to distilling the poetic image. In a fascinating frame-by-frame presentation, Abell deconstructed both his well known and recent images—all with the idea of examining the idea that there is a clear ‘way’ of making finer photographs. In addition, he showed that when a small number of such images are gathered into concise essays the effect is powerful. In our age of photographic over-saturation creating such essays is the most meaningful way to present one’s work. This illuminating presentation showed how both the poetic image and the deeply distilled essay are the result of high intent, clear vision and refined editing—elements available to every aspiring photographer.”



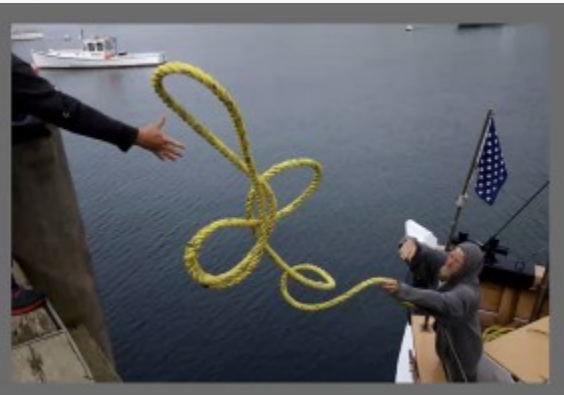
Speakers

PHOTOGRAPHS ARE BUILT



Speakers

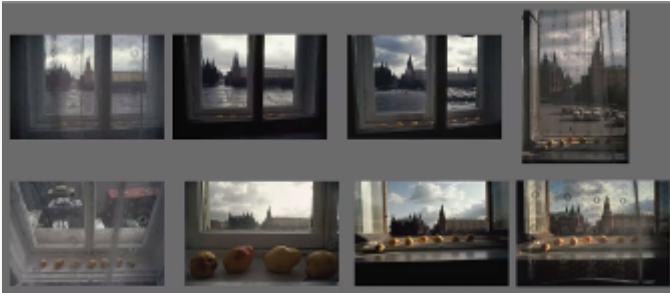
COMPOSE *and* WAIT



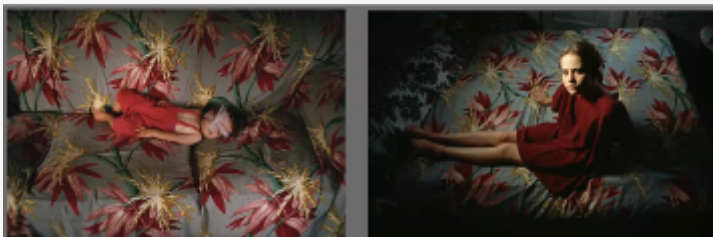
MICRO-COMPOSITION



DEEP SEEING



The 'Go Back'



Speakers

JP Stone Presented

“Storytelling for Photographers”

on Monday, March 6, 2023



JP has spent the last 5 years photographing the same group of Mexica, or Aztec, dancers. In that time he learned how connected the Mexica are to their mythology. To stories passed down across generations. That’s when he decided that, as these stories were so vital to Mexica culture, they needed to play a bigger role in his portraits. This talk was about what happened next. About how a desire to tell stories visually, ended up changing his entire creative process, and the way people react to his photos. Using examples from his cultural photography work in Mexico, JP Stones explored different ways to improve that emotional connection. Including how myths and character archetypes can be harnessed for better storytelling. Working with narratives won’t just change the way people engage with photos, it will fundamentally change the way to create them. Because that narrative can also be used to guide decisions on posing, composition, lighting, and color.

JP has presented for professional organizations and camera clubs across the US, Mexico, and the UK.



Speakers

Humans are storytelling animals. We look for patterns in the world, and then we weave narratives around those patterns to give them meaning.



“Feeling imprisoned in your own home.”

All good communication starts with
An Intention

“In a successful narrative image,
your subject isn’t just a model...
..they’re the character in a story.”



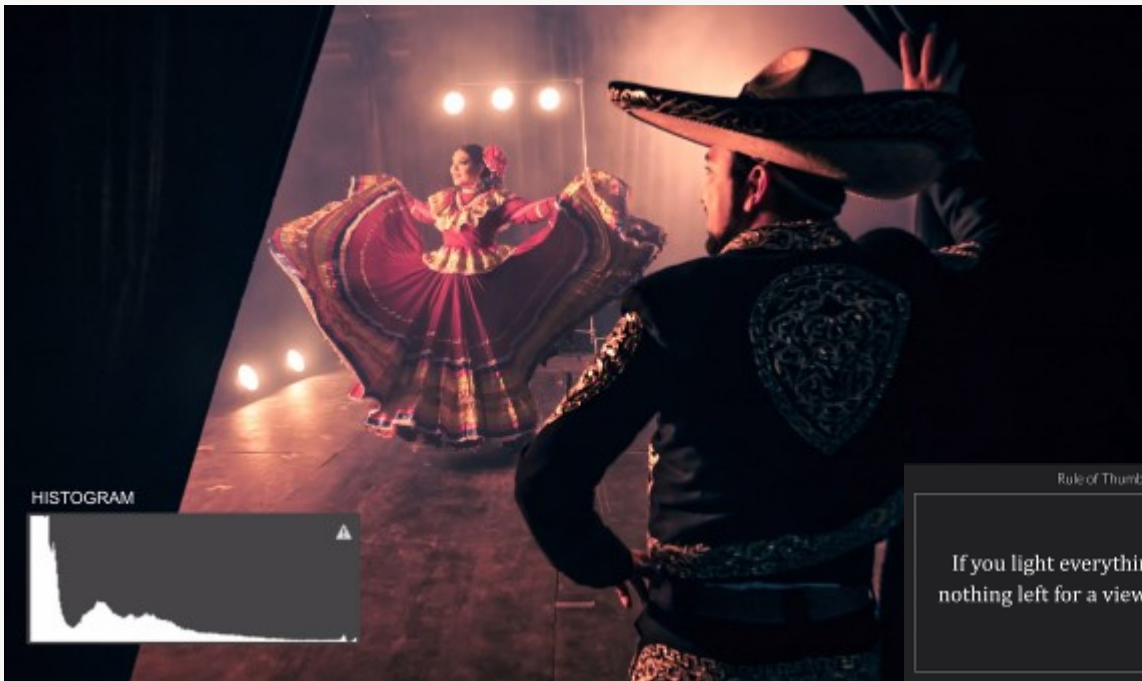
“Watching an illegal, bare-knuckle fight in a seedy warehouse in Mexico City.”



Making Narrative Portraits



Rule of Thumb #1
Don't get attached to anything.
The intention dictates everything.



Rule of Thumb #2
If you light everything up, there's
nothing left for a viewer to discover.

Making Narrative Portraits



Rule of Thumb #3

You can't just throw smoke into every photo. You need to give it a reason to be there.



Rule of Thumb #4

It's probably best if you don't have your subjects look at the camera.

Speakers

Tony Sweet Presented

“Compelling Composition: Isolate and Simplify ”

on Monday, March 13, 2023



Tony presented: The power of perspectives; The power of line and design; Creating visual drama; Use of strong graphics to enhance visual interest and drama. Tony’s presentation increased attendees attention to detail in creating clean, direct, compelling compositions.

After successful careers as a jazz musician/educator, and a professional magician, Tony settled on photography as his chosen means for personal expression. Tony and Susan Milestone conduct Visual Artistry photography location workshops. Tony maintains an active speaking (and zoom) schedule to photography organizations, camera clubs, industry trade shows, and PPA schools throughout the continental United States and Canada. He also conducts day-long Visual Artistry Creativity Seminar series. Tony’s photography is published worldwide in every medium and is represented by Getty Images. His iPhone photography is represented by Aurora Photos. Tony’s images are also used by Nikon, Singh Ray, Exposure software, Topaz, Lensbaby and others for national ad campaigns. He has authored 7 books on the art of photography. Tony and Master Photo Workshops have co-produced four photography DVDs. Tony was a columnist for Nikon World, Shutterbug, and Rangefinder magazines. An interview with Tony on macro photography was published in The New York Times.



Building Block #1
"Isolate & Simplify"



Speakers

Lone subjects



low angle sun



Use weather conditions - light, persistent snow



Spot lighting isolation



Fog



Speakers



Speakers

Building Block #4
“Separating
Elements for
Clean Composition”



Building Block #5
“Repetition”



Thinking Visually #1
Scale
Creating Visual Drama



Speakers

Thinking Visually #2
"S" & "C" Curves
and Spirals
aka
"Visual Rhythm"



Thinking Visually #3
Threes and Thirds
"Composing asymmetrically"



Thinking Visually #4
Framing within the
Frame

Speakers

Wayne Fisher Presented

“Architecture—Minimalism ”

on Monday, March 20, 2023



Wayne’s presentation focused on: Journey of how he became interested in Photography; Vision; Influences; Technical information including camera and lenses; Composition rules; Light; Post processing; Promotion/workshops.

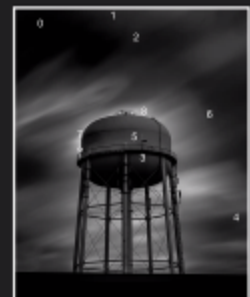
Fisher Wayne grew up in South Africa and immigrated to Canada in 1990. As young boy in Africa he began sketching and exploring creative forms of self-expression. His life experiences, including witnessing Apartheid with the emphasis on black and white influenced his focus on black and white. Sketching with his young daughter reignited his early interest in photography. Inspired by Ansel Adams he strived to emulate the tonality in his photography. Wayne is an Artist and Educator with work published internationally including Chizz Magazine, Collector Book/New Perspectives by Contemporary Art Curator Magazine, Flowers of Monet 180th Anniversary of Claude Monet 2021. A great Milestone for Wayne is to have represented Canada at the World Photographic Cup 2020 in the Commercial category. Wayne has presented Architecture and Minimalism To Panasonic Canada as well as Camera clubs across Ontario.

Tips for black and white photography

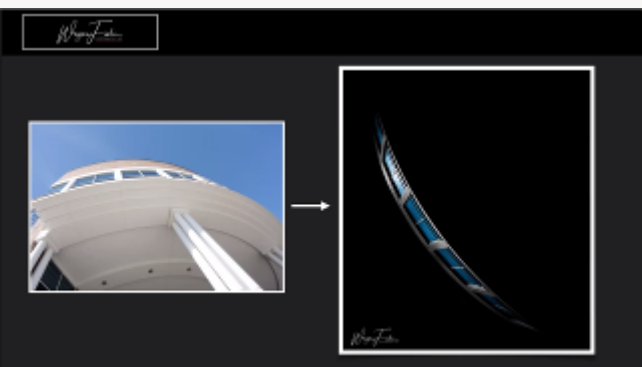
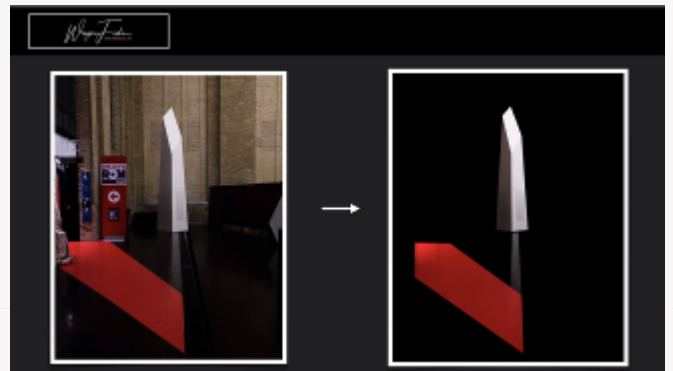
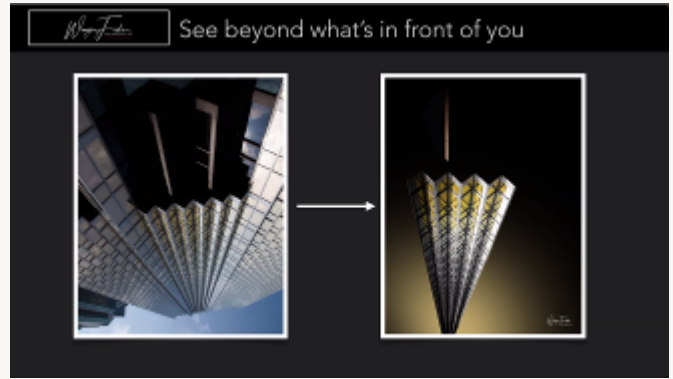
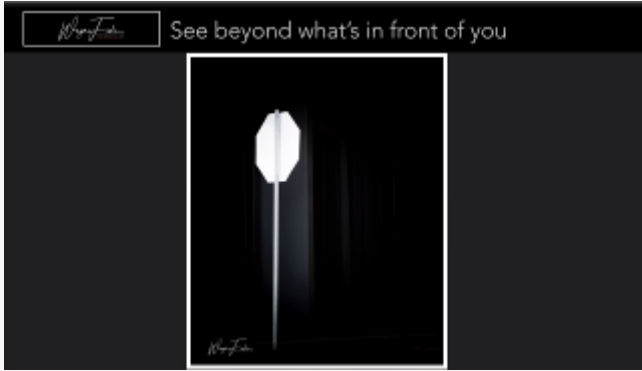
- Black Makes White Brighter
- Gotta Have a Clean White and a Clean Black
- Shoot in RAW
- Shoot with display set to Mono
- Look for contrast
- Find a wide range of greys
- Look for patterns

Practice! Practice!!!!!!!!!!!!

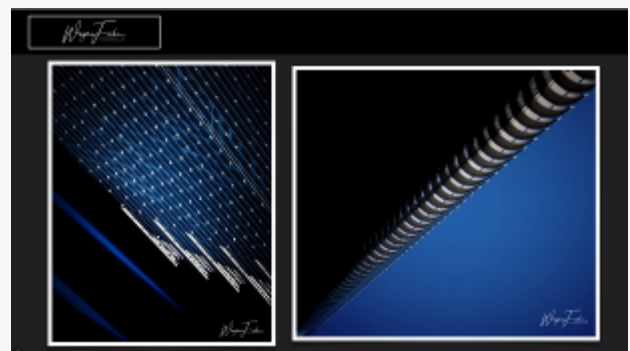
Ansel Adams



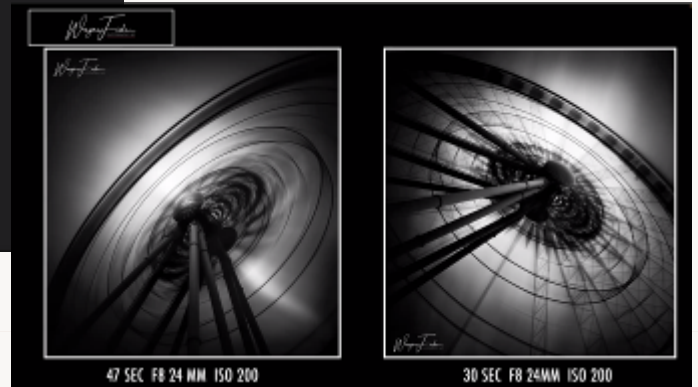
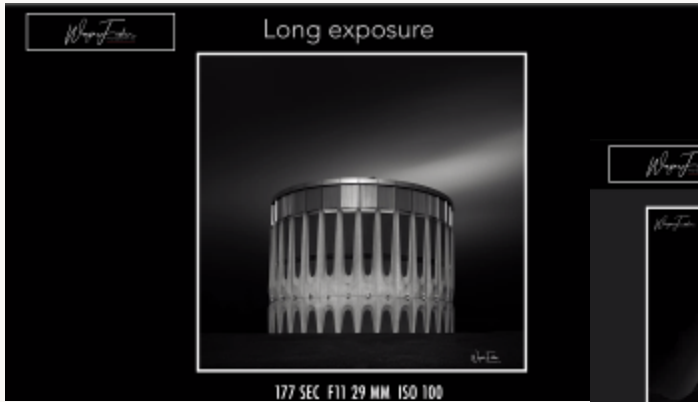
Speakers



Speakers



Speakers



Sunday February 5, 2023

9 ECC members showed up for the Fool Moon at Humber Bay on Sunday, February 5, 2023. Unfortunately, conditions were not the best as it turned out to be a cloudy evening.



Outings

Sunday February 12, 2023

We had 10 ECC members show up for this outing. We were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to photograph many varieties of Orchids.





Past Issues of the Viewfinder can be found at

<https://www.etobicokecameraclub.org/viewfinder/>

Last Issue for the Season:

May