

## President's Message

by Barb Marszalek



As my term as your current President draws to a close, I wanted to share some thoughts with you all on my journey with the Etobicoke Camera Club and what it has meant to me over the past few years.

In 2014, I lost my husband unexpectedly. I spent the next two years after his death, trying to find a purpose and direction for my life. As a distraction, I bought my first DSLR camera and enrolled in some classes at Humber College. Someone mentioned to me that I should look into joining a camera club, since I was still learning how to photograph manually. I did a web search and discovered that there was a club about 7 minutes away from my house. This is how I first heard about the

Etobicoke Camera Club, and I walked into my very first meeting in September 2016. I had no way of knowing just how important this step would become in not only my photographic journey, but in my personal life as well.

On that day in September, ECC gave me purpose, direction and most importantly of all a circle of like minded friends who would soon become what I considered part of my extended family.

In the beginning, I spent the first two years quietly getting to know other members, participating in competitions, attending social events & outings, and learning from the many great guest Photographer Presentations.

In 2018, I was asked by the Program Director at the time to join his committee. I learned a lot and had fun helping to create and shape the program for the coming year. About half way into the season, the Program Director had to leave for health reasons and I was asked to take over. What could have been a baptism by fire, ended up being pretty stress-free because everyone on the board was extremely helpful and supportive. I stayed on for another year as the Program Director and had a lot of fun organizing the program, talking to the guest presenters and introducing them to the club. It was a great learning experience.

In 2020, I was asked by the incoming President to become her VP. Though I jokingly said “no way hoesay” for a few months, I finally broke down and agreed. I looked forward to new challenges ahead.

Then Covid hit.



Talk about the ultimate challenge! I am proud to say that the Board of Directors rose to the occasion and even flourished. I soon learned how this hard working and determined group of people could accomplish anything they put their minds to.

We quickly learned how to operate under a Zoom platform and hit the ground running. ECC was the first camera club to have an entire program scheduled, including exciting presenters from across the globe, ready to launch in September. It was business as usual, but with a twist. All of it was accomplished by an amazing group of volunteer members working diligently behind the scenes.

After two years as VP, I became your current President. This was our first year operating as a new not for profit corporation and despite being short two board members at the start of the season, we did not let it stop us. As the saying goes, "The show must go on!"

Besides trying to fill our two empty Board positions, one of my main objectives, was to get back to in-person events and meetings again. I am so happy that we were able to accomplish this by not only having a successful in-person Christmas Social, but to finish off this season in grand style with an in-person Year End Banquet.

This could not have been accomplished without everyone's support and hard work, not only by this Board, but the Committee Chairs and members as well.

I would like to personally thank Paul, Carmina, Lesley, Greg, Eva, Penny, and George for being such a pleasure to work with. Each one of you have worked hard at making sure ECC is the best camera club ever.

I especially would like to thank Jocelyn my VP who supported me and helped shape this season and the next seasons to come for ECC. There are not enough words that I can say that would adequately express my heartfelt thanks for everything you have done this past year.

In conclusion, I want to say how much it has been an honor and privilege to be a part of the Board for the past 5 years. It has been a fun, fulfilling, learning experience for me. I have made many close friends and had the chance to give back to a club that has been such a important part of my life. I hope that somehow this inspires other people in the club to take that important first step to volunteer.

I know as photographers we are used to being in the dark, hidden behind our camera lenses. I encourage you all to step into the light and start your own fulfilling journey by joining a committee, becoming a committee chair or even joining the Board of Directors.

I promise you that you won't regret it.

Thank you all.

# VIEWFINDER



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Photo credit: John Fraser

***“When you photograph  
people in color, you  
photograph their clothes.  
But when you photograph  
people in Black and white,  
you photograph their  
souls!”***

***Ted Grant***

***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](mailto:info@etobicokecameraclub.org)

## **SOLO TRAVEL: THEN, 1966, AND NOW, 2023**

by June West

When I told friends I was planning a three-week trip to Costa Rica in February 2023, alone, there was a slight pause before the response “You’re brave. . .” I have travelled solo before, but never had such a consistent, flattering but also vaguely skeptical reaction to my plans since I began to travel single in my twenties.

Why? COVID has made travel riskier and more complicated. On the other hand, cell phones now make communication, safety and planning easier. While I don’t have the same stamina, surely previous travel experience compensates somewhat. Having recently completed the Costa Rica jaunt, I know it is possible, affordable and most of all, enjoyable to go it alone--even in your eighties.

Like Shirley Trentowsky, who shared her experiences travelling solo in the March 2023 *Viewfinder*, I prefer to travel with a friend or join a small group when possible. My photography friends were either unable or unwilling to join me in 2023. When and if they were able, I might not be. I had cancelled the same trip in 2022. This time I was going come hell or high water. I was used to going alone.

My very first completely solo experience was a week in **Copenhagen, 1966**. I remained after my friends on a summer European car and rail trip went home. At the train station, the tourist booth found me a B&B with a family. They were wonderful, suggesting things to do, even taking me about on their day off. On a day tour including city schools, I made a teacher friend who escorted me to Elsinore, where the historical Prince Hamlet lived and to enjoy the city’s night life.

During the day I wandered the city, photographing the English Church, the little mermaid statue, the Tivoli gardens. These were ordinary touristy spots, but I felt an exhilaration when shooting them that I had never felt before when with a friend. Unfortunately, the photos are lost, but they weren’t very good anyway. What matters is how I felt when I took them, which photographers sometimes describe as being “in a zone”.

In hindsight, I think it was my first experience as a *flaneur*, an idea based on the French Romantic poet, art critic and urban stroller, Charles Baudelaire. In his writing he talks about the “passionate spectator...away from home and yet feeling oneself everywhere at home...at the center of the world yet remaining incognito.” The flaneur walks with no apparent purpose, absorbing sensory impressions, both connected and apart from his surroundings. Although Baudelaire walked and looked at cities, the same state of mind can occur when photographing anywhere.

This “alive” feeling is one of the reasons I sometimes prefer solo travel over groups larger than six, even though there are lonely moments. While other group members can always spot something you have missed, they will also distract you from the subjects which “speak to you”. For me, taking a good photo requires a degree of concentration not often possible in a group of chatty friends.

## Feature Article

I have, however, joined walking and hiking tours when younger and fitter. Fast forward 30 years from my Copenhagen trip, to travel with **Holiday Friendships, HF**, an English company which still exists that provides tours in England, Europe, and North America. I joined HF for two completely guided summer walks in England: the Cotswold area with its yellowed stone villages, Roman ruins and churches, and St. Ives, Cornwall, with coastal cliff walks and sub-tropical vegetation. About ten years later during the March school break, I was with HF again, based in Sorrento, Italy, where buses dropped us close to Mt. Vesuvius, Pompey, Amalfi, and Positano.



Left: Walkers are helped over the stile connecting public footpaths through farmers' fields in the Cotswolds, England. Right: Ravenna, Italy, above Positano.



St. Ives, Cornwall

Almshouses of Cotswold stone

There are many reasons why I would still consider joining HF. One day each week was "free", unplanned, although I haven't checked if this is still true. In Italy I went to Capri and Naples solo on my free days. The accommodations and food at HF are good and inexpensive compared to other walking holidays. You can ask to share a room with a non-smoking stranger to save money—I have shared a room on five occasions with no problems, twice forming lasting friendships. In England, walks at three levels of difficulty are offered which accommodate most degrees of physical ability. In St. Ives, a bus was even provided to transport the halt and lame to a local attraction. For the more adventurous, ordnance maps are provided for self-guided walks.

# Feature Article

But times have changed. I can no longer walk for six hours at a stretch, handle hills, even the gentle coastal cliffs like those around St. Ives, or get enough sleep in a room with even the lightest snorer. Although I still like a travel companion, I prefer my own room. The pace of photography tours, up at dawn for the sunrise, late at night for the sunset, is now too demanding and restricting, although the ones I have taken in Cuba, India, and Thailand, Laos and Cambodia were great.

In the past five years I have taken three completely solo, one or three-week trips: **New Brunswick and Nova Scotia 2019; Malta 2020; Costa Rica February 2023.** Because I enjoy but seldom see rural settings on my own, I rented a car for the first time for the Maritimes. I was in New Brunswick for a Freeman Patterson workshop and decided to tour around the following week. I plotted the route carefully to avoid congestion and purchased a device to hold my iPhone so I could see the route while keeping my eyes on the road. I chose inexpensive motels and B&Bs near my chosen photography spots and reserved ahead with Booking.com.

I did have an unforeseen navigation problem. The locals knew I couldn't drive through Fundy National Park to reach a destination to the east; in planning I had mistaken a dotted line on the road map for a finished road. No worries, there was time to cancel the first reservation with Booking.com and add one at the end.

Another glitch in my plans was the cancellation, two hours before departure, of the St. John to Digby ferry due to mechanical problems. This meant driving all around the north and west of the Bay of Fundy to Brier Island. I left at eight a.m. and arrived many motorways and two ferry rides, eleven hours later. The only restaurant was set to close, but the friendly ladies below let me take out scallops and chips. Alone in a large Airbnb on a rainy night, with my whale watching trip cancelled, the photo below reflects my gloomy mood the following day.



North Coast, Brier Island, NS.



Irving Park, NB., Salt Marsh ICM



Fisherman's Hut, NS.

## Feature Article

It was a very bad day, but in perspective, the trip was worth it. There were many “off the beaten path” unforgettable moments of discovery. NB. highlights were the Irving Nature Park, where I practiced my recently learned ICM technique, St. Andrews, and the Acadian Settlement. In NS. I visited Canning, Halifax and of course, Peggy’s Cove as well as Brier Island. Driving with no navigator was challenging, but I did it.

Getting around Malta was easy in comparison. Everyone speaks English, there are many things to photograph (see the *Viewfinder*, Vol.60, No. 5, March 2021), and local buses go everywhere. A bus stopped outside my hotel, and the bus depot was ten minutes away. There is hourly car ferry service to Gozo, the greener, less crowded Maltese sister island. I also used hop on hop off bus tours. Local buses reveal a different side of a country’s culture from the “bubble” experience of a tour organized at home. It has a very low crime rate, at least in 2019.

I chose a long-stay hotel in Qawra, an hour’s bus ride from the more expensive capital, Valetta, a stunning world-heritage city. Qawra itself boasts an antique car museum, a world class aquarium, and many restaurants and hotels in close proximity. My room was large with a balcony and sea view.

Eating out always makes a hole in your budget, especially when you aren’t sharing a room. One solution is accommodation with a hearty breakfast included and/or light housekeeping facilities: utensils, a microwave, a half fridge. At the Qawra location, as well as my long stay adult hotel in Manuel Antonio, I could buy a few essentials for breakfast and a packed lunch and decide if I wanted to go out to dinner for my evening entertainment. Shopping for groceries is a window into what locals eat. While I like to sample a country’s cuisine, the option of a familiar meal “at home” after a long day is also welcome. Although local transport is good in Malta, be aware that urban walking often entails uphill climbs on deep, shallow steps designed centuries ago, apparently for Maltese knights in full armour.



Fishermen’s huts, Valetta, Malta.



Steps to the Capital in Rabat, Gozo.

Having visited **Costa Rica** with three ECC members before in 2015, I already knew a couple of spots with good birding and restaurants right on the premises. I now have better photography equipment and skill. Why not try to get some better shots this time in places I knew and loved-- the mountain Savegre area in the rain forest south of San Jose, and the Playa Grande beach and dry forest area north of Tamarindo? I added Manuel Antonio, another climate zone, where I knew a guide.

# Feature Article

Planning for this trip was time-consuming, but planning is half the fun of travelling for me. Because Costa Rica is mountainous and traffic can be congested, driving is hazardous. Also, COVID restrictions had only recently been lifted, so I spent a lot on pre-booked taxis between my three locations and airports. A Sansa flight to reach Playa Grande was also necessary. Once at a hotel, I walked everywhere or took local buses if available. Before leaving I had someone else check my itinerary for mistakes. I went armed with the What's App phone numbers of every driver who was to meet me, and In Manuel Antonio, the one unknown area, the number of the local guide to call for assistance. The numbers were also written down in case I lost the phone! I learned how to use the translation feature on the phone, easier than carrying a phrase book, but didn't need it.

I word on safety. A camera is the main target for theft, so I carry insurance. If anyone wants the camera, they can have it. Aside from small bills, money is left in the hotel or room safe. I took only my light Sony bridge camera, iPhone, and no tripod to eliminate the need to lock up gear I wasn't carrying. I brought a small external drive and backed up everything daily. Being hit by a car or falling were my other main safety concerns. In Manuel Antonio there were no sidewalks but traffic near my hotel was heavy. The only place to walk was very close to the road on my five-minute return from a restaurant at night. Darkness falls suddenly in Costa Rica. I carried a small flashlight to alert cars and light the path. On the early morning beach walks with few people, I took my iPhone in case of falling or-- horrors, being bitten by something so that someone at the hotel could find me and help. Fortunately, there was good reception with the hotel.

All this pre-planning made me more confident-- ready to enjoy myself. Early morning walks along the Playa Grande before it heated up were just as invigorating as before. Afternoons, I stood again in the sea photographing surfers. Evenings were for sunsets and candlelight dinner on the hotel balcony, listening to the waves. The same experienced guide paddled me through the mangrove swamp. While the photos aren't much improved over the first lot, taking them was equally fun. A special moment was locating a trail to a secluded beach, hidden by a headland, where there was only me, black sand, sky, and sun.



Brown pelican; White throated Magpie Jay; Las Tortugas restaurant Day and Night



# Feature Article



Surfer, Playa Grande



Secluded Black Sand Beach Discovery

I seldom felt lonely in Costa Rica. When I did, I could always skype with my daughters who wanted to hear about the daily adventures. I often struck up conversations in a restaurant with people close to my table. Some invited me to join them when they found out I was solo. Fellow birders invited me to accompany them off the property for a meal. Some hotel and restaurant staff remembered me, and all took time to chat with me about themselves. Men find the dining experience solo uncomfortable too at first. I remember a shy young man very studiously reading his book, who told me it was his first time travelling by himself.

If you enjoy your own company, even without TV, you won't be bored in the evening, particularly if you enjoy reading. I load up my Kindle to avoid weighty books. There was one moment of panic when the screen froze, but Google had a solution. I also bring an old, borrowed laptop for basic editing while I can still remember why I took a photo. The evenings of editing in Savegre, where it is cool at night, were cozy in my cabin with the fireplace.



Cozy evening of editing, Savegre



Jungle view balcony, Manuel Antonio

I confess there were a couple of days in Costa Rica when I skipped photo opportunities and did ABSOLUTELY NOTHING. This holiday was about R&R as well as photography. In Manuel Antonio I read on my balcony "with jungle view", where iguana, white-faced monkeys and mot mots appeared without my searching. I swung in a hammock, lazed poolside, and did a little swimming.

So, if there is no one to join you when your heart beckons you to a foreign locale, GO SOLO! Feel free to contact me using the ECC member address list. You can also check out my Costa Rica albums at [flickr.com/photos/bluff\\_artist/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/bluff_artist/)

# *Club News*

## **Year End Banquet**

The ECC 2023 End of Year Banquet was held on May 1 at Le Treport. 54 members turned out and many awards, trophies, certificates, ribbons, were awarded. Barb and Jocelyn shook many hands in congratulation. What a great time it was!

In addition to the 2023 Banquet Program, attendees received a program listing Past Awards 2019-2021 and a Member Longevity Recognition card.

Many thanks to our Social Director, Eva Michalak and her banquet team of Christine Kobielski, Sharon Eyolfson, Doris Woudenberg, Kathryn Riddell and Linda Smith. They outdid themselves and put on an amazing banquet. The many hours of hard work and planning that they invested was greatly appreciated by all attendees.

Frank Job covered the technical aspects and setup the slide shows, sound, etc. As expected, everything came off beautifully because Frank always does a great job.

Our MC for the evening was our new Vice President, Ralph Kroman. Not only did Ralph do an amazing job but it was the first ECC banquet he attended. Talk about jumping in with both feet!

Unfortunately our Competitions Director, Lesley Kinch, was unable to attend, but she created The Image of the Year Salon, and in true ECC spirit, the very capable Judy Griffin stepped up and handled the awards portion with the skill and grace she exudes so well.

Three Raffle Draws were made for: Don Komareczka macro-photography book, a subscription to PhotoEd, and for the flower centerpiece.

As always, many members worked together to make this Banquet the roaring success it was because that is what ECC members do! Barb, this year's President, thanked all and passed the Gavel to Jocelyn our President for next year.

Photographs courtesy of Sam Elogio and Mandy Samarzija.

# Club News

## Year End Banquet



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# *Club News*

## **Year End Banquet**



# *Club News*

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# *Club News*

## **Year End Banquet**



# *Member News*

## **Best Friends, Cambodia**

Tammy Couture, one of our new members, entered this photograph into the friendly competition at the O3C Travel Day on Saturday, April 22nd. "Best Friends, Cambodia" made it to the third round. Each round, a photograph needed at least two judges to say "in" for it to advance.

The winner who won a 1,000 dollar travel voucher with Photo Trekkers



There were four interesting presentations: "The O3C Travel Story for 2023-24 with James Cowie", "Creating the Landscape Story" by Ron Clifford, as well as "Capturing the Stars in the Desert" and "Wildlife and Birding Captured in Africa".

# Theme - PC2 Mono

## Competition Results and Highlights

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



Superset  
Gold & GOM  
SAM ELOGIO  
Up



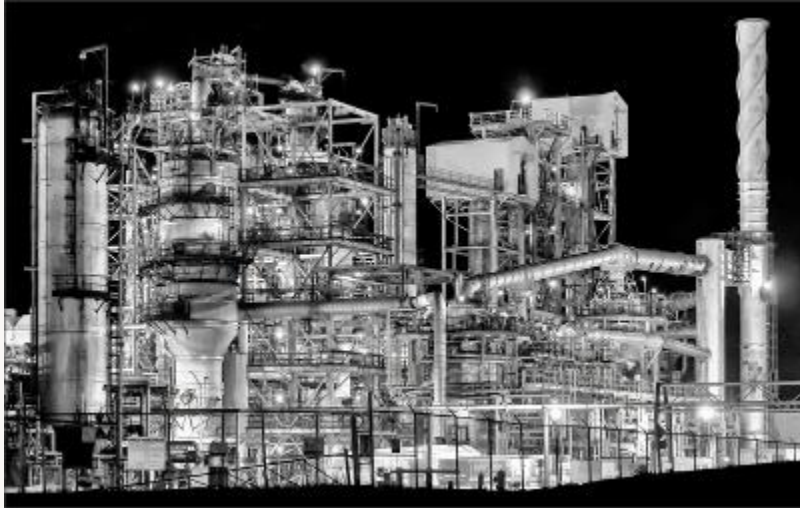
Superset  
Gold  
MICHEL GAGNON  
Silhouetted Ballerina



Superset Gold MICHEL GAGNON The Daily Commute

# Theme - PC2 Mono

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Advanced  
Gold  
RALPH KROMAN  
Chemical Production

Advanced  
Gold  
HUGUES DE MILLEVILLE  
Fox chasing a prey



Intermediate  
Gold  
PENNY RINTOUL  
The Swan

## RESULTS of PC2 monochrome competition held March 2023

Level	Full Name	Title	score	ribbon
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>				
I	PENNY RINTOUL	The Swan	23.5	GOLD
I	KATHRYN RIDDELL	Hitting the right note	23	SILVER
I	ALAN MORROW	Skyward	23	SILVER
I	ANGIE BELLANZA	Casa Loma Tower	22.5	HM
I	KIRK SHORTING	To The Fire	22.5	HM
I	PAUL CORDINGLEY	Broken Dreams on Route 66	22.5	HM
<b>ADVANCED</b>				
A	RALPH KROMAN	Chemical Production	25.5	GOLD
A	HUGUES DEMILLEVILLE	Fox chasing a prey	25.5	GOLD
A	RALPH KROMAN	After the Rain	25	SILVER
A	LEANNE HAY	Cabin in the Woods	24	HM
A	ROMAN GDYCZYNSKI	dill and potatoes	24	HM
A	TOM DRIEDGER	1928 Model A Ford	23.5	HM
A	ROMAN GDYCZYNSKI	wall of zigzags	23.5	HM
<b>SUPERSET</b>				
S	SAM ELOGIO	Up	26.5	GOLD&GOM
S	MICHEL GAGNON	The Daily Commute	26.5	GOLD
S	MICHEL GAGNON	Silhouetted Ballerina	26.5	GOLD
S	IRENE BARTON	Moroccan Desert Man	26	SILVER
S	BRUCE BARTON	The Hawk	25.5	HM
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Solitary	25.5	HM
S	JUNE WEST	We Live Here	25.5	HM
S	EVA MICHALAK	Symphonic Fixture	25.5	HM
S	BRUCE BARTON	Alden	24.5	HM
S	DON POULTON	Old Grain Elevator	24.5	HM
S	GINA JIANG	Downtown Toronto	24.5	HM
S	ALEX KONYUKHOV	Man in Black	24.5	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	My Bully	24.5	HM
S	JUNE WEST	Illumination Magic	24.5	HM
S	THERESA BRYSON	Threatening	24.5	HM

Level	Submitted	Accepted
Intermediate	29	28
Advanced	27	27
Superset	54	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>109</b>

Judges	Affiliation
Vern Mossey	Oshawa Camera Club
Janet Kempster	Trillium Photographic Club
Robert Zakrison	Toronto Digital Photography Club

# Theme - Image of the Year

## Competition Results and Highlights

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



IOTY Sam Elogio THE PORTAL



# Theme - PC2 Mono

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



IOTY SILVER Sam Elogio UP

## RESULTS OF IMAGE of the YEAR APRIL 2023

Level	Full Name	Title	score	ribbon
<b>S</b>	<b>SAM ELOGIO</b>	<b>The Portal</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>IOTY</b>
S	SAM ELOGIO	Up	27.5	SILVER
S	GINA JIANG	NBC Tower	27	HM
S	GEOFFREY PIERPOINT	Peony	27	HM
A	LEANNE HAY	Morning Paddle	26.5	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	GOLDEN GIRL	26.5	HM
A	HUGUES DEMILLEVILLE	Short-eared Owl with vole in golden light - 3661	26.5	HM
A	HUGUES DEMILLEVILLE	Fox chasing a prey	26.5	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	MIRROR MIRROR	26	HM
S	MICHEL GAGNON	Silhouetted Ballerina	26	HM
S	BARB MARSZALEK	Dawn at Cape Spear Lighthouse	26	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	TOXIC	26	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	MOTHER	26	HM
A	HUGUES DEMILLEVILLE	African Fish Eagle with catch - 9353	26	HM
A	HUGUES DEMILLEVILLE	Black-lined Skimmer	26	HM
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Solitary	26	HM
A	LEANNE HAY	Bench Warmer	25.5	HM
S	ALEX KONYUKHOV	Lanner Falcon	25.5	HM
A	HUGUES DEMILLEVILLE	Osprey with catfish	25.5	HM
S	GINA JIANG	Morning in Chicago	25.5	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	WINGS	25.5	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	REBIRTH	25.5	HM
S	GINA JIANG	Two Gulls and one fish	25.5	HM
S	DORIS WOUDEMBERG	Saturn and its Moons	25.5	HM
S	DON POULTON	Heron's Catch	25.5	HM
S	BARB MARSZALEK	Tanzanian Red-Billed Hornbill	25.5	HM
A	LINDA SMITH	Plumeria Flower	25.5	HM
A	LEANNE HAY	Morning Reflections	25.5	HM
S	DON POULTON	Old Grain Elevator	25.5	HM

	Submitted	Accepted
Total	181	179
Judges	Affiliation	
Jonathan Ward	Toronto Digital Photography Club	
Lori Metcalfe	Mississauga Camera Club	
Marion Buccella	London Camera Club	

# Speakers

**Christine Kobielski Presented**

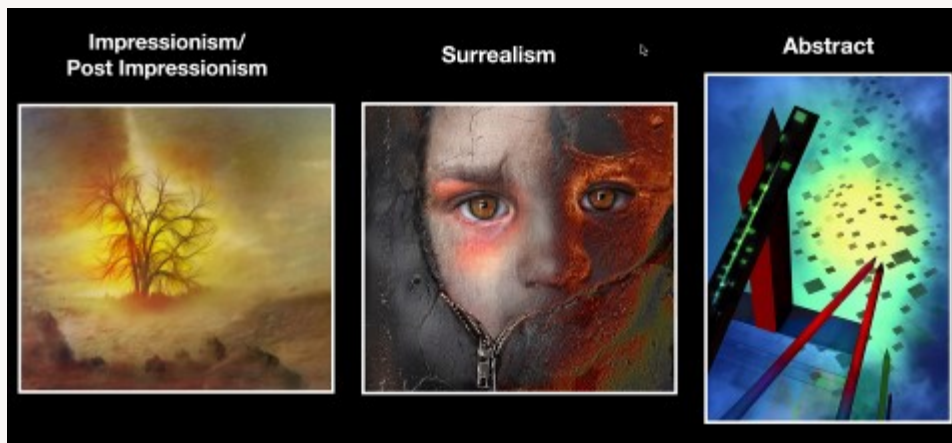
**“Altered Reality and Creativity in Photography”**

on Monday, April 3, 2023



In this presentation we saw how the combination of photography and an editorial program can free the artist to express more fully the stories that come from within. We saw how we can learn from the great painters and how the masters learn from one another. We got some ideas on how to get started if we don't know where to start, where to turn to for ideas if we don't have any, how to play, and how a little basic Knowledge in art movements can be very beneficial to a photographer interested in communicating at a deeper level.

Christine's passion for photography, art, and the creative spirit lives in her work. "It is my reaction to the world, the way I see it. It can be a feeling of awe; it might be a story I feel compelled to tell; it could be philosophical, psychological, or political; or maybe I just want to play and have fun. But whatever it is, it often begins with a quiet, inner stirring—the creative voice within. I have travelled the art galleries of the world, studied fine art and psychology at university level, and learned to paint in Mexico and Toronto. My serious interest in photography began when I joined the Etobicoke Camera Club thirteen years ago. Over those years I honed my photography skills. Art has no exclusive medium. Oil painting, watercolour, sculpture, cut outs, found objects, etc. are mediums we are all familiar with. My medium of choice is a digital camera which has become the window into my soul, and Photoshop which allows me the freedom to go deeper into life's metaphors. “



# Where does Creativity Start?



Hue/Saturation

Curves

Blend Modes

Combination  
Of  
All  
Three

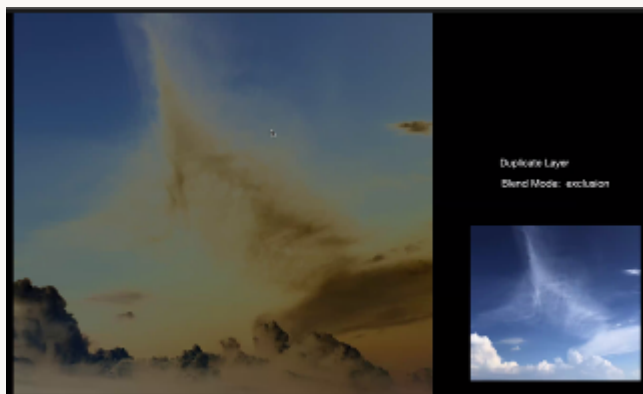
# Playing

**Don't judge**

**Let yourself go**

**Have fun**

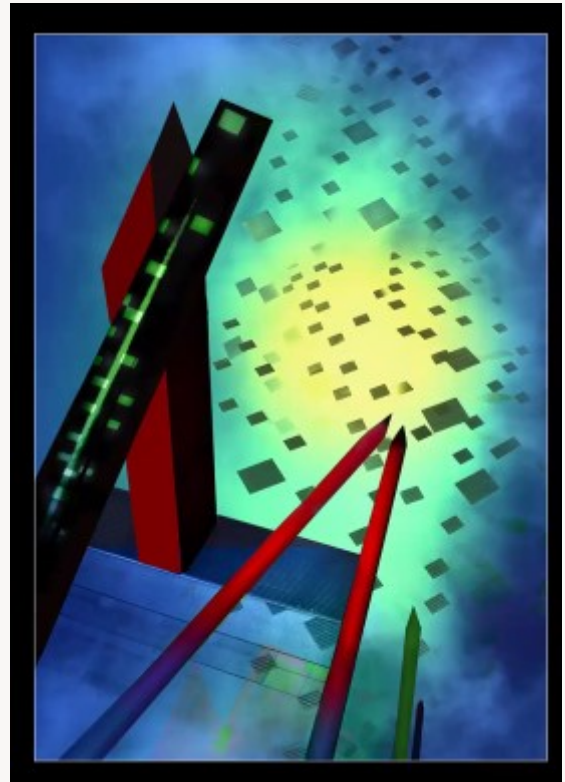
# Inspiration



**Incubation**

Giving the soul the space it needs to reveal itself

**OCAD's Sharp Centre for Design**



The Stage



The Curtain Cell



Old Gauze



Eye of a Child



# *Speakers*

## **Into The Light**

Go deeper!  
Don't just capture  
the outside light.  
Capture the light within.

Observe  
the sacredness  
of the  
earth .

Honour It,  
In your own way.

## **Follow The Wonder**

to where it leads you.

Get lost in  
your imagination.

It will  
set you free.

Watch ideas rise  
to the surface  
like bubbles.

They'll disappear  
if you're  
not watching.

Let go!  
Ride the creative fire.

## **Staircase To The Stars**

Climb higher!  
Reach for the stars!  
Feel the joy  
of creating  
as you learn.

Feel the joy  
of  
play.

It will  
open you up  
to  
new possibilities.

**Do deep research. Don't just scratch the surface.**

**Try everything. Make many mistakes. That's how you learn.**

# Speakers

**Monique Campbell Presented**

**“Building Confidence to Shoot Street”**

on Monday, April 24, 2023



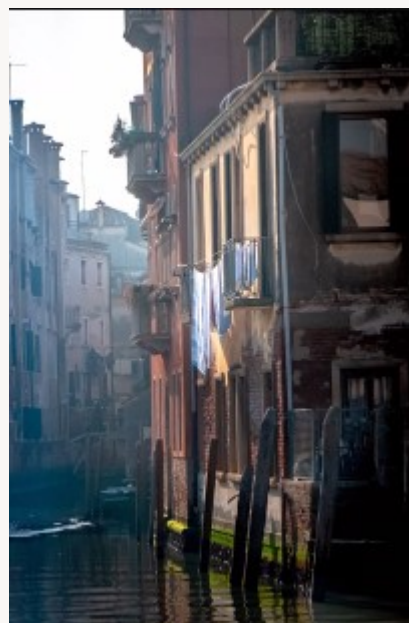
In a flash of perception Monique identifies a moment and clicks the shutter already knowing the end result will demonstrate her empathy and intimacy. Monique finds interest by observing the mundane, the ordinary and the moments most people take for granted. She excels in producing captivating photographs that tell stories that linger in the minds of viewers.

The graduate of the Western Pacific Academy of Photography in Victoria, B.C. went on to work as a newspaper photographer. When she was a freelance photographer at the Sudbury Star she won the runner-up photo of the year for Canadian Press in 1994 and the photo of the year for the Thomson Newspaper chain for her news photo of a firefighter reviving a boy.

She has been a Street Photographer since 2016. Currently, Monique lives in Hamilton.

In 2018, her image: Perspective was selected by the Societe National des Beaux Arts and exhibited in Paris, France at the Carrousel du Louvre.

She was chosen as one of 52 finalists for the Salt Spring National Art Prize in 2021. In all 2,756 pieces of art were submitted and her photo, "Venetian Laundry Day" was selected. Her work has been exhibited, collected, and published domestically and internationally.

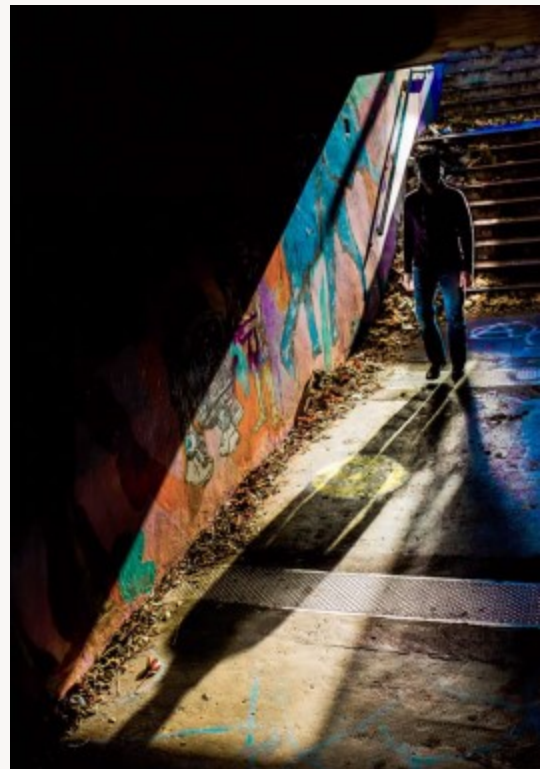
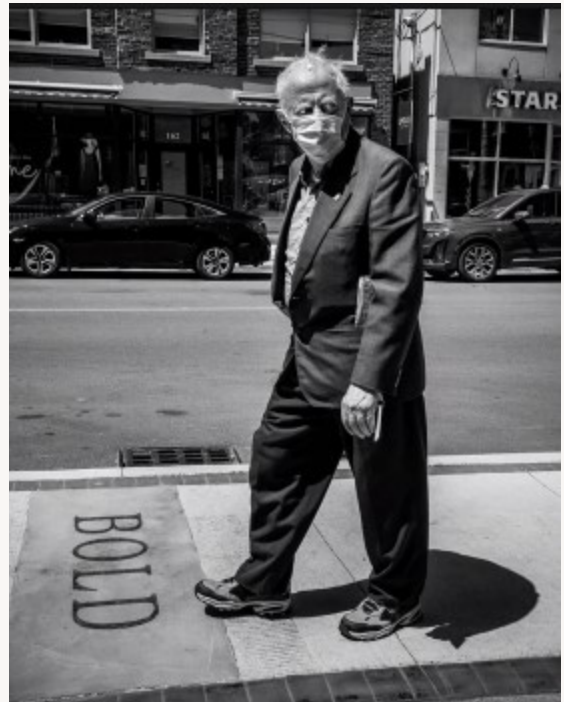




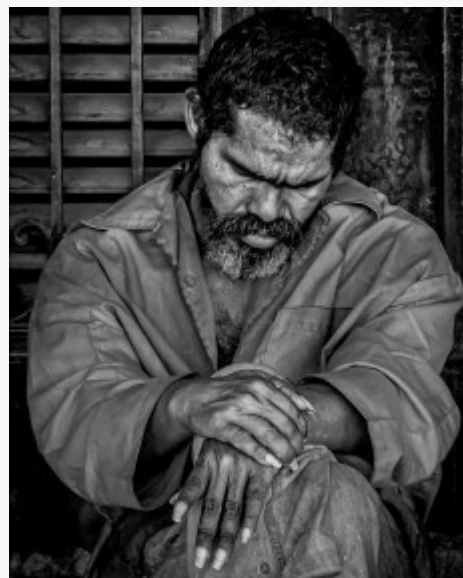
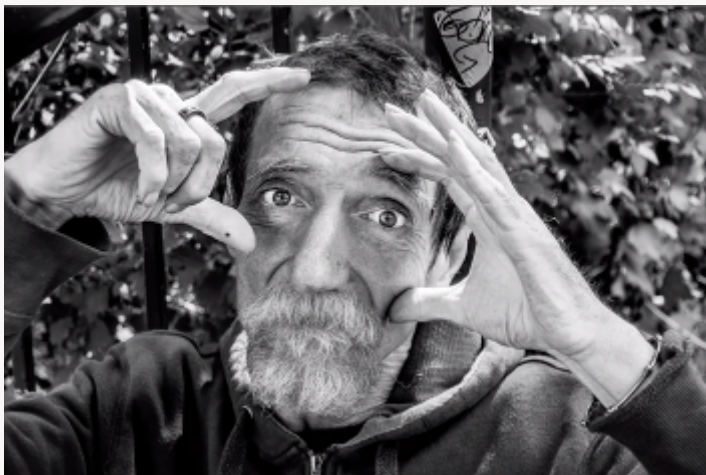
# Speakers

## Building Confidence to Shoot Street

- People on their cell phones
- Shadows
- Sleeping Man
- From Behind
- Perspective
- Self Portraits
- People walking
- Non human street shots



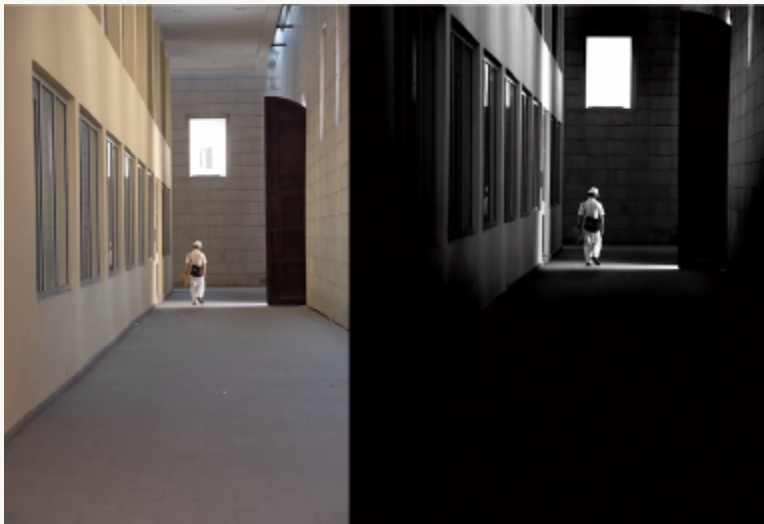
# Speakers



# Speakers



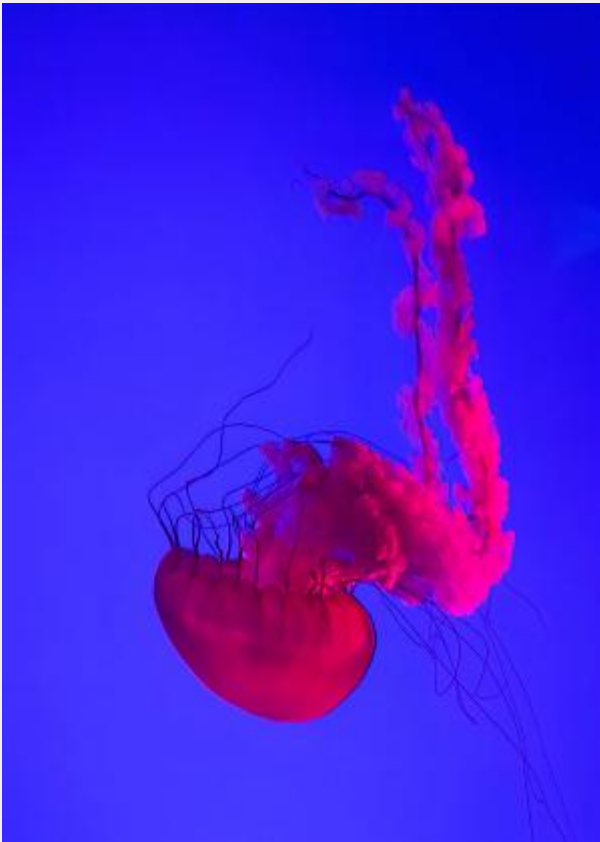
# *Speakers*



# *Outings*

**Sunday March 12, 2023**

Two ECC members enjoyed the wonderful experience of Ripley's Aquarium



# *Outings*

## **Sunday March 26, 2023**

Four ECC members enjoyed a lovely sunny morning at Jack Darling Park and Rattray Marsh



# Outings

## Saturday April 15, 2023

15 ECC members enjoyed a wonderful outing at the Canadian Raptor Conservancy Outing. The weather and birds were awesome.



# Outings

**Sunday May 7, 2023**

5 ECC members enjoyed a lovely outing at the Distillery District.





# Outings

## Wednesday May 17, 2023

Nine ECC members headed out to the TASC Tulip farm. This was an evening shoot which allowed for an interesting photo opportunity.





Past Issues of the Viewfinder can be found at

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

Have a Great Summer!