

# VIEWFINDER



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Photo credit: John Fraser

***“Photography is a way of feeling, of loving. What you have caught on film is captured forever ... it remembers little things, long after you have forgotten everything.”***

***Aaron Siskind***

***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)

# Feature Article

## Passion, a Strong Motivation for Success by Christine Kobielski

*These five very successful photographers have found their specialty. They know what they love, and they do it with passion, sometimes going to extremes to hone their craft. How do they do it? What motivates them? How have they coped with the pandemic? Asking them some pointed questions led to some interesting answers. The following is a compilation of what they had to say (except for Hugues who wrote his own story using the questions as a guide).*

### Barb Marszalek

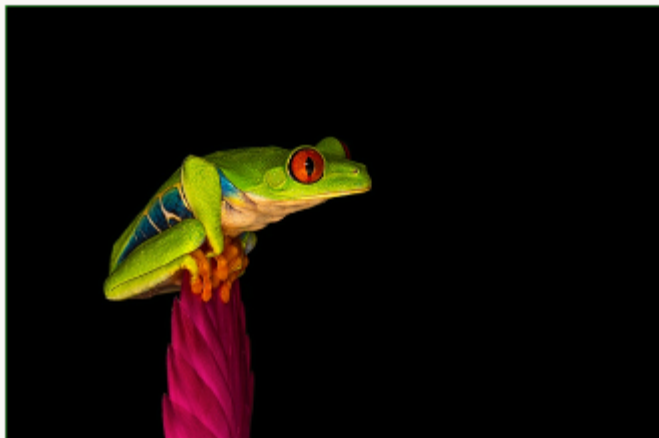
Ever since she was a child, Barb loved nature shows. Photographing animals in their natural habitat became Barb's passion, and nature shows continue to inspire her. She has shot puffins in Nfld while hanging on the edge of a cliff, bears in Alberta, and lions and zebras in Africa. Who can forget the breaching whale image that captivated all of us at the club in 2016? That was her first GOM, one of many more to come.



For Barb, it's not just getting the shot, it's also being in the moment, observing nature, as she did with a pride of lions in Africa where she got so caught up observing that she forgot about the shot. She sees her camera not just as a way of capturing these magnificent animals, but also is hopeful that she can instill in others this love she feels. Perhaps others will become kinder and more respectful of the wild creatures of the world. Barb would never bait an animal or interfere in any way except for a few seed

eating birds.

Her gear includes the sigma 150-600 lens and a macro lens on a Nikon body.



Over her bed hangs her favourite image, the red-eyed tree frog for which she has won many awards. It's a reminder of a frog calendar she had as a child. Now she takes pride in seeing that her frog images could be in a calendar.

With Covid restrictions Barb has concentrated on animals in her home environment but soon she will be on the road again to learn about and photograph the wild animals of the world.

## Passion, a Strong Motivation for Success (continued)

**Sharon Eyolfson**



Sharon loves the unique beauty, colour and texture of flowers. To her, flowers are mother nature touching the earth with a magnificent, vibrant paintbrush. Flowers can be photographed outdoors or in studio, in the rain or in fine weather. They don't need extreme editing to display their beauty. We find them in gardens, homes, nature, and even in grocery stores.

Sharon uses a variety of equipment including a Lumix FZ1000 bridge camera, a Sony A6500 with a variety of lenses including an 18-200 or a 70mm macro, and even a cell phone. Recently she experimented on a new light pad. Her go to editing programs are Photoshop and Topaz.

One of her favourite images is a vibrant gerbera daisy from a grocery store bouquet which she photographed on her dining room table against a black background with her Sony and her 18-200 lens. She loves to experiment with flowers and is always ready to learn more.

Flower photography has been her salvation during the very difficult two years of the pandemic. With all the bad news around her, she could immerse herself in the beauty of flowers for many hours and block out the outside world.

This journey of flower love started with an inspirational talk by Denise Ippolito a few years back and continued with other inspiring flower photographers. Now we are finding inspiration in her delicately soft images that speak to not just an outer beauty but an inner beauty that lives within all of us.



## Passion, a Strong Motivation for Success (continued)

### Mandy Samarzija



Mention Portrait Photography and you immediately think of Mandy. For her, the possibilities for creative expression are endless, and it affords a unique and personal connection with the subject that you can't get through landscape and still life.

Studio lighting is paramount to her work, not only for brightness and darkness, but also tone, mood and atmosphere. Her 70-200 portrait lens is her favourite as it is sharp, has great telephoto compression and its narrow depth of

field makes for unique renderings.

Mandy gets inspiration from numerous sources including photos, magazines, books, galleries, museums; as well as an inner well of ideas, helping her to make choices about the way she styles or shoots images, or the way she processes them.

Mandy lives in the moment so choosing her favourite is an impossible task. She has graced us with a wealth of memorable winning images.

During Covid, limited access to subjects stretched Mandy in new directions as she attempted some landscape, architecture and street photography.



## Passion, a Strong Motivation for Success (continued)

**Gina Jiang**



For Gina, vast landscapes untouched by man make her feel like she is in the presence of something so much greater than just herself. The golden hours of early morning and evening can reveal breathtaking beauty, a paintbrush across the sky ablaze in magnificent colour.

Gina has the patience, stamina, skill and strength to get the shot. She carries a mirrorless camera, the Nikon z7, a 14-30 and a 24-70 wide angle lens as well as a light tripod.

Her favourite image is her most recent GOM image of the Rocky Mountains. Getting up at 3 in the morning for a two-and-a-half-hour drive through winding mountain roads, walking on ice with spikes, and dealing with strong winds, were just a few of the hurdles she had to go through to get the shot. She had it printed large, 30x24 at Walmart. The frame came from a second-hand store. It hangs in her living room along with many other winning landscape images. Being surrounded by earth's beauty in her living room has helped her through the pandemic reminding her of her past trips Georgian Bay, Franklin Island, the Bruce Peninsula, etc.

Gina is not inspired by specific photographers. She looks at images that appeal to her and finds what it is about the image that she loves and then tries to emulate that. She recognizes that a sharp foreground, middle ground, and background as well as lighting are crucial for a great image, but that perspective and other elements are also at play. During Covid she has branched out into other types of photography with club members and finds she enjoys the social interaction.



## **Passion, a Strong Motivation for Success** (continued)

### **Hugues de Milleville**



Hugues has always been fascinated by nature and its beauty. He spent countless hours / days observing almost anything in nature, from flowers to insects to mammals in the countryside of Burgundy, France where he grew up. He has always been more attracted by the grace and beauty of birds.

His passions are birds in flight and action shots in general. He always aims to capture that split second in time that shows the beauty of his subject and which is too fast, or too far away, or too tiny for the naked eye to see or to register. His aim is to come home with a unique shot, a different take on the subject from those of other photographers.

You can usually find him pursuing his passion outdoors with a 200-600mm zoom attached to his Sony a1 or a9.

He loves the miracles of the newer digital cameras which allow him to fulfill challenges, take pictures in harsh conditions, and obtain images which were unthinkable years ago with film.

Wildlife photography as a passion certainly helped him during the pandemic as most of the time the parks remained open. He was out almost every day taking shots all over the GTA and southern Ontario. And sometimes he was delighted to see some of his shooting buddies and meet other photographers outside respecting distancing. There were lots of opportunities for sharing work online and tracking sightings and enjoying the sense of community within the birding world.

He is especially happy when he can capture a piece of an action that, without the camera freezing that split second in time, would have been impossible for him or anybody else to see. The action shot is one of the distinguishing qualities of his work.

Sometimes Hugues goes out looking for a subject that could produce that unique picture. And other times he goes out with a very specific “picture” in mind and will sometimes spend hours or more trying to obtain that result in the camera. He recognizes the joy of serendipity - that unexpected shot that comes to those who expect it and have patience.

## **Passion, a Strong Motivation for Success** (continued)

Like all photographers he has umpteen thousands of images which make it difficult to pick a favourite. He likes this picture of a blue jay that he took recently. Although many of us have seen them flying and admired their beauty, this is a good example of the work he aims for: freezing an instant in time that displays the feather pattern with all the different shades of blue and shows the beauty of this gorgeous bird. This image allows the viewer to take its time admiring the real beauty of that bird, something that either the photographer or the viewer could never achieve in real life due to the speed of the action.

Hugues loves taking pictures for the pleasure of sharing the beauty of nature with family, friends and people all over the world. He enjoys the challenge of submitting to competitions, especially those that take him out of comfort zone and to continue to learn and grow as a photographer.



# Urban

## 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

Gina Jiang

To Serve and Protect

Advanced

GOLD

John Markle

Alone in Thought







Intermediate

GOLD

Leanne Hay

Timeless Tales

<b>Level</b>	<b>Submitted</b>	<b>Accepted</b>
Intermediate	30	30
Advanced	33	32
Superset	69	69
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>131</b>

<b>Judges</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Lori Metcalfe	Mississauga Camera Club
Leif Petersen	Oshawa Camera Club
Kathy Constantinou	Richmond Hill Camera Club

## RESULTS of URBAN PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION-FEBRUARY 2022

Level	Full Name	Title	score	ribbon
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>				
I	LEANNE HAY	Timeless Tales	25	GOLD
I	ALAN MORROW	Over the Bridge to Old Town	23	SILVER
I	KIRK SHORTING	Points of View	22	HM
I	LEANNE HAY	Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow	21.5	HM
I	JULIE MORENCY	bubble boy	21	HM
I	KATHRYN RIDDELL	Busy Intersection	21	HM
I	LEANNE HAY	Time Stands Still During Covid	21	HM
<b>ADVANCED</b>				
A	JOHN MARKLE	Alone in Thought	24.5	GOLD
A	CELIA FERNANDES	Good Friday Passion Procession	23.5	SILVER
A	RALPH KROMAN	Mirror Mirror	23.5	SILVER
A	SAM ELOGIO	Roadside Afternoon Prayer	23	HM
A	RALPH KROMAN	Solitude	23	HM
A	TOM DRIEDGER	The Artist	23	HM
A	SAM ELOGIO	Swoosh	22.5	HM
<b>SUPERSET</b>				
S	GINA JIANG	To Serve and Protect	26	GOLD&GOM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	The Red Rocket	25.5	SILVER
S	THERESA BRYSON	The Sweeper	25.5	SILVER
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Free Spirits	25	HM
S	JOHN FRASER	Onward	25	HM
S	DORIS WOUDEBERG	On the Road	24.5	HM
S	THERESA BRYSON	Downtown Career	24	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	The Early Commuter	24	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	Hitchin' a Ride	23.5	HM
S	CARM GRIFFIN	WALKING TO SCHOOL	23.5	HM

# 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)



GOLD & GOM

Intermediate

NIRU KARIA



GOLD

Superset

GEOFFREY PIERPOINT

Phalaenopsis



GOLD Advanced SAM ELOGIO Finnegan On The Run

<b>Level</b>	<b>Submitted</b>	<b>Accepted</b>
Intermediate	47	47
Advanced	33	33
Superset	68	68
Total	148	148
<b>Judges</b>		<b>Affiliation</b>
Anthony Schatzky		Toronto Digital Photography Club
John Allman		Toronto Digital Photography Club
Chris Goldsmith		Photo Arts Club Newmarket

## RESULTS OF PC2 Monochrome Competition held Mar 21 2022

Level	Full Name	Title	SCORE	RIBBON
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>				
I	NIRU KARIA	Pathway	26	GOLD
I	CLYDE ETKINS	A Place of Tranquility	24.5	SILVER
I	NIRU KARIA	Still Strong	24.5	SILVER
I	MARION WOODMAN	Vertigo	23.5	HM
I	ALAN MORROW	Stormy Weather No Escape	23.5	HM
I	NIRU KARIA	Observing	23.5	HM
I	LESLIE BUSH	Salt Spring Island Jetty	23.5	HM
I	LEANNE HAY	Mountain Path	23.5	HM
I	LUCY SU	Life is beautiful	23.5	HM
<b>ADVANCED</b>				
A	SAM ELOGIO	Finnegan On The Run	25.5	GOLD
A	CELIA FERNANDES	Take a Bow	24.5	SILVER
A	HUGUES DEMILLEVILLE	Wild Short-eared Owl	24.5	SILVER
A	RALPH KROMAN	Industrious	24.5	SILVER
A	CELIA FERNANDES	Woman Abstracted	24	HM
A	HUGUES DEMILLEVILLE	Peregrine Falcon with Pigeon	24	HM
A	LESLEY KINCH	Bilbao globes	23.5	HM
A	SAM ELOGIO	Terra Cotta Horse Farm	23.5	HM
<b>SUPERSET</b>				
S	GEOFFREY PIERPOINT	Phalaenopsis View from Bathurst Street	26	GOLD
S	THERESA BRYSON	Bridge	25.5	SILVER
S	GEOFFREY PIERPOINT	Bleeding Heart	25.5	SILVER
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	A Touching Moment	25.5	SILVER
S	JOHN FRASER	Mono Bean	25.5	SILVER
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	The Snake Handler	25.5	SILVER
S	GINA JIANG	Subway Station	25	HM
S	MANDY SAMARZIJA	Panda	25	HM
S	ANETA ZIMNICKI	Tunnel Speed	25	HM
S	CHRISTINE KOBIELSKI	Unity	25	HM
S	ALEX KONYUKHOV	At the Foot of Niagara Falls, Winter 2022	24.5	HM
S	EVA MICHALAK	Formal river walk	24.5	HM
S	THERESA BRYSON	Dance	24.5	HM
S	GEOFFREY PIERPOINT	Silver Plume Depot	24.5	HM
S	ED ESPIN	Feeding time	24	HM
S	ED ESPIN	Humble solution	24	HM

# Speakers

**Sandra Laurin Presented**

**“Visual Literacy: A Picture is worth a 1000 Words“**

on Monday, March 14, 2022



How are literacy skills developed? Viewers have to decide how to interpret a photograph’s context either explicit or implied. This is also true of paintings, sculpture, dance, and all visual media. Photographers have the tools of composition, depth of field, angle of view etc. to direct a visual story. The essence of a good story is to make the viewer relate. As photographers, it is our job to not only take images but to tell important stories. Stories that explain, question, and challenge who we are and how relook at our world.

Sandra’s passion is photographing lifestyles, cultures and traditions of people around the world. Her love of travel has taken her to 56 countries documenting the people she meets. Her connection with Photographers Without Borders enabled her to travel to Ecuador to highlight the work of local NGO, AVANTI in raising awareness of the efforts of an impoverished community striving to develop ECO Tourism in their village. As a former educator, Sandra continues to teach photography classes in Toronto and San Miguel de Allende as well as lead travel workshops throughout Mexico.

## WHAT IS VISUAL LITERACY?

Visual literacy demonstrates the ability to interpret, recognize, appreciate and understand information presented through visible actions, objects and symbols.

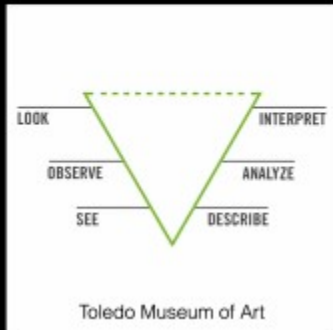
Leading researchers, educators, museum professionals, filmmakers, and artists believe that being fluent in visual language can improve...

creativity  
critical thinking  
educational achievement  
empathy towards others  
ability to decipher technology

# Speakers

## "The Art of seeing Art"

decoding



## Analyse and Interpret

who?

when was it taken?

where?

why did the photographer select these particular elements to include?

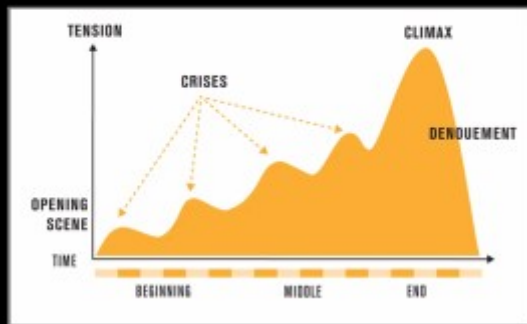
what is the emphasis? what was left out?

why photograph this moment?

what happened before or after?

## THE ELEMENTS OF STORY

encoding



"every picture tells a story"

**BUT**

meaningful storytelling...

explains

questions...

challenges us to think about who we are...

encourages us to look closely at our world...

## COMPOSITION



## ENGAGE THE AUDIENCE



# Speakers

## Encoding

- composition
- depth of field
- colour
- focus
- angle of view
- lighting

## LIGHTING



## COLOUR



## CHARACTER



## EMOTION



## FOCAL POINT





# *Outings*

## **Sunday February 27th**

Four ECC members braved the frost temperatures on the evening of Sunday, February 27.



# Outings

## Sunday March 6th

Six ECC members ventured out to High Park on Sunday, March 6. It was a lovely sunny morning for picture taking.





Past Issues of the Viewfinder can be found at

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

Next Issue:

... May, the last issue of the Year!