

VIEWFINDER



VOL 63. NO.4
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Photo credit: John Fraser

***“Light makes photography.
Embrace light. Love it ...
and you will know the key
to photography”***

George Eastman

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

CAPA GOLD ! **The Best Across Canada.** **Category: Artistic (Altered Reality)**

By Christine Kobielski
Photos by Eva Michalak



Image as it appears on the **Canadian Association For Photographic Art** website

Etobicoke Camera Club – Presented with Gold Medal – 2024 Artistic Club Competition

Left to right: Jocelyn Ubaldino (Club President), Mandy Samarzija, Sam Elogio, Michel Gagnon, Jonathan Ward (CAPA Rep making presentation), Doris Woudenberg, Penny Rintoul and Leanne Hay.

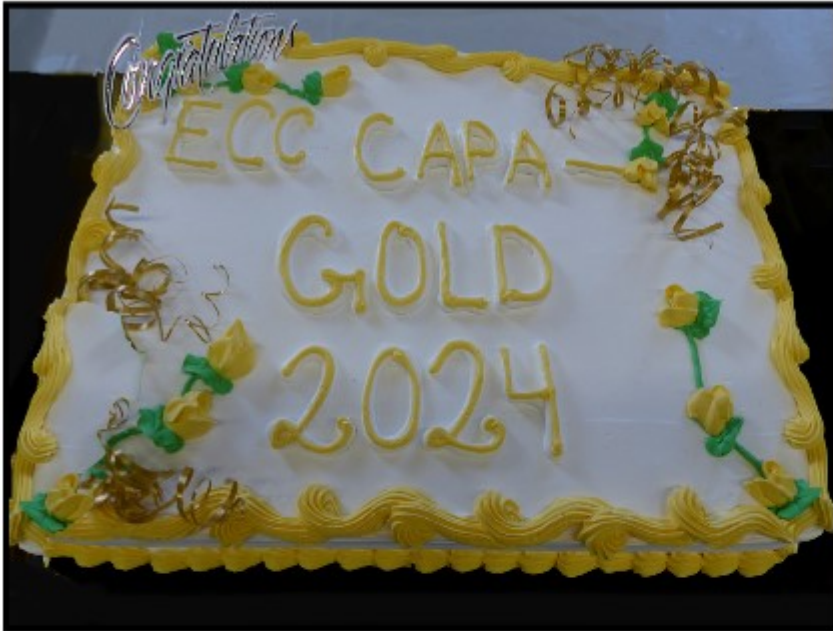
Medal Winners

Gold Medal – Etobicoke Camera Club

Silver Medal – Richmond Hill Camera Club

Our club has something to celebrate. Out of 88 camera clubs across Canada, the Etobicoke Camera Club placed first, perhaps for the very first time in our club's history. Some of our newer members were unsure of what the excitement was about as they were unfamiliar with Capa. As members of The Etobicoke Camera Club, we are automatically enrolled in Capa as a group. Ralph Kroman, is our Capa rep and next year's president. His role is to scout out images from previous competitions that might do well and submit them to Capa. There are many categories including Artistic. If your image is selected, you will get a request for approval to submit. This is always a team effort. Individual membership is available for those interested but requires joining Capa individually and a fee of 75 dollars a year.

Club News



How better to celebrate than by a delectable mocha filled cake with gold lettering for our gold winners, placed on a gold runner and flanked by bouquets of fresh flowers? There was an abundance of treats as well as coffee, tea, and herbal teas. We thank our social committee led by Eva Michalak for making this occasion so special.

Our president Jocelyn Ubaldino displayed some of her baking skills with her home made biscotti.

Festivities started before 7 and continued through an extended break. Many lingered after the presentation maybe to bask in the glory and finish off the cake and treats.



Club News



Regional Capa rep: Johnathan Ward
ECC Capa Rep: Ralph Kroman (on right)

Ralph Kroman our Capa rep chose well. 6 images from last year's Altered Reality competition were selected and sent to Capa. The rest is history. They are shown in no particular order. This was a group effort and the win shines a light on the winners and the club.



Docking

Doris Woudenberg



Portal
Sam Elogio



Club News



Rebirth
Mandy Samarzija



The Legacy of the Explorers
Penny Rintoul

Club News



Heaven's Sunrise
Leanne Hay



Smooooking''''!
Michel Gagnon

Theme - Landscape

Competition Results and Highlights

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



Advanced
GOLD & GOM
Stephen Dunn
Sunset Beaches, Toronto

Theme - Landscape

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



Superset GOLD
David Westlake
Petrified Forest National Park



Superset GOLD
Gina Jiang
Lake Superior at Night

Theme - Landscape

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



Intermediate GOLD
Lucy Su
Light Symphony in Antelope Canyon



Intermediate GOLD
Katie Gruetzner
Aurora Borealis Paints The Sky Green

RESULTS OF LANDSCAPE COMPETITION held February 2024

Level	Full Name	Title	Score	Ribbon
INTERMEDIATE				
I	LUCY SU	Light Symphony in Antelope Canyon	25.5	GOLD
I	KATIE GRUETZNER	Aurora Borealis Paints The Sky Green	25.5	GOLD
I	CARMINA MARUSKA	Under the Clouds - Revelstoke	24.5	SILVER
I	TAMMY COUTURE	Yellowknife landscape	24	HM
I	KIRK SHORTING	Unsettled Sunset	24	HM
I	KATIE GRUETZNER	The Grinch	23.5	HM
I	LUCY SU	Horseshoe Bend Charm	23	HM
ADVANCED				
A	STEPHEN DUNN	Sunset Beaches, Toronto	26.5	GOLD&GOM
A	KAREN YOUNG	Autumn Hillside	25	SILVER
A	STEPHEN DUNN	Skaftafell Nature Reserve, Iceland	25	SILVER
A	RALPH KROMAN	Storm Rolling In	24	HM
A	PENNY RINTOUL	Early Morning Light on the Cleat, The Quiraing	24	HM
SUPERSET				
S	GINA JIANG	Lake Superior at Night	25.5	GOLD
S	DAVID WESTLAKE	Petrified Forest National Park	25.5	GOLD
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Morning at Death Valley	25	SILVER
S	GINA JIANG	Sun Peeking at Abraham Lake	25	SILVER
S	BRUCE BARTON	Sahara Rhythm	25	SILVER
S	ALEX KONYUKHOV	Windswept pine at Killbear Provincial Park	24	HM
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Morning Light on Lone Pine	24	HM
S	EVA MICHALAK	Cloud Landscape	24	HM
S	DAVID WESTLAKE	Bryce Canyon Sunrise 2	24	HM
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Owens Valley Salt Flats	23.5	HM
S	MICHEL GAGNON	Columbia Icefield Peaks	23.5	HM
S	GEOFFREY PIERPOINT	Across The Valley	23.5	HM
S	GINA JIANG	Foggy Morning at Oxtongue	23.5	HM

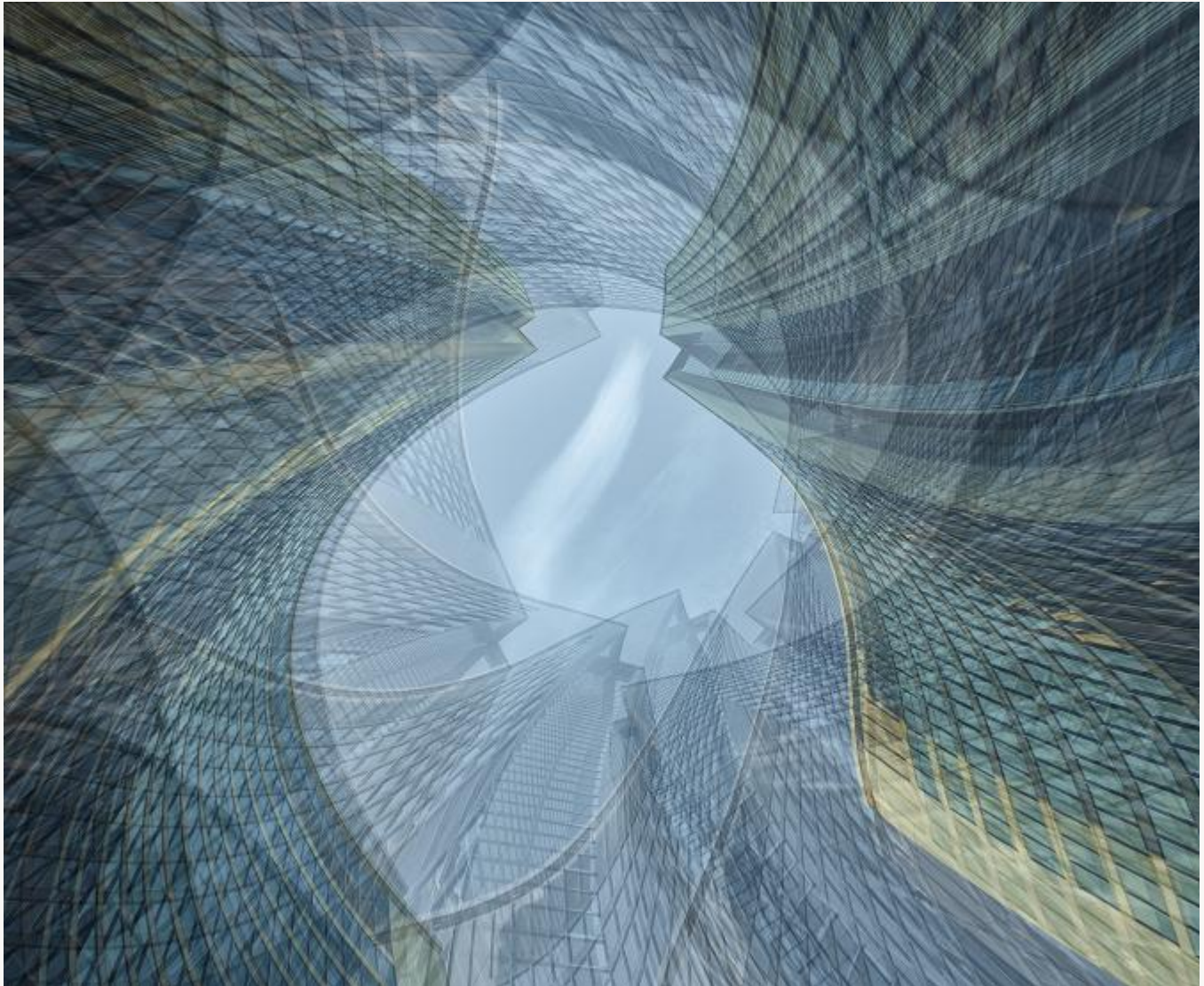
Level	Submitted	Accepted
Intermediate	25	24
Advanced	26	26
Superset	65	65
Total	116	115

Judges	Affiliation
Bob Hawkins	Mississauga Camera Club
Leoni Holmes	Hamilton Camera Club & Mississauga Camera club
Jim Spurgeon	Photo Arts Club of Newmarket

Theme - Altered Reality

Competition Results and Highlights

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



GOLD & GOM Superset
Sam Elogio
Toronto City Hall Looking Up and Around

Theme - Altered Reality

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



GOLD INT_ADV
Karen Young
Remembering Autumn

RESULTS OF ALTERED REALITY COMPETITION held FEBRUARY 2024

Level	Full Name	Title	score	ribbon
AX	KAREN YOUNG	Remembering Autumn	25.5	GOLD
AX	PENNY RINTOUL	Middle Earth: The Ring of Power	25	SILVER
AX	STEPHEN DUNN	Mardi Gras Heads	25	SILVER
AX	STEPHEN DUNN	Spectral Tulips	23.5	HM
AX	LESLEY KINCH	I Dream of Sailing	23.5	HM
SUPERSET	SAM ELOGIO	Toronto City Hall Looking Up and Around	27	GOLD & GOM
SUPERSET	JUDY GRIFFIN	Squatters at the Old Grill	25.5	SILVER
SUPERSET	SAM ELOGIO	An Epic Photo Opportunity	25	HM
SUPERSET	JUNE WEST	Lost City of Zoronzonzo Discovered	24.5	HM
SUPERSET	DON POULTON	Skyline in a Cup	24.5	HM
SUPERSET	GEOFFREY PIERPOINT	Decomposing Plywood	24.5	HM
SUPERSET	EVA MICHALAK	Moose Ghost Evening	24	HM

Level	Submitted	Accepted
Intermediate	9	9
Advanced	18	18
Superset	41	41
Total	68	68

Judges	Affiliation
Randy Nickerson	Oshawa Camera Club
Ann Alimi	Toronto Digital Photography Club
Luba Citrin	Richmond Hill Camera Club & TDPC

Vin Singh Presented

“Simple and effective workflows for Colour and BW Landscapes”

on Monday, January 29, 2024



Like all forms of Art, Vin believes the most important quality of a photograph is to evoke a strong emotional response. While this sometimes can be achieved being at the right place at the right time, he believes there is more to it than that. Choosing how to interpret and photograph the scene is more important. With the advent of digital photography, we have powerful tools at our disposal but they are at the end just tools. How we visualize the final scene takes place in the mind's eye and understanding how to achieve the desired results are all important steps or details that have to work together to create the final image. His processes involve meticulous attention to detail in his field technique, along with a unique exploratory approach in the digital darkroom.

Being a graduate in the field of Physics, Vin Singh seeks and explores the beauty of the natural world. With courses in photography at University of Waterloo and Ontario College of Arts, Vin began his journey from Science to Photography in 1990, collecting a few awards along the way. Vin's work has been showcased in Nature of Things, Photolife, B+W, Nikon and Silvershotz magazines/calendars and recognized as "World Class Photographer of the 118th Toronto International Salon of Photography.

WHY B&W / WHEN B&W

- B&W (Monochrome used interchangeably) allows a higher level of manipulation in contrast/brightness before image breaks down in realism. Especially true of portraiture or landscape scenes of colour.
- B&W Portraiture is more timeless...less about the makeup/colour of eyes/clothes and more about the mood, subtlety of skin etc. Likewise we can have better leverage over mood in a landscape scene
- B&W good when your digital camera has blown out 2 out of three channels but still has one channel without clipping.
- B&W when the colour in the image does nothing for the image.
- B&W when you have to submit images in B&W competitions.
- Images with prominent shapes/lines, concrete, rock, peeling paint, old wooden anything etc are great b&w studies.
- Sunsets are awful B&W studies (with some exceptions)

UNDERSTANDING FILTERS

- A Red Filter will make red objects appear more white than black. A blue object will appear more black than white. Film days...used for creating dark skies with white clouds.
- Similarly, a Green Filter will make green objects more white than black. Other colours will appear more black than white. Good for flesh tones (as is the yellow filter)
- Blue is not useful for B&W landscape as it will make the sky more white while leaving the land portions near black levels.

EFFECTIVE B&W INTERPRETATION

- Because there is only gradations of a single colour (shade) in monochrome photography, it is essentially all about contrast.
- If there is not enough contrast between various parts of an image, it will look like one big grey mess. This is especially true when printing. (as always there are exceptions with various subject matters)
- Maker has to decide (depending on subject) what colours are to be interpreted as white and which colours as black. This is where filters come in.
- B&W images almost always require dodging and burning at some part of the image.

CONVERSION METHODS

- Change mode to greyscale
- De-Saturate
- Channel Mixer
- B&W Filter in Photoshop
- B&W Filter in your RAW processing/Lightroom
- Third party software plug-ins like Silver Effects; DXO; PhotoKit; ON1 etc

CHANNEL MIXER

- Portraits: Change reds to a light shade, increase the Red Channel to something greater than 50, Green Channel to something less than Red and Blue to 0 or less.
- Total % should add up to 100 (if image exposed properly).
- For skin tones, try not to get Red near 100% unless you want that translucent skin effect (IR)
- Landscape with blue sky. Combination similar to above. If there are various shades of vegetation, experiment with the green filter on the strong side.

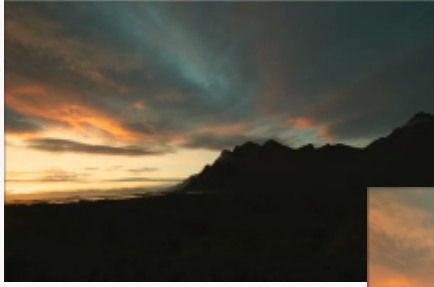
THE DREADED CURVE

- The easiest and quickest way to a good B&W photo.
- Allows increase/decrease of local and broad contrast.
- Use the dropper to determine the curve needs to be modified.
- Anything below the diagonal will make that shade darker.
- Anything above the diagonal will make that shade brighter.
- To change the increase contrast of a selected point apply an 'S' curve centred on the selected area.

DODGING/BURNING

- Fundamental to B&W process
- Do not use burn or dodge tools provided in PS. These are destructive type effects and difficult to work with. They also do not work very well.
- To dodge and burn, create a new layer (some like to set background to gray, opacity to 50%) and mode to 'overlay'
- Select the brush tool. Start with opacity around 5% (change accordingly)
- To dodge, select the paint colour as white. Paint the area you wish to dodge.
- To burn, select the paint colour as black.
- You can also tint by using any colour you like.

Speakers



Speakers



Speakers



Speakers

Steve Parish Presented

“Photography: A Pathway to Creative Life Purpose”

on Monday, February 5, 2024



Steve is a passionate and highly motivational speaker, writer, teacher and photographic artist, and one of few Australian photographers who can look back over five-plus decades of photography across a range of Australian social and natural history subjects.

Steve pioneered underwater nature photography in association with the Australian Museum which led to his first publishing ventures in the late '60s and now manages the largest and most comprehensive privately owned photographic library in the nation; it is from this vast resource that he has created all his projects. While many of his featured images are now iconic, others are being seen here, in this website and associated Fine Art Gallery and Stock Libraries for the first time

In 2018 Steve launched Photography: A Pathway to Purpose in conjunction with Griffith University a major online Masterclass offering creative life and photographic communication education globally.

My Creative Life Purpose is

Work / Life Balance - the biggest challenge of all

PERSONAL

- Health
- Family relations
- Friends
- Community
- Shopping
- House cleaning
- Administrating
- Socialising
- Playing
- Joy
- Loving
- Laughter

WORK

- Staff
- Community
- Study
- Logistics
- Maintenance
- Marketing
- Traveling
- Photographing
- Computer crafts
- Designing
- Manufacturing
- Selling
- Administrating

“To inspire others to regard the natural world as essential to spiritual, mental and physical wellbeing.”

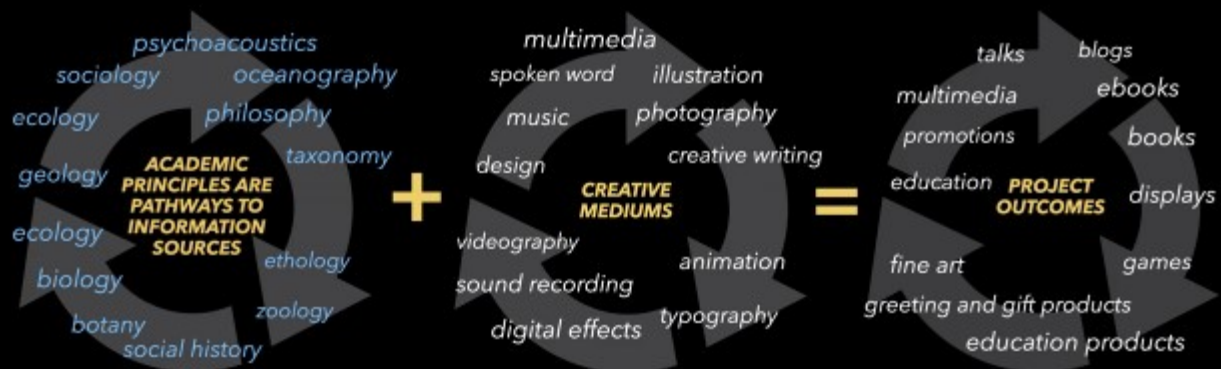
Steve Parish
Creative Life Purpose 2018-2024

Your creative life **purpose** is to discover your voice.
Your life's **work** is to develop it.
Your life's meaning is to **communicate** it.
- Steve Parish

Nourishing Purpose

- ▶ Inspiring compassion in others
- ▶ Curiosity can lead to life long purpose
- ▶ Speaking to your spirit
- ▶ Reading visually inspiring literature
- ▶ Be inspired to produce a book
- ▶ Visit a gallery
- ▶ The creative philosophies of others
- ▶ Create through play
- ▶ Seek solitude in wild places
- ▶ Inspired by sound
- ▶ To experience awe in nature
- ▶ A passion for culture
- ▶ Connecting with nature in a place you call home
- ▶ Sharing your passion with the young
- ▶ A passion for spontaneity
- ▶ A passion for technology
- ▶ A passion for new adventures
- ▶ Camaraderie
- ▶ Finding joy through collaboration

Science + emotion = connection



Identify and inform to inspire awe & empathy
towards environmental protection.

Speakers

Step 1

voice

NOURISHING YOUR CREATIVE LIFE PURPOSE

Wash out for glowing life moments.
They can come at any time, without warning.
Embrace them without hesitation as they may
bring fundamental change to your life.
— Steve Jobs

As they were all alike, they were bound to be considered as one by the long-suffering owner.

Step 1

voice

Part B: Disarming Resistance

Learn to embrace fears.
See them merely as expressions of
your resistance to following dreams,
as noise concocted by the mind.
— Steve Jobs

Step 2

purpose

PART B: CREATING PROJECT THEMES

An open, inquiring mind
is the best way to grow
creative life purpose.
— Steve Jobs

Explore how your inquiry method is essential to your
writing life. © Steve Jobs. What They Don't Tell You About Steve Jobs

Step 2

purpose

PART A: DEVELOPING & MANAGING PROJECTS

People with creative life goals succeed because
they know where they are going.
— Steve Jobs

The dog is a beautiful dog. With one eye, but still full of love and loyalty. It's a dog and it's a dog. It's a dog and it's a dog.

Speakers


Step 2
purpose



PART C: ADDING ARTFUL ELEMENTS

If you desire to please everyone, you may find no one will be pleased. Just be honest in finding your own style and their reactions to it will show. The people that matter will soon find you. - Steve Parish


Step 3
discover



PART A: THE ART OF HUNTING LIGHT

You can't change the weather, but you can change your attitude towards what is. - Steve Parish

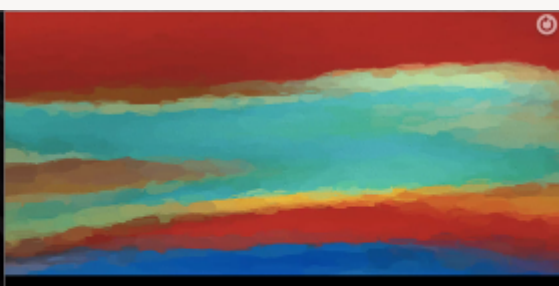
Step 4
work



PART B: CHOOSING A CAMERA

You won't find "state of mind" in any camera manual, however, it is as much a part of the capture process as all other functions. - Steve Parish

Step 5
develop



PART A: AWAKENING THE ARTIST WITHIN

Engage fearlessly with your creative, playful inner child and become your own artistic director. This process will empower you to express your G.P. in ways beyond all current expectations. - Steve Parish

Speakers

Step 5
develop



PART B: CREATING AN ARTISTIC VISION

Our creative vision can arise from artists past and present, whose works inspire.
However, if we thrive on constant change, we need to dare to stand alone.
— Steve Parish

Step 6
communicate



PART A: GROWING YOUR PROFILE & SKILLS

Joy is contagious.
Invite it in, then share it.
— Steve Parish

Step 6
communicate



PART B: GOING PUBLIC: SIX PRIMARY FEARS

If you strive to please everyone, you may find no one will be pleased.
Just be sincere in finding your own style and then celebrate it with your community.
The people that matter will soon find you. — Steve Parish

Step 6
communicate



PART C: GIFTING AND SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

"The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago.
The second best time is now."
— Chinese Proverb

Speakers

Kerry Lecky Presented

“Nightsapes Adventures Around the World”

on Monday, February 26, 2024



Kerry-Ann is a senior meteorologist for The Weather Network, a 24hr national TV station in Canada. As much as she enjoys the weather, she has a long-standing love with astronomy and photography that started when she was a kid. After getting her first telescope and SLR film camera in her early teens, she was hooked. In her university years as a Space Science undergraduate, she volunteered at the astronomical observatory where she aided in public tours, observing sessions, and research that included deep sky astrophotography. Over the past few decades, she has honed her skills in post-processing deep sky and Milky Way images under light-polluted skies, forcing her to develop a skill set that helped to create groundbreaking images under those conditions. Her work has ended up winning awards and has been featured countless times in science textbooks, astronomy-related calendars, magazines, and online publications such as Sky & Telescope, Sky News, and NASA APOD. She enjoys sharing her knowledge and experiences by doing speaking engagements and workshops for star parties, astronomy and camera clubs, and the general public.

Her talk included: Brief DSLR/Mirrorless camera setup and how to expose, what it's like to take Milky Way and night sky landscapes in different parts of the world... the stories behind many pictures, some of the challenges and triumphs faced and what was learned, and a few processing tips are highlighted for some of the images.



Speakers

- Wide aperture
- Wide angle lens
- Raw mode (or Raw + jpg)
- ISO 800 – 6400
- Manual mode
- Shutter speed varies depending on lens
- Self Timer or cable release
- Star Tracker (optional)

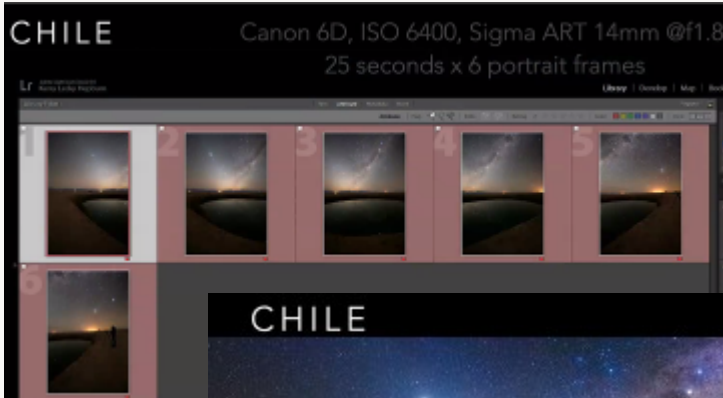


DSLR/MIRRORLESS CAMERA NIGHTSCAPES BASICS

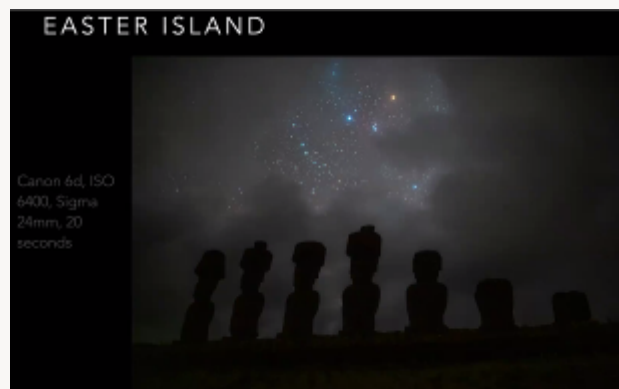
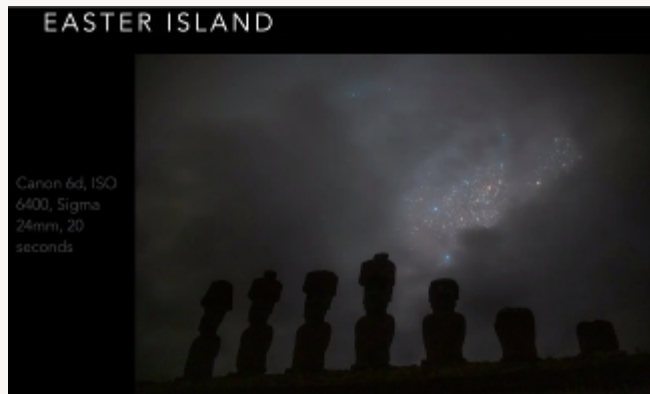
Calculation to avoid star trailing

- 500 divided by true focal length
- 14mm lens on a full frame camera , $500/14 = 35$ seconds
- For a crop camera multiply focal length by 1.6
- For greater accuracy use the NPF rule

Speakers



Speakers



Speakers

CHILE

Canon 6D, ISO 6400
Sigma Art 14mm, f1.8
25 seconds



CHILE

This is a single 25sec
exposure taken with my
modified Canon R6,
iso6400, Sigma 15mm
fisheye @ f2.8



DEATH VALLEY - MESQUITE FLAT SAND DUNES

2 panel vertical
pano stitched in LR
Canon 6d and
Sigma 14mm
lens at f1.8. Iso6400
and 25sec for each
shot.



Speakers

CALIFORNIA - SMOKE IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

Canon 6D ISO 6400
Multiple 48second
exposures
Light painted
Blended in PS
Aspect Ratio adjusted



AUSTRALIA - AMAZING MILK WAY EXPERIENCE

Canon 6D,
Sigma ART
14mm, f1.8,
ISO6400,
25 seconds
pano



CANADA - THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS AND AIRGLOW

Canon 6d,
Sigma 15mm
fisheye f2.8
vertical
panorama, iso
6400, 30sec

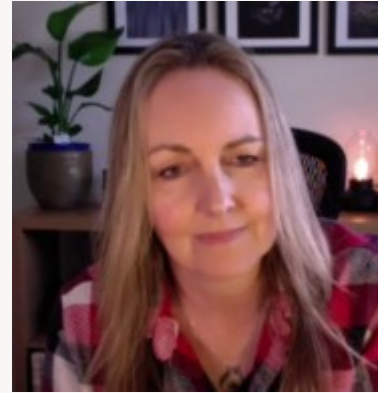


Speakers

Viktoria Haack Presented

“People, Places & Dogs”

on Monday, March 11, 2024



Viktoria shoots across several different photographic genres from landscapes and nature to environmental portraits, lifestyle, weddings, and elopements. Whatever her genre however, nature almost always plays an influential role in her work. During her presentation, Viktoria walked us through some of her influences, thought processes and techniques for creating her images

Viktoria is originally from the UK and a resident of BC, Canada since 2007. She is heavily influenced by the beautiful environment that surrounds her. She has a background in fine art and anthropology. This combined with her love for the natural world, brings a unique perspective to her photography. Her ethos is to tread lightly; observe and document the subtle visual story within whichever photographic genre she is working. Viktoria is proud to be a Nikon Canada Ambassador and Global Ambassador for Kase Filters and Lowepro Bags. She has been published by numerous media outlets around the globe, both online and in print

1. What draws your eye?



2. Find a location that encompasses those elements



3. Work the composition by moving, changing height & viewpoint

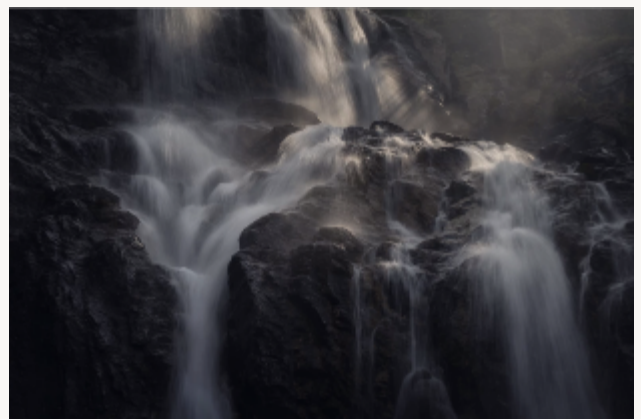


4. Set up the camera: Choose settings, filters etc



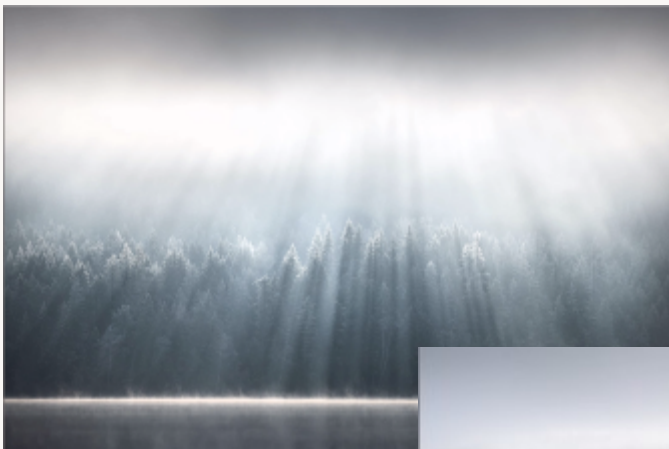
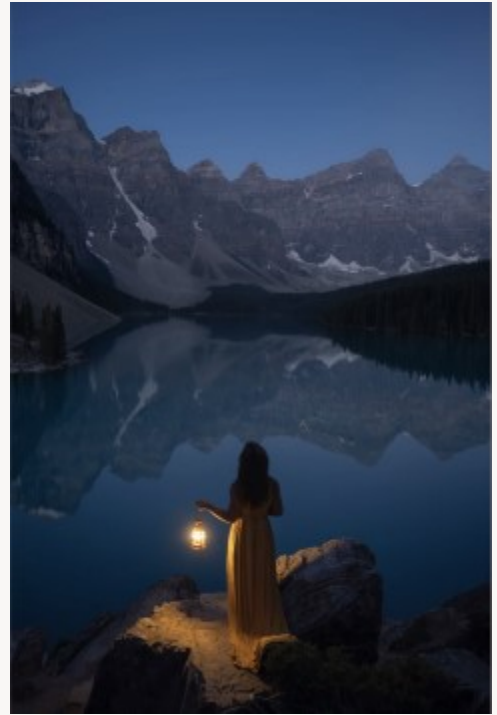
Nature

Speakers



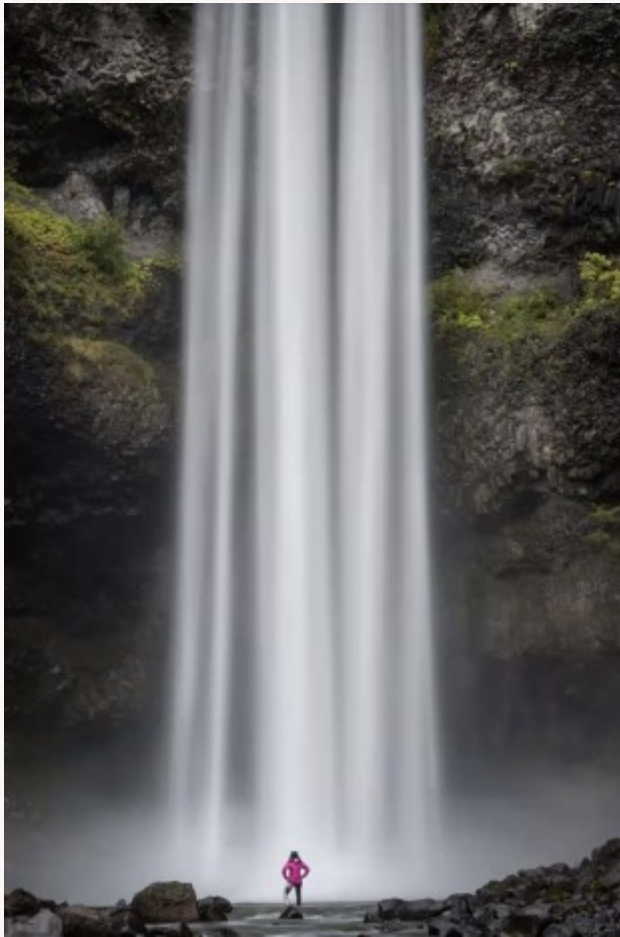
Speakers

When the landscape comes first....

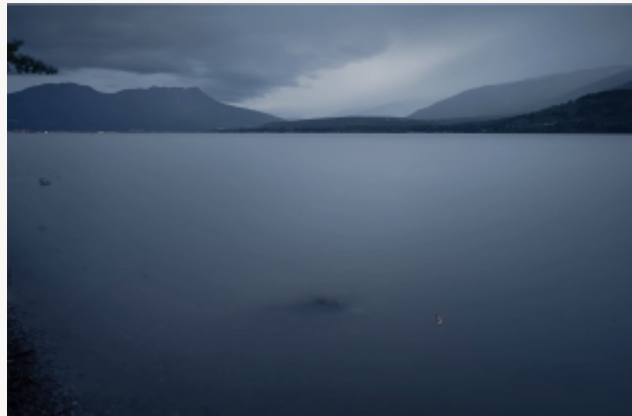


Speakers

When the figure adds to the scene.....



Speakers

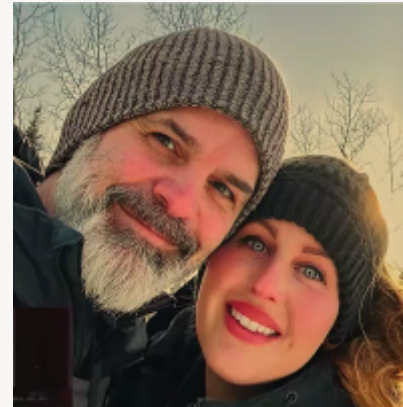


Speakers

Jesse & Susan Villemaire Presented

“Persistence (Wildlife from Algonquin)”

on Monday, March 25, 2024

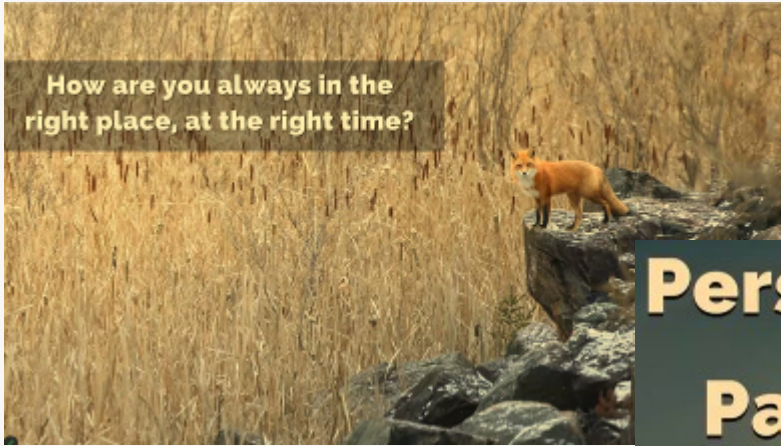


Jesse and Susan of Follow Me North Photography joined us for an evening of storytelling surrounding persistence, patience and passion. They shared breathtaking images of landscapes and diverse wildlife in Algonquin Park and beyond, all while discussing their tips and tricks along the way.

Jesse and Susan Villemaire are Canadian nature photographers living a united life in Muskoka, Ontario. Their work encapsulates the true essence of the wildlife and landscapes in Algonquin Provincial Park, and is the direct result of persistence, patience and passion. Today, they specialize in providing ethical Wildlife and Landscape Photography Workshops in Algonquin Park and beyond. They enjoy curating intimate, ego-free photography workshops for all skill levels.



Speakers

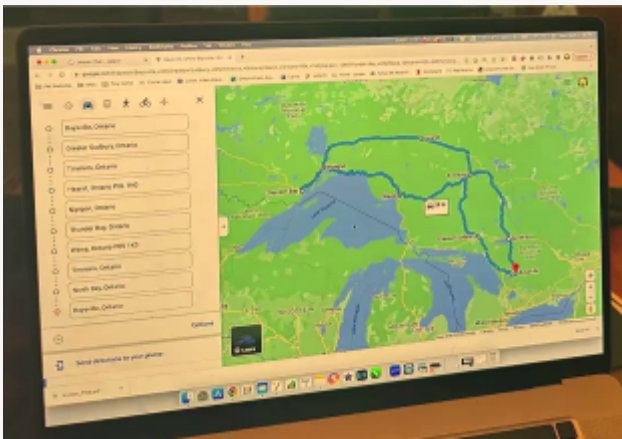


Persistence
Patience
Passion

Persistence
**Continued course of action
in spite of difficulty**



Speakers



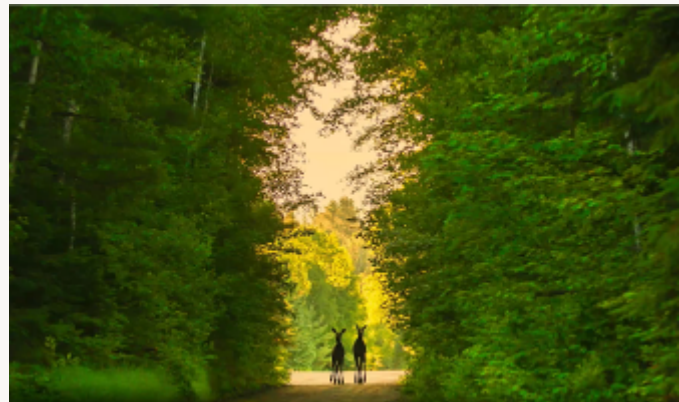
Speakers

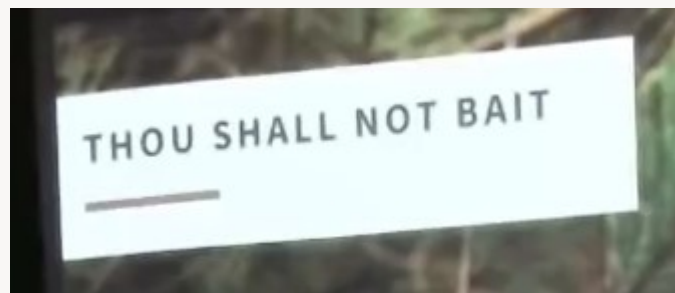


ADVENTURE

CONNECTION

WONDER





RESPECT BOUNDARIES

RESPECTFUL DISTANCE

INVEST IN THE RIGHT GEAR

CAPTION WITH HONESTY

LEARN ABOUT THE SPECIES

LEAVE NO TRACE

EDUCATE AND INSPIRE

RESEARCH YOUR TOUR OPERATORS

BE PRESENT

CONNECT & ENJOY THE JOURNEY

Outings

Sunday February 18, 2024

20 members showed up for this outing to Centennial Park Conservancy. Our largest group of the season.



Outings

Sunday March 10, 2024

Eight ECC members braved the cold temperature and ventured out to Kensington Market. Despite the weather, everyone had an enjoyable afternoon.



Outings

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Eight ECC members visited Guild Park for a unique photo opportunity on Sunday. It was a mild and Sunny morning. A great time was had by all.





Past Issues of the Viewfinder can be found at

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

If you got to this page, then hopefully you enjoy the Viewfinder and are maybe inclined to help out. I need someone to help me source feature articles from club members and to proof read the newsletter before its issued. Please reach out to me via the club info email.

Next Issue at the End of May