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April 6, in-person & zoom meeting 7:30

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*Featured Cover by Tim Meadows
(see makers description on page 3)*

Notices and Coming Events

See the [Calendar](#) on our web site for latest updates or details.

Next Competition - Mon. April. 6, In-person & Zoom

Submission Rules – Members may enter a maximum of two projected images. On months with prints, a maximum of three images may be submitted as three prints or a combination of prints and (up to two) projected images.

Our meeting judge for April will be Charlie Ginsburgh. In stating his philosophy, he says, “To me, every image attempts to portray the maker’s vision or story. It is the reason that they pressed the shutter button. It need not be a narrative story but rather an emotion or a simple expression of interest.”

Categories for April - Besides the monthly categories of Mono and Color with projected and prints– the challenge categories will be Nature and Travel projected and prints.

Nature Category

Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans.

- Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed.

- The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected and the image must look natural.

- Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story. . . [MORE](#)

Travel Category

A Travel image is a portrayal of the real world we live in, as it is found naturally. There are no geographic limitations.

Content guidance:

1. If the image is predominantly or exclusively a land- sea- or cityscape, these “scapes” must include characteristic, distinctive and recognizable physical features, although it is not necessary that the image identify the exact location;
2. Images that predominantly or exclusively depict people and their activities must illustrate a distinctive culture of a country, region, or continent; close-ups of people or objects, must include elements depicting some of the . . . [MORE](#)

Print Competitions Schedule

Prints will be judged every other month along with projected. For 2026, prints will be judged in . . .

April – Nature, Travel, Mono, Color

June- Journalism, Creative, Mono, Color

August - Nature, Travel, Mono, Color

October – Journalism, Creative, Mono, Color

December - Nature, Travel, Mono, Color

Special Interest Group Links below

(Click on any SIG title for detailed information)

[Special Interest Group - Seeing in Sixes](#)

[Special Interest Group in Monochrome Photography](#)

[Special Interest Group in Photoshop](#)

[Special Interest Group - Novice Only](#)

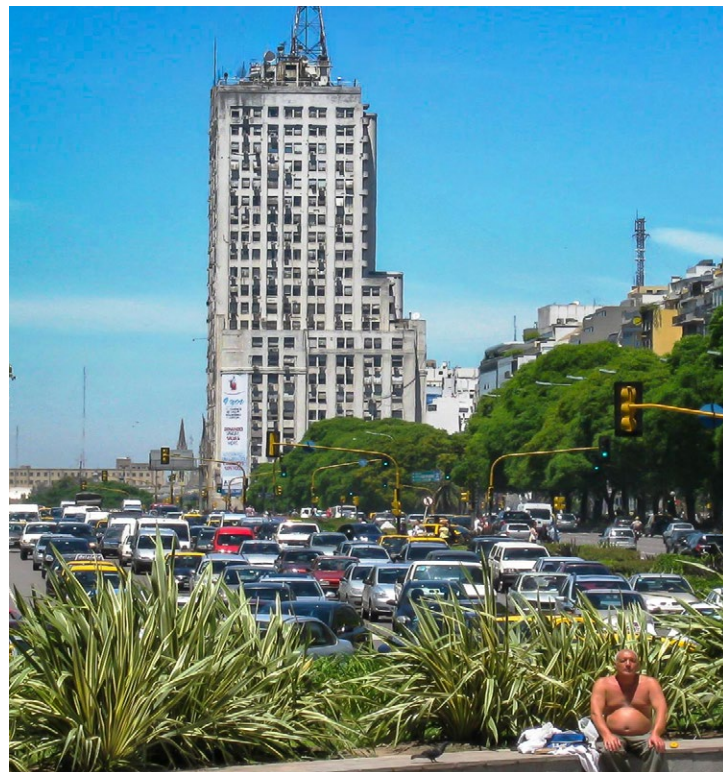
[Special Interest Group - Bird Photography](#)

[Special Interest Group - Hands-on Editing](#)

[Special Interest Group - Astrophotography](#)

[Special Interest Group - Eastern Sierra Photography](#)

[Special Interest Group - Landscape Photography](#)



Travel 2017 - July 9 Avenue Buenos Aires, Argentina, Kent Bossange

Monthly Hands-on Photo Editing Session - register to attend – Check the Club Calendar for dates, usually the last Wednesday of the month 3:45 - 5:45 at the Saratoga Library.

We'll edit photos you bring. **How to Register:** - Log-on to club website, Click event under “calendar” Questions, email [here](#)

March Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It



◀ First Light - Torres del Paine, Chilean Patagonia Tim Meadows, Mono Projected

If you haven't been to Patagonia, I highly recommend it. This image was made on the Chilean side in a popular hiking area known as Torres del Paine. The light granite mountains are capped with a distinctive layer of black sedimentary rock at the top. This particular morning the mountain peaks were adorned with clouds and lit up by the rising sun. I'd like to say that this image required a 4 hour hike in the dark to get to the viewpoint at sunrise, but it was actually shot right in front of our hotel. I took an exposure bracketed set of 3 images and combined them using HDR Efex Pro 2. I subsequently used Topaz Sharpen AI to bring out some of the detail in the foreground foliage.

Nikon Z7, 24-70, f4 lens at 24mm, f16.

ICE Kills, Palantir Profits Protest 2/5/2026, Palo Alto, CA - Palantir provides the software that ICE uses to target deportees. Crowd estimated between 250 and 300, Jim Katzman, Journalism Projected ▶

This is yet another protest that I covered for Pro Bono Photo (PBP), a group of photographers in the bay area that volunteer their services to cover events for both nonprofits and social justice events that can't afford to hire professional photographers. There were several large groups that rallied their members such as the California Nurses Association and therefore there was a large turnout. There will be a huge nationwide protest on March 28th: No Kings Day three. There are over 100 protests scheduled that day in the bay area alone. So far PBP will be covering about 25 of them.

The technical specs: Shot with a Sony A7Riv and a Tamron 28-300 mm lens at 94mm, ISO 1250, 1/250 sec exposure at f/7.1.



March Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It



◀ My son becoming part of “La Ronda en el Tiempo” (The Round in Time), by Polish-Mexican artist Fanny Rabel (1964-65). The mural explores the cycle of life, death, and cultural continuity, Shahrooz Shahparnia, Monochrome Projected

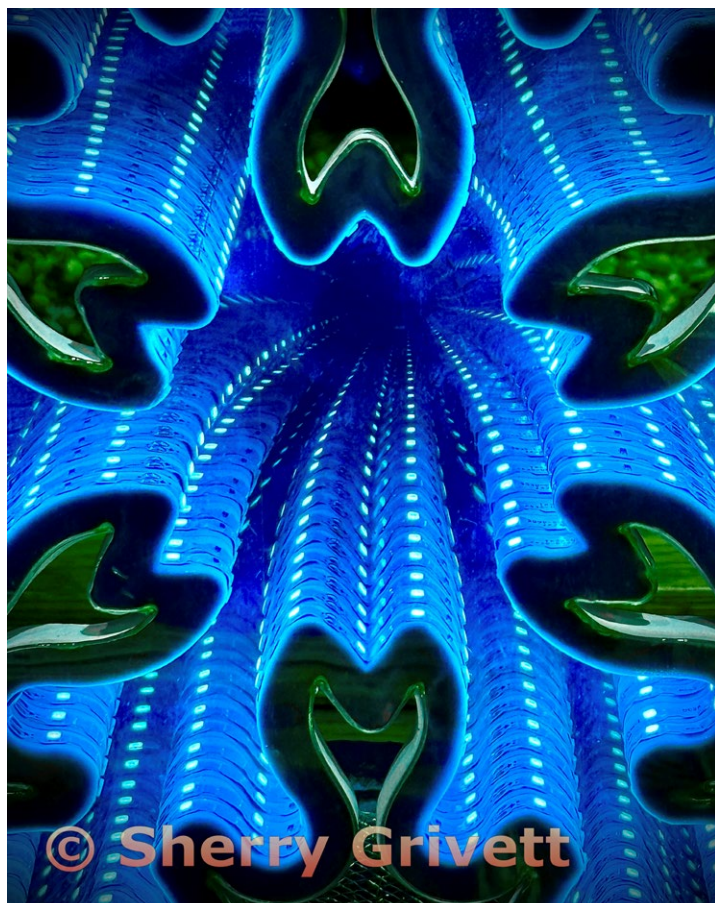
Captured at the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City in December 2025, this photo reflects my passion of documenting murals. I've always loved finding different angles to tell a story. Sometimes, I frame just a small subset of a massive mural to create a brand-new narrative from the details. Other times, I'll wait for a

random bystander to walk by, letting their presence shift the context of the art. In this case, I included my son to re-interpret the scene. By converting the image to black and white, I intended to pull the focus away from the busy painting and onto the simple interaction happening in front of it. The high contrast (enhanced with a local mask) makes the dark shape of the real human stand out against the crowded mural, turning what could have been a simple photo of a wall into a moment of interaction between the boy in the mural and the real world outside the painting.

Camera and lens info: Leica Q3, 28mm, 1/250s, f1.7, ISO1600, basic Lightroom edits

► Designs Every Which Way, Sherry Grivett, Creative Projected

I've forgotten what I took this photo of and not knowing where I was at that time. My iPhone 16 max pro says I was in Campbell and photographed it on December 12, 2025. I photograph whenever I leave home if it's peeling paint, a pot, dog, flowers, anything that attracts my attention. I use my iPhone 16 Max Pro for editing it has many different filters similar to Photoshop choices. I was attracted by the colors and design which caught my attention to photograph this impactful design . I don't spend much time thinking about photographing, I just impulsively photograph it. All my life I've been aware of art things around me but didn't think to photograph them until I joined Los Gatos- Saratoga Camera Club in 1995.



March Second Place Competition Winners



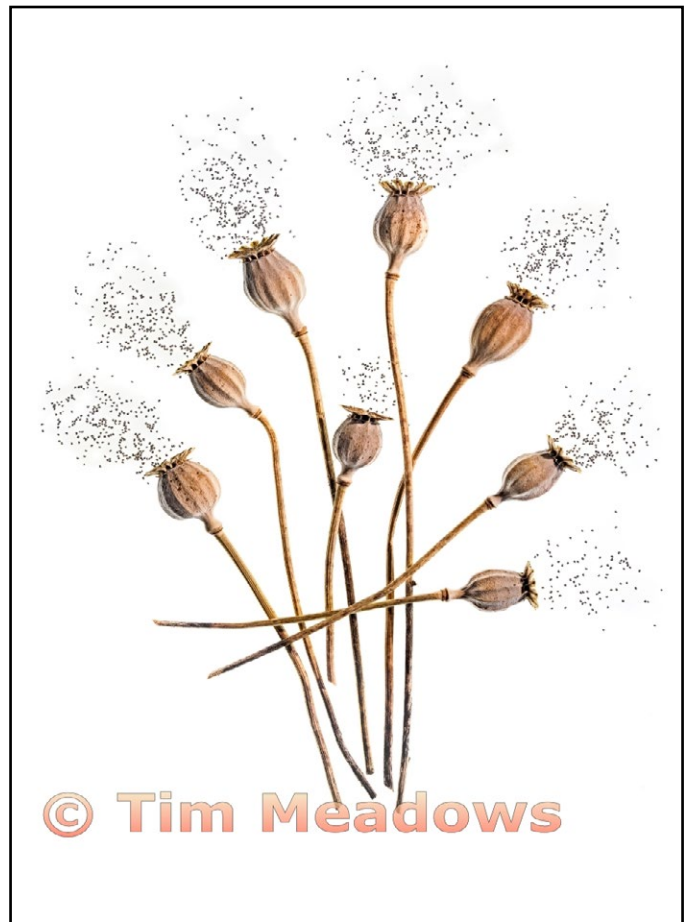
© Kent Bossange



© Mercury America Freedom



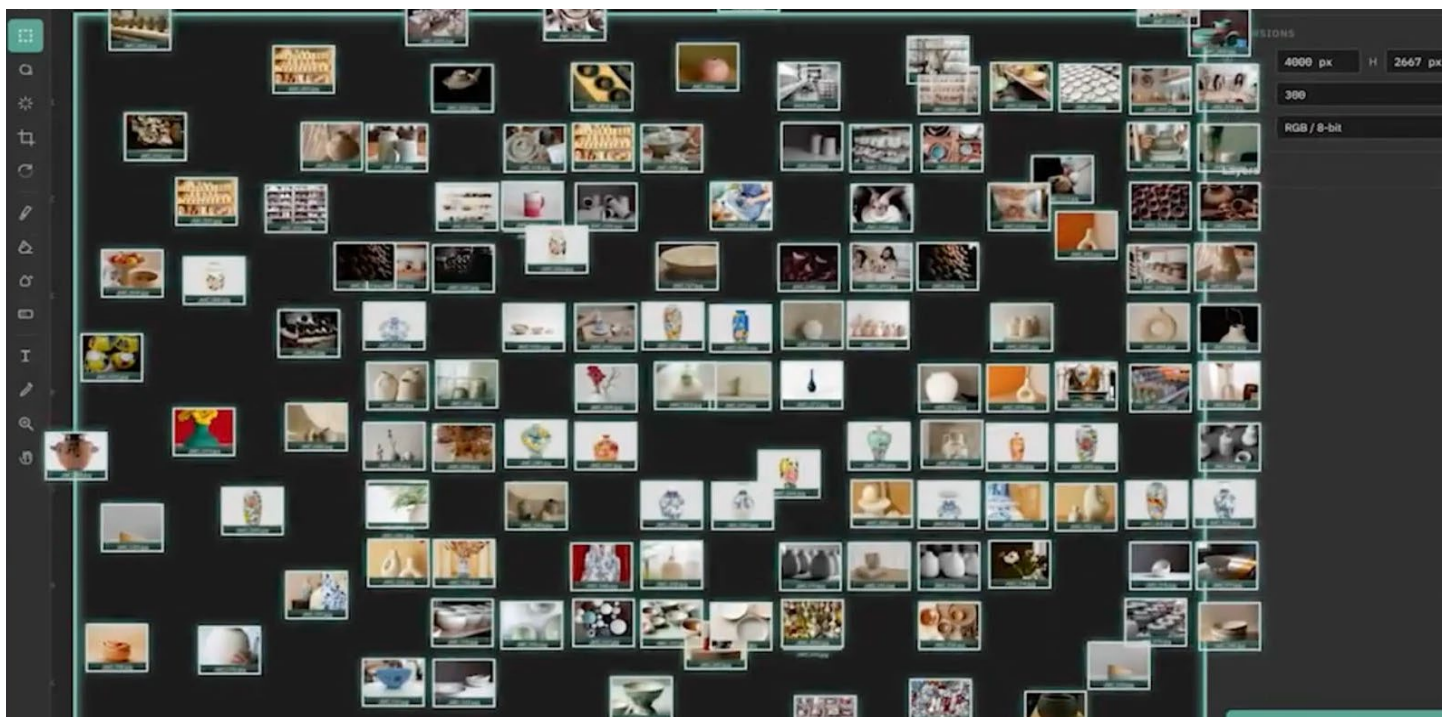
© Chris Cassell



© Tim Meadows

All results and all images from a competition can be seen by [clicking here](#).

AI Can Run Photoshop



from PetaPixel - <https://petapixel.com/2026/03/24/claude-resize-these-photos-anthropics-agentic-ai-will-run-photoshop-for-you/>

In a recent update to Claude, Anthropic's AI assistant, the AI can now complete tasks on the user's computer. In the example, Claude is asked to "batch process" a bunch of photos by resizing them to 1200 pixels and adding a logo to each one. You can now enable Claude to use your computer to complete tasks. It opens your apps, navigates your browser, fills in spreadsheets—anything you'd do sitting at your desk. Research previewed in Claude Cowork and Claude Code, macOS only.

While shortcuts in Photoshop can help with this type of perfunctory editing task, it's still laborious. What's eye-catching about Claude's pitch is that the user doesn't even need to be in the same room as their computer; they can be out and about while texting Claude on the associated Dispatch app and get the AI to perform mind-numbing tasks remotely. Agentic AI could be used for other humdrum tasks, such as renaming multiple layers in Photoshop or applying the same edit or style across multiple images.

What's the Catch?

Claude says its AI chatbot will "first prioritize connectors to supported services such as the Google Workplace suite or Slack." But even if a connector isn't available, Claude can still execute a task by operating the user's computer in much the same way a human does.

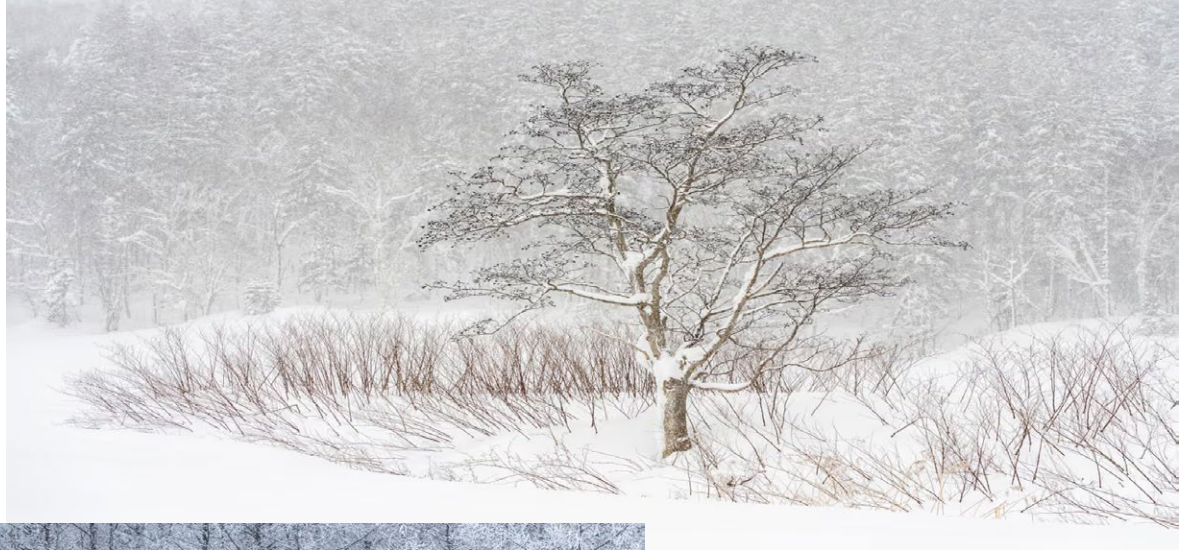
However, since Claude's computer use is still a research preview, it recommends that users don't give the AI access to sensitive files. CNET cites experts that say agentic AI can take drastic actions without warning, and is vulnerable to being hacked by bad actors.

The feature is initially only available to Claude Pro and Claude Max subscribers on macOS.

Inspiration - A Land Without Color

from *The Guardian* by-elizabeth sanjuan - <https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/gallery/2026/mar/25/silent-snow-hokkaido>

For six months out of 12, Japan's northernmost island, Hokkaido, is subject to arctic winds and continuous snowstorms. Elizabeth Sanjuan visited this harsh, haunting yet beautiful landscape over four winters, and her new book, *Silent Snow*, features 40 images of this quiet, symbolic space. All photographs by Elizabeth Sanjuan. *Silent Snow* is published by Daylight.



Iconic Photo Back Story

USA wins 12 Gold Medals in the Milano/Cortina Winter Olympics - below are a few iconic images from those games with photo sources credited when possible.



Womens Gold - Team USA



Alysa Liu Getty Images



Liz-Lemley Gold-Moguls, Michael Reaves Getty Images



Mens Gold -AP

What Photographers Say Vs What They Mean

by Alex Cooke - Summary below

<https://fstoppers.com/humor/11-things-photographers-say-vs-what-they-actually-mean-900567>

Photography has its own language. Not the technical kind (though that exists too, and nobody outside the profession knows what “expose to the right” means). This is the diplomatic kind. The professional euphemisms we deploy to navigate awkward situations, avoid confrontation, and preserve client relationships while internally screaming at a volume that would alarm nearby wildlife.

1. “I’m Booked That Weekend.” What it means: You are not booked that weekend. Your calendar is wide open. You could fit three sessions into Saturday alone and still have time to reorganize your gear closet. But the inquiry that just landed in your inbox is asking you to shoot something you either don’t enjoy, can’t do well, or don’t want to do for the rate being offered

2. “Let Me Check My Calendar.”

What it means: I’m deciding if the money is worth it. The calendar does not need to be checked. You know exactly what’s on it. The answer to “are you available?” was determined within two seconds of reading/hearing the inquiry.

3. “That’s an Interesting Edit.” What it means: I hate everything about what you did to this file. “Interesting” is doing more diplomatic work in this sentence than any single word should be asked to carry. It is the Switzerland of adjectives: technically neutral, functionally devastating, and understood by everyone except the person who made the edit.

4. “We’ll Fix It in Post.” What it means: I have no idea how to fix this right now and I’m hoping future me figures it out. This phrase is spoken with the calm confidence of someone who has a plan. There is no plan. What exists is a vague hope that Photoshop contains a solution to whatever just went wrong.

5. “The Light Wasn’t Great Today.” What it means: I messed up the exposure on half the session. The light was fine. The light is almost always fine, because light is just light, and the photographer’s entire job is to work with whatever light exists or create better light when it doesn’t.

6. “Your Photos Are Almost Ready!” What it means: I haven’t started editing yet. The photos are not almost ready. The photos are sitting in a folder you created three weeks ago, untouched, alongside others that are “almost ready.”

7. “I Think We Got the Shot.” What it means: I’m exhausted and I want to stop shooting. “We got the shot” is the photographer’s version of a boxer’s corner throwing in the towel. It sounds decisive. It sounds confident. It sounds like a professional who knows exactly when the job is done.



[Great Photography Articles/Videos](#)

Camera Brands Say No Generative AI - <https://petapixel.com/2026/03/26/camera-brand-agrees-generative-ai-doesnt-belong>

Not All AI is Equal - <https://petapixel.com/2026/03/25/on1-restore-ai-turns-old-family-photos-into-grotesque-nightmare-fuel/>

Cheap Starter Drone - <https://petapixel.com/2026/03/26/the-micro-drone-neo-3-0-is-a-cheap-way-for-photographers-to-start>

Choosing Inkjet papers - <https://fstoppers.com/printing/photo-paper-names-are-mostly-marketing-what-actually-matters>

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