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Next Competition - PJ/Creative Jan. 4th

Judge for January 4th will be Jane Postiglione. Her Philosophy - *As a Photographer, I believe it is important to consciously select visually interesting subject matter with appealing compositional elements, shoot at the best time of day to portray the image, use the best technical parameters to capture the image, and tell the subject's story,..... capture the subject's essence,.....all while demonstrating a personal visual style or signature that sets your work apart.*

Photojournalism - entries are images with informative content and emotional impact, reflecting the human presence in our world. The journalistic (story-telling) . . [MORE](#)

Creative- Creative photography is producing an image through the use of imaginative skill or originality of thought including the altering of reality . . . [MORE](#)

The Education group is looking for people who want to share their knowledge and expertise in a single meeting and as a small online group environment (5-10 folks). If you are interested, please contact me (gary.e.marcos@gmail.com) to discuss. Topics of interest to the club could range from beginner to advanced and on such subjects as landscape, portrait, posing groups of people, new features of LR/PS, astro-landscape, birding, creative, and more.

The Education team is emphasizing monthly educational events which are short term (one maybe 1.5 meetings) to:

- * Improve member's photography skillset
 - * Provide a small, social, interactive environment
- With the rise in usefulness of online tools such as Zoom, we have new opportunities to reach a broader audience and to leverage the expertise within the club.

Thanks ... Gary

Notices and Coming Events

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

Mon. January 4th, Competition - Creative/PJ

7:30 p.m. See deadlines and more info on the website



Previous PhotoJournalism image

2021 New Officers

President - Larry Shapiro
VP - Bernie Weinzimmer
Secretary - Stan Litwin
Treasurer - Airdrie Kincaid, Assistant Richard Ingles
Judges - Chris Cassell, Assistant Roberta Schwartz
Digital Images - David Kirsch, Assistants Jim Katzman and Alex Goldberger
Prints - Tim Meadows, Assistant Rick Whitacre
Programs - Jeffrey Pawlan, Assistant Mike Sabes
Virtual Tech - Bunny Laden, Assistant Don Schremp
Field Trips - Susan Anawalt, Assistants Irina Nekrasova and Kent Bossange
Membership - Larry Rosier, Assistant Gary Marcos
Hospitality - Mercury Freedom
Newsletter Editor - Eric Gray, Assistant Rick Tavan
Webmaster - Jim Katzman, Assistants Kent Bossange and Rick Whitacre
Education - Gary Marcos, Assistants Serena Hartoog and Tim Aston
Exhibits - Alan Levenson, Assistant Harvey Gold
Medical Sergeant-at-Arms - Steve Green

Member Biography - Susan Dinga

In 1968, I was living in the Caribbean. Nikon came out with an amazing no housing underwater camera - the Nikonos II. That camera opened a new world of photography and many years of diving all over the world.

After many life and career changes, I was seduced to Silicon Valley. Given the craziness of the Valley between 1995 and 2000, photography was not on my radar, except for dive trips.

"I have to thank the Club and many members of the Club for teaching me and inspiring me."

That changed around 2000 when I met Mary Ellen Kaschub. She invited me to join the Club. The adventure of photography without the tank began! About 11 years ago I got a big girl camera – Canon 7D and all the "necessities!" I have to thank the Club and many members of the Club for teaching me and inspiring me. You have encouraged, supported and opened up a creative avenue and passion that has delighted and fed me, particularly in these times. This is a VERY special Club! I live in AZ now. It has been one of the gifts of Covid to be back with you again. The growing interest in using photography as the medium to go beyond just the photograph is exciting. I am still seeking "my vision!"

Many people ask, "What do you do with your photography?" I have often donated images for fundraisers, but this year an opportunity to contribute opened up in a way I never imagined. Sue Anawalt and I have been working to raise



Susan Dinga



Listening

funds since April for a GoFundMe campaign, Heat Dine Homes, <https://www.gofundme.com/f/heat-dine-homes>, started by Louis Williams, a Navajo guide who took Sue and me through Bears Ears national monument a few years ago, sharing his stories and culture with us. His team is serving people in the very remote areas of the Navajo and Hopi reservation in AZ and UT. I decided to participate in our local Art Fairs, turned my garage into a gallery (no small feat), and am selling my framed art and greeting cards, donating all proceeds to the campaign. To encourage people to donate \$50 or more I offer 5 free frameable note cards with my signed images. I am happy to say that, to date, Sue and I have raised several thousand dollars supporting the effort.

Thank you for welcoming me back. Stay safe. Keep shooting and sharing!



Hedgehog cactus tapestry

December Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It

Hakone Gardens koi pond, Saratoga, CA
This is the oldest Japanese estate in the Western Hemisphere (established in 1915)

Irina Nekrasova, Creative Projected ►

Hakone Gardens in Saratoga opens at 10 am. That presents quite a bit of challenge as far as the quality of light and reflections go. I had over 75 captures of the koi fish in the pond. However, I had to resort to a creative mode to make my image more interesting. The final image is a composite of four images. They were edited in Photoshop. The final “mood” lighting was edited in the Topaz Studio.

Shot with Canon 60D 52 mm F5.6 Shutter 1/320



◄ **Florence Mime, Nancy Roberts, Monochrome projected**

Travels through Tuscany, Italy of course leads to Florence. Walking the streets, visiting the Ponte Vecchio, Duomo and museums, I happened upon two street mimes “performing.” This one mime in particular was mesmerizing to watch with his slow, stop motion positions set against the subtle backdrop of an old ornate building with natural light. It was a unique opportunity to capture this portrait with its exquisite texture and personal emotional tone expressing the old world ambiance of Florence’s Renaissance art, historical architecture and monuments. One of those special moments.

Pentax K10D, Pentax18-55mm, at 55mm, f5.6, 1/90 sec, ISO 200

December Competition Winners Tell Us How They Did It

A Gathering of Snow Geese, Serena Hartoog, Nature projected

Each year during the Winter time (mid-November through late January), thousands of snow geese, (Ross's geese) and Sandhill cranes migrate from the North to the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico. This attracts many birds photographers from all over the country. I joined a bird photography workshop there in December 2016. During the day time there are almost no Sandhill cranes around, but there are thousands of snow geese sitting on the river bank or the edges of the river. We sat there waiting to photograph the geese flying for hours and hours. Finally, within a few seconds thousands of geese take off and none are left on the river.

I used a Canon 5D Mark IV Camera with 100-400mm lens. ISO: 320, F/8.0 1/3200 sec.



◀ Last Cuttings- Larry Shapiro, Pictorial Color projected

Last Cuttings was made the day before the competition when I finally got all the elements together. I bought the pitcher at a junk store several months ago and knew that I wanted to use the flower called Chinese Lanterns because of their color. I went to flower shops and nurseries but few knew what I was looking for and no one had them in stock. About a week ago I saw on my Facebook feed an image with the exact flower. I messaged the maker asking where she had gotten them. She answered that they are not real but silk flowers. I knew that several years ago we had some of these silk flowers but they were nowhere to be found. I was cleaning out some stuff from the garage and I found those silk flowers. A cutting of greens, my hand printed background, and a silk cloth completed the setup. I turned out all the lights and made 14 separate flashlight exposures of different parts of the scene. The images were brought into Photoshop. Masks and levels were applied as necessary to each layer. The layers flattened and the combined image was then processed in Topaz Studio using AI Clear, Precision Contrast, and Detail. That image was brought back into Photoshop and saturation was selectively increased.

The Human Eye

If your eyes were cameras, what would the specs be?

By Usman Dawood - Digital Camera World

Fancy a 130MP camera with an aperture of f/3.2? Well, you're in luck because you already have one... or should we say two.

When someone says high-end cameras, many of us may think of medium format monsters, such as the Fujifilm GFX 100. Alternatively cine cameras from brands such as RED or ARRI may also come to mind. However, you might be surprised to learn that your eyes can outperform the best cameras currently on the market.

In a recent video from YouTube channel Corridor Crew, they discuss the theoretical specifications that the human eye could have, including how many 'megapixels' the eye would have and what 'aperture' it would use.

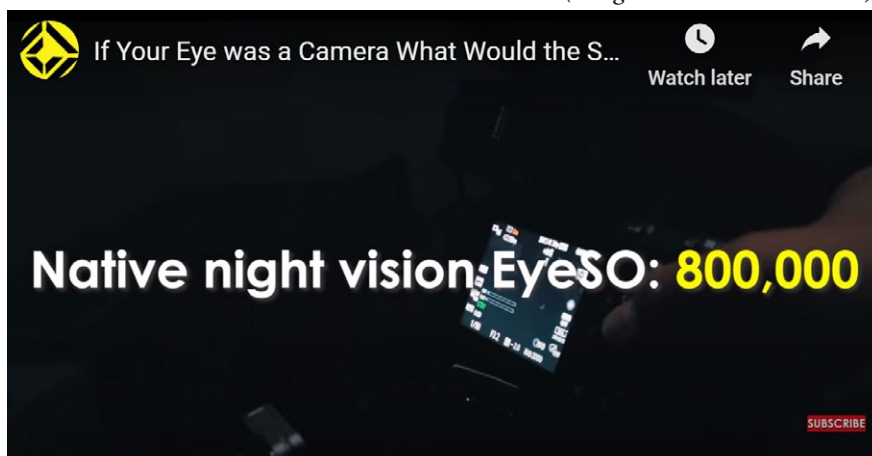
Many photographers often wonder what the resolution of the human eye is. The answer is somewhat complicated, but Corridor Crew equated it to a 130MP camera. That kind of resolution is only really found in exotic cameras such as the Phase One XF IQ4.

Oddly enough, resolution isn't actually one of the human eye's strong points. Areas such as dynamic range and low light performance are where our eyes truly shine. Currently, the best cameras on the market have a dynamic range of around 15 stops on average. However, the human eye can perceive a whopping 21 stops of dynamic range. In essence, our eyes are able to pick up details in deep shadow, as well as significantly brighter areas from any given scene, simultaneously.

Low light performance is another area where the human eye performs particularly well. For example, in extremely low light scenarios, our eyes may sacrifice how they perceive color, in order to maximize their light gathering abilities. This is what helps our eyes see even in the most extreme conditions, where many cameras would struggle.



(Image credit: Corridor Crew)



Seeing how our eyes compare against modern camera technology is admittedly pretty fascinating. We may reach a point soon when regular production camera sensors are able to outperform the human eye, especially when it comes to low light performance and dynamic range. Until then, we still have some things we can lord over even the most expensive bits of camera gear. Article link : digitalcameraworld.deyes

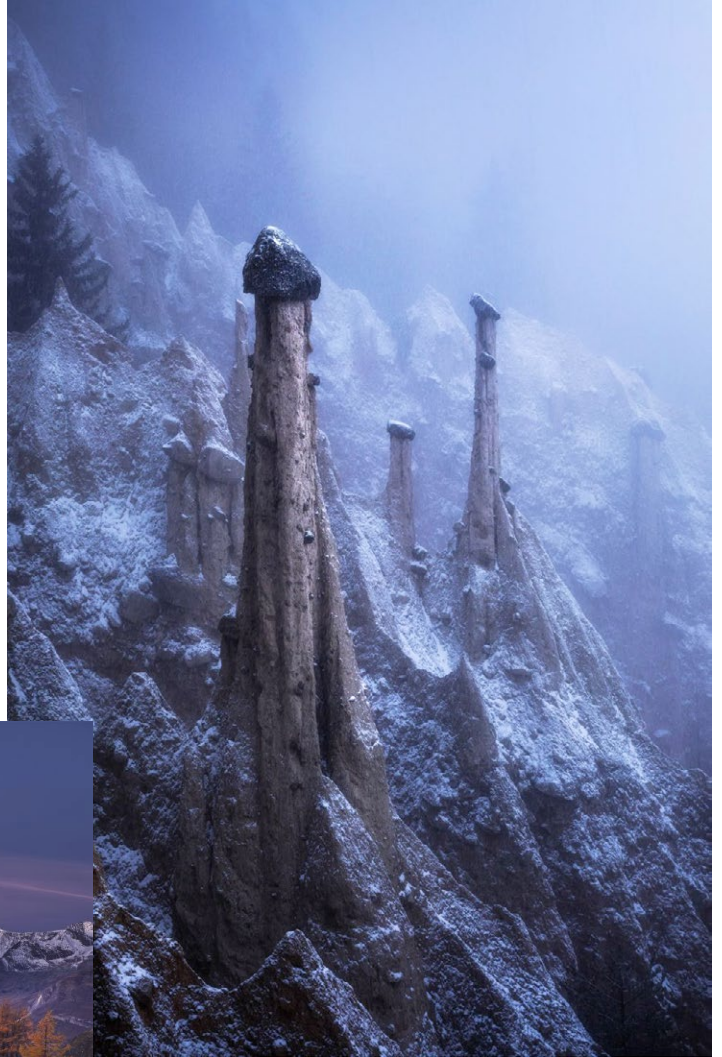
Stunning Landscape Images

By Lauren Scott - DigitalCameraWorld

Kelvin Yuen from Hong Kong has won the seventh [International Landscape Photographer of the Year](#) contest – plus a prize of US\$10,000 cash. Professional and amateur photographers from around the world were invited to enter the 2020 competition for a chance to share in the prize pool. From over 3800 entries, it was Kelvin who wowed the judges with his folio submission.

Kelvin started taking photos at 18 when he borrowed his cousin's camera for a hiking trip. He soon fell in love with nature, and has been capturing landscape photos for the last six years. He became a full-time pro after graduating in 2018.

“The International Landscape Photographer of the Year award has been my only focus for the past four years. I've studied the past winners' works and I believe ILPOTY presents the highest standard of landscape photography in the world.”



Alien Landscape, Dolomites, Italy (Image credit: Kelvin Yuen, The International Landscape Photographer of the Year)



Kelvin uses a Canon EOS 5D Mark IV camera for his landscape photography. “It can deal with harsh shooting conditions such as extremely low temperature and heavy rain. Most of my wide-angle images are taken with a Laowa 12mm f/2.8 lens and I love the distorted perspective it creates.”

Image at left - by Isabella Tabacchi, Italy. 3rd place. The Matterhorn from Grindjisee, Zermatt, Valais Switzerland

Full article here - <https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/news/are-these-the-worlds-most-stunning-landscape-images>

Wildlife Photographers of the Year

2020: people's choice – in pictures

Now in its 56th year, the wildlife photographer of the year showcases the world's best nature photography. The competition is run by the Natural History Museum in London and the exhibition there runs until 4 July 2021. This year's competition attracted more than 50,000 entries from professionals and amateurs across the world. Some examples of shortlisted images are below. Voting for the The People's Choice Award is open until 2pm on Tuesday February 2nd.



Photographer Richter has observed the European beavers near his home in Grimma in Saxony, Germany, for years, watching as they redesign the landscape to create valuable habitats for many species of wildlife, including kingfishers and dragonflies. This family portrait is at the beavers' favourite feeding place. Oliver Richter



This Japanese warbonnet was photographed in the Sea of Japan. These unusual fish lead a territorial lifestyle among the stones and rocks of shallow coastal waters. They use their sharp-edged jaws to snap off sea cucumbers and gastropods. They were once thought to be timid and almost impossible to observe, but curiosity has taken over and they will now often swim right up to divers. Photograph by Andrey Shpatak

Browse the 25 photographs featured in the link and vote for the one you think should win this year's People's Choice Award. Voting closes at 14.00 GMT on 2 February 2021. <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/wpy/peoples-choice> Find out who wins. The winner and top four highly commended images will be revealed on 9 February 2021.



Located a short ride from the Florida Everglades, Marco Island is the largest and only developed land. This Gulf Coast retreat offers beautiful beaches, multimillion-dollar neighbourhoods and, a thriving community of burrowing owls. The owls are happy to take up residence on meticulously manicured lawns, the perfect place to hunt insects and lizards. Photograph: Karine Aigner

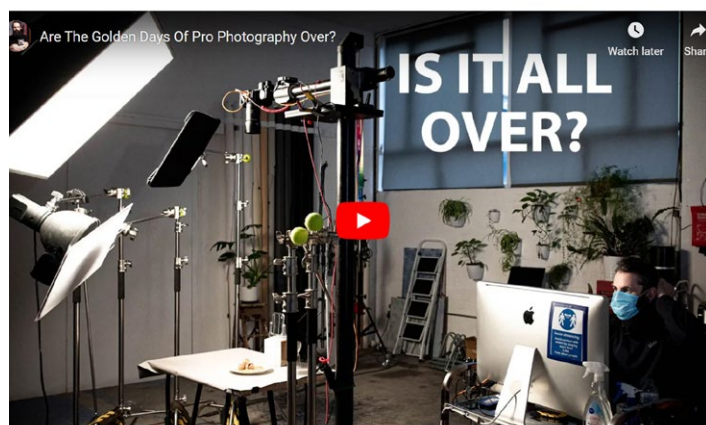
Golden Days of Photography and In Memoriam

Are The Golden Days of Pro Photography Over?

by Scott Choucino, fstoppers.com

We all hear photographers lamenting about how great things were in the film days before just anyone could easily buy a camera and take a good photo, but are the golden days of this profession really behind us?

Having worked as a professional photographer for under 15 years, my career doesn't go back as far as many pros who I know. I have friends who worked only in the film days, those who tried and failed to make the transition to digital in the 2000s, and those who managed to make a great career on the other side.



I often hear people complaining that it is impossible to make a living from photography nowadays and that it should only ever be a hobby. Obviously, with it being my career path, I disagree with this statement. In this video, I go over reasons why I think people are unable to make it as a professional photographer: the excuses they make and the realities in 2020. The commercial photography world is about to go through a second huge change moving into 2021, so being aware of these things is really important, and having the ability to pivot and move your own goalposts will make the difference between having a career and losing a career.

Do you feel that the golden days of photography are now long past us? Or do you share my optimism?

See link to video here - <https://fstoppers.com/business/are-golden-days-pro-photography-over-536916>

In Memoriam - from the Mercury News



Long time member of our club
Veronica "Ronnie" Weitze Rabedeau
Dec. 31, 1926 - Oct. 30, 2020 has died.
Resident of San Jose, Ronnie passed away peacefully October 30, 2020, after an extended struggle with Alzheimer's. Third of four children, Ronnie was born in 1926, to Henry Armin Weitze and Anne Veronica Schaf Weitze. Ronnie attended school in New Jersey and New York, and she met her future husband Mel Rabedeau, Jr. in Colorado. Married in 1954, Mel and Ronnie settled in Rochester, NY. Three children followed in quick succession.

In 1960 the family moved cross country to Saratoga, CA, where Mel joined IBM San Jose, and Ronnie mixed homemaking with volunteering, including Community Concerts, Foothill Club, Sacred Heart Community Services, Village House Ming Quong, leading Girl Scouts, etc. Following Mel's retirement in 1991, Mel and Ronnie traveled extensively, pursuing the perfect light and form expressed in photography at Saratoga's Aegis Gallery.

Preceded in death by Mel in February, 2020, Ronnie is survived by three children and four grandchildren: Jeanine, Louise and spouse Paul and daughters Christina and Marissa, Thomas and spouse Jane and their children Jennifer and John.

NOTE: Due to Coronavirus, Ronnie's & Mel's Celebration of Life is postponed until safe to gather. Please email Rabedeaufamily@gmail.com to be notified. In lieu of flowers you're invited to donate to Alzheimer's Association. <https://www.alz.org>

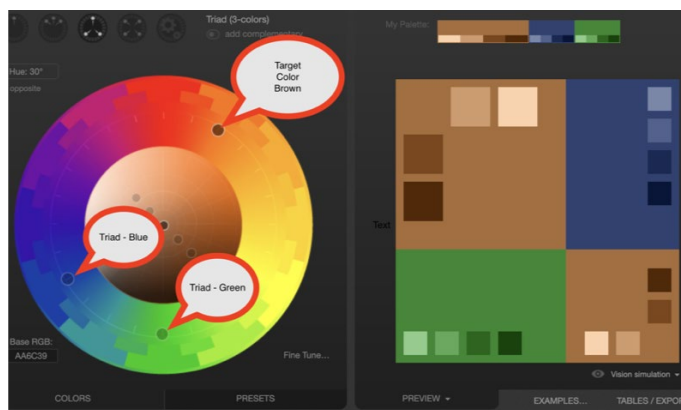


Information and Education

Practical Color Theory for Photographers – by Gary Marcos

The intent of this article on color theory for photographers is to motivate and encourage the reader to look at works of photography specifically with reference to color. Color plays an important, if not critical role in the composition and post processing of an image. It is obvious at one level that color in a composition is an important characteristic, but it may not be obvious that there is a deep history and science behind why some color combinations seem to ‘work’ and others don’t.

Colors affect our moods and our perceptions. This has been known for a long time and is evident in Renaissance paintings and ancient mosaics for example. It wasn’t until 1810 when Johann Wolfgang von Goethe wrote the ‘Theory of Colors’ that the purely psychological effects of color were studied and in particular the harmony (or lack of harmony) that one feels when looking at color combinations. Johann modified an existing Newtonian color wheel to more accurately reflect “the natural order” in which we perceive color.



You pick target (base) color - Triad is a three color combination of base color and two colors that are 120 degrees and 240 degrees apart

Photographers, and especially those in the fashion business such as Joanna Kustra and Zhang Jingana use the color wheel. Colors that have been proven to be harmonious or pleasing are those that have a relationship on the color wheel. Such relationships can be monochromatic (one color), Triadic (three colors very separated), Adjacent (3 colors close to each other) and many many more. Below is an example of how I used the Triadic model to improve upon a photo of items I was trying to sell. I purposefully went to the Paletton color wheel to assist me. After determining the primary color of the prayer wheels was brown and setting the harmony to ‘Triad’ (three colors) on the left, you can see the suggested palette of a brown, blue and green. I then found blue and green prayer flags to use as the background. The final image was pleasing to the eye, the sale was a success.

I’ll be providing a class in January going into far more detail on the tools available and how as photographers we can use them to create pleasing images.



References and Resources:

Color Grading Photography - Joanna Kustra <https://joannakustra.com>
Jingna Zhang - <https://www.zhangjingna.com/>
Color Wheel - paletton.com, Color Wheel - color.adobe.com
Cinema Color Palette - <https://digitalsynopsis.com/design/>
Wikipedia - Color Theory

Great Photography Articles

South Bay photogs capture Mavericks - <https://easyreadernews.com/hammerland-mavericks-pictured>

Google trains its smartphone camera for portraits - <https://petapixel.com/2020/12/14/google-used-a-64-camera>

Detailed Review of the Sony a7S III - <https://fstoppers.com/gear/detailed-review-sony-a7s-iii-537675>

Nikon Z6 II review - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y05eQizbpKM>

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