LGSCC magazine Los Gatos - Saratoga Camera Club

losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org

In this issue - underlined are links November meeting zoom only

- <u>2 Notices/Upcoming Events</u>
- <u>3</u> October Competition Winners
- <u>6</u> <u>Second Place Winners</u>
- <u>7</u> SIG Groups Monochrome SIG
- <u>8 Program Night Slideshows</u>
- <u>9 Drone Awards</u>
- **<u>10</u>** Iconic Photograph
- **<u>11</u>** Photo Vocabulary
- **<u>11** Great Photo Articles/Videos</u>



Featured Cover by Ling-Kuo Lee (see makers description on page 5)

Volume 45 Issue 11 ► November 2023



See the <u>Calendar</u> on our web site for updates or details.

Next Competition - Nov. 6th - Zoom only

Submission Rules – Members may enter a total of three images into a monthly competition with a maximum of two images in any one category and a maximum of three printed images and a maximum of two projected images. Check our website with updated definitions for all categories. See more on prints at right.

Our meeting judge for November will be Greg Geren. Greg says "the impact of a picture is often more than just the sum of the scene components. The technical details are important, but not always necessary to convey the impact of the moment."

Categories for November- Besides the monthly categories of monochrome and color pictorial for projected and prints — the two challenge categories will be Travel and PJ projected - see details below.

Travel - A Photo Travel image expresses the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally. There are no geographic limitations. Images from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography are not permitted. Close up pictures of people or objects must include features that provide information about the location.

Techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. The only allowable adjustments are removal of dust or digital noise, restoration of the appearance of the original scene and complete conversion to greyscale monochrome. Diptychs and Triptychs that tell a story are allowed provided they do not violate the total combined size maximum....MORE

PhotoJournalism- Photojournalism entries are images with informative content and emotional impact, reflecting the human presence in our world. The journalistic (story-telling) value of the image should receive priority over pictorial quality. Images that misrepresent the truth, such as those from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are not eligible.

Human Interest images are part of Photojournalism and depict a person or persons in an interactive, emotional, or unusual situation, including recreational or sports action. Diptychs and Triptychs that tell a story are allowed provided they do not violate the total combined size maximum. ... <u>MORE</u>

Print Competitions Schedule

Prints will be judged every other month along with projected. For 2023 prints will be judged in: December - Nature, Travel, Mono, Color February - 2024 TBD

Special Interest Group Links below (Click on any SIG title for detailed information)

<u>Special Interest Group - Seeing in Sixes</u> <u>Special Interest Group in Monochrome Photography</u> <u>Special Interest Group in Photoshop</u> <u>Special Interest Group - Novice Only</u> <u>Special Interest Group - Bird Photography</u>



Past Winning PJ Image by Steve Green



Past Winning Travel Image by Bob Downs

October Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It



The Defense. A juvenile Arctic Fox defends his pray (a Kittiwake) from an adult Arctic fox after picking it up from the water in Svalbard.- Kelly Zhang, Nature Projected ►

This juvenile Arctic Fox seemed to have come in like lightening from far away, jumped into the water, and pulled the dead kittiwake ashore. Another adult Arctic Fox tried to steal it and the juvenile fought a fierce battle to guard his prey. Whoever wins will survive the bitter cold Arctic winter.



Autumn pallet, Irina Nekrasova, Pictorial projected

I enjoy the creative process of taking some ordinary and quite common objects and making them stand out in the still life style of photography. The texture, the color and the beauty of each object is accentuated by deliberate lighting.

Canon 60 D, 60 mm, F18, ISO 200 Speed -variable.

Ballerina Duet, Eric Gray, Creative Print ►

Both photos were from a series of images done with a professional Ballerina and taken in downtown San Jose. The background on each image was removed and replaced in Photoshop with a light ivory color on a new layer. The shadows were created by duplicating each pose then selecting and filling with black. A gaussian blur was added to soften and then the layer transparency was reduced to 40% to make it realistic. The entire image was made up of five layers and printed on Epson Ultra Premium Luster inkjet paper.

Nikon 750, 38mm, 1/800 sec., f/7.1

October Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It

Woman with Flower Scarf - Paul Streit, Monochrome Projected >

Taken on the sidewalk of the San Pedro Square Market, facing the very large red neon sign at night (security wouldn't let me on the property). Lighting: two Yongnuo Speedlights with wireless remote. The main light was a 36 inch reflective umbrella, the 2nd was a rim light using a 7 inch reflector with a red gel.

Nikon D600 / 24-70mm @46mm f3.5 / ISO 200 / 1/80 sec. Edited with Photoshop + Nik Silver Efex Pro 2.



High Fashion, High Key, Eric Gray, Creative projected 🕨

This image is based on a painting by Italian artist Marco Fabiano. His work is very graphic and depicts gourmet and high fashion themes. I used my daughter as a model and blasted her with three strobe lights to make her skin as white as possible. Her eyes were closed to protect her and a second eyes shot was pasted in on a new photoshop layer. I replaced the earings she was originally wearing with others I shot at a different time. The red background was added at the end and I matched it to her lip color.

Nikon 750, 100mm, 1/125 sec., f/4



October Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It (continued)



Let me in, Ling-Kuo Lee, Pictorial Print

This image was taken at an iconic location - Black Church in Iceland. The woman with the red mantle was one of our travelers, and she stood in front of the church pretending to knock on the door for the shoot. The original shot had a plain sky, so I replaced the sky in Photoshop with a picture I took in Palouse a few years back. I also added dim lights to the windows to make it look like people were inside the church and make the scene more convincing.

I used a 28-300mm f/3.5-5.6 lens to take this shot. The focal length was set to 65mm. I used the Aperture priority mode with Aperture set to f/11 and ISO set to 200. The White Balance was set to Auto. The shutter speed was then set to 1/60.

Port of Oakland, Harvey Gold, Monochrome Print ►

This picture was taken August 13, 2017. My wife and I were on a Bay Cruise jointly sponsored by San Jose Camera and Nikon. The ship was the USS Potomac, leaving from Jack London Square in Oakland. The cruise's objective was to photograph the sites in and around San Francisco Bay. Nikon provided a large array of lenses and cameras for non-Nikon owners. The guides and Nikon reps were strategically located throughout the ship at key photo sites. If you wanted a particular lens, Nikon would provide it at the site. My image was taken during the later part of the cruise and later in the day. I used my 50mm lens on my Nikon. I converted it to monochrome in Photoshop using Silver Efex Pro.



A word about the ship and future cruises. The USS Potomac was the residential Yacht for Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It had been in disrepair for many years, partly sinking at Treasure Island. The Port of Oakland saved and restored it. The cruises are still available. Call 510-627-1215.



◀ 350 Silicon Valley members perform protest skit inside Wells Fargo Bank branch, Mountain View, 12/12/2018. Wells Fargo is a major investor in fossil fuel, Chris Cassell, Journalism Print

Of all the events I've covered as a photographer for Pro Bono Photo (a group of mostly amateur photographers) this may be the one that had the greatest potential to get arrested. I accompanied 350 Silicon Valley members & their protest into 3 bank branches that day, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, and Mountain View, which I believe is marginally legal (vs. staying outside in public space). See https://www.probonophoto.org/2018/Dec12-350SVWF/

Nikon D810; 24-120mm f/4 Nikkor lens at 24mm, 1/125 sec at f/9, ISO 5000

October Second Place Competition Winners



Standing in front of the Skógafoss Waterfall in Iceland, Ling-Kuo Lee, Monochrome Print



Saucer Magnolia flowers in the sea, Serena Hartoog, Creative Projected



Goalie Makes a Save - Girl's AYSO Soccer Chris Cassell, Journalism Print



Snowy Egret with its snack. Anar Daswani, Pictorial Print



Smoldering remains from a lightening ignited wild fire, MaryEllen Kaschub, Monochrome Projected



Psychedelic Leaf. Harvey Gold, Creative Print



Eared Grebe parents nurturing their babies, Anar Daswani, Nature projected



Lovable, Sherry Grivett , Color Projected

If you didn't already know - All results and images that won first, second, third or honorable mention can be seen by clicking here.

Special Interest Group (SIG)Feature

By Tim Meadows

The Monochrome SIG has been meeting since April 2021. We focus on how to make better monochrome images. We do that by reviewing the works of famous and not-so-famous professional photographers, as well as by members submitting images that they have transformed into monochrome for group critique. We share workflows and techniques that lead to improvements in the final result. Once per quarter, we take a single color image and each member converts it to monochrome. It is an interesting exercise that shows the wide range of monochrome interpretations that is possible. If you are interested in joining the Monochrome SIG contact tmeadows@comcast.net





Image above by Pam Perkins. Image at left by Sue Anawalt and image below by Chris Cassell.



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Program Night Member Slideshows

by Eric Gray

On October 16th, eight members of the club each showed 15 images featuring a general theme of their choice. The program was organized and moderated by Airdrie Kincaid and about 30 members attended the event. You can view the recording of the image presentations on our website by looking at programs on the website.



Tower of Hercules in Spain, the world's oldest active lighthouse, built by the Romans in the first century. Image by Airdrie Kincaid



The combination of a complementary palette and geometric lines are pleasing to my eyes. Budapest, Hungary, Image by Richard Ingles



From the 15 slide series of reflections "Sometimes I shoot myself". Slide title - "Behind Sherwood". Image by Rick Varley



Sea Turtle at the old Mala boat ramp off Lahaina, Maui. Image by Cary Coutant



Noa Wertheim, Director, Vertigo Dance Company and Workshop Image by Rick Tavan

Drone Awards

TheGuardian.com - Article link here

The Drone Photo awards has announced its winning and commended entries. The international competition dedicated to aerial photography is part of the Siena awards festival of visual arts. Photographs from the competition will be showcased in the exhibition Above Us Only Sky, at Siena's San Galgano abbey. The festival is scheduled to run from 28 September to 19 November.



Suburban Dystopia by Florian Kriechbaumer A purpose-built villa community on the outskirts of Dubai, United Arab Emirates, features houses with identical designs.

smaller and smaller each year,

Iconic Photo Back Story



Backstory - from Phillips.com

Edward Steichen's iconic image of Gloria Swanson is one of the most celebrated portraits of the 20th Century and remains captivating nearly a century after its making. The photograph was the result of a 1924 sitting for Vogue magazine that Steichen recounted in his autobiography, A Life in Photography: "The day I made the picture, Gloria Swanson and I had a long session, with many changes of costume and different lighting effects. At the end of the session, I took a piece of black lace veil and hung it in front of her face. She recognized the idea at once. Her eyes dilated, and her look was that of a leopardess lurking behind leafy shrubbery, watching her prey. You don't have to explain things to a dynamic and intelligent personality like Miss Swanson. Her mind works swiftly and intuitively."

Image and caption from https://allthatsinteresting.com/

This photo of silent film veteran Gloria Swanson was taken in 1924, right before the debut of feature length films with sound. Primarily a silent film actress, Swanson's fame waned as "talkies" grew in popularity. Ironically, she is best known for her role as a faded silentfilm star in the critically acclaimed "Sunset Boulevard," released 1950.

See more on the story from Phillips here - <u>https://www.phillips.com/</u> <u>detail/edward-steichen/NY040118/116</u>

Vocabulary

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Camera Shake. The unintentional movement of a camera during the exposure of a photograph, generally resulting in a photo that is less sharp and more blurry than desired. This can be caused by unsteady hands when shooting handheld, the force of pressing the shutter button, or environmental causes such as wind blowing a tripod-mounted camera. The combination of using a remote shutter release and a sturdy tripod can greatly reduce or eliminate camera shake.

Candid Photograph. Any photograph captured without the subject(s) in the frame posing for the image. A photographer aiming to create photos in this style will generally capture unplanned moments in life as it occurs without stopping or directing the people being photographed. Subjects may or may not be aware of the photos being made.

Catchlight. A light source that appears as a specular highlight in a subject's eyes. Photographers commonly use a light's positions and settings for this end result, transforming eyes from having a flat and lifeless appearance to having a glint that adds a spark of life.

CCD Sensor. A charge-coupled device sensor is one of the two major types of semiconductor image sensors, with the other being CMOS. Advantages typically include a global shutter (all pixels are exposed at the same time), high resolution/sensitivity (due to pixels not having to share space with the amplifiers), and high-quality/low-noise. Disadvantages include high power consumption and high cost (a special manufacturing process is needed).

Chimping. The colloquial term used to refer to the act of bringing a camera — generally a DSLR — away from the eye after every exposure to review the resulting photo immediately on the rear display. Mirrorless cameras allow photos to be reviewed immediately within the electronic viewfinder itself, eliminating the need to "chimp." Chromatic Aberration. Also called "color fringing," this is a color distortion that occurs when a lens fails to focus all colors to the same point. It appears as an outline or fridge of color in areas of an image where there is high contrast between light and dark objects.



Chromatic Aberration - Color Fringing, aka purple fringing

Cinemagraph. Coined by photographers Kevin Burg and Jamie Beck in 2011, this is a still photo that contains looping movement in a particular minor portion of the image. The result is what looks like a still photograph that has subtle motion that helps bring it to life. The name refers to the combination of a moving picture (cinema) with a still picture (photograph).

Circular Polarizer Filter. Abbreviated CP or CPL, this is a type of filter that attaches to a lens and cuts down on glare and reflections. Photographers may employ it when shooting things like water, glass, foliage, and cloudy skies. The front part of the filter can be rotated to control the polarization effect.

Great Photography Articles

Largest Photo Competition awards cheater - <u>https://petapixel.com/2023/picture-won-worlds-largest-photo-competition-</u> Sony/Canon 2023 Best Inventions- <u>https://petapixel.com/canon-and-sony-cameras-as-best-inventions-of-2023/</u> Google to Spot AI Fakes <u>https://petapixel.com/2023/10/25/googles-new-image-verification-tool-can-help-spot-ai-fakes/</u>

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