



IMAGE

Newsletter Of The Latow Photographers Guild

May 2005

From The Gallery

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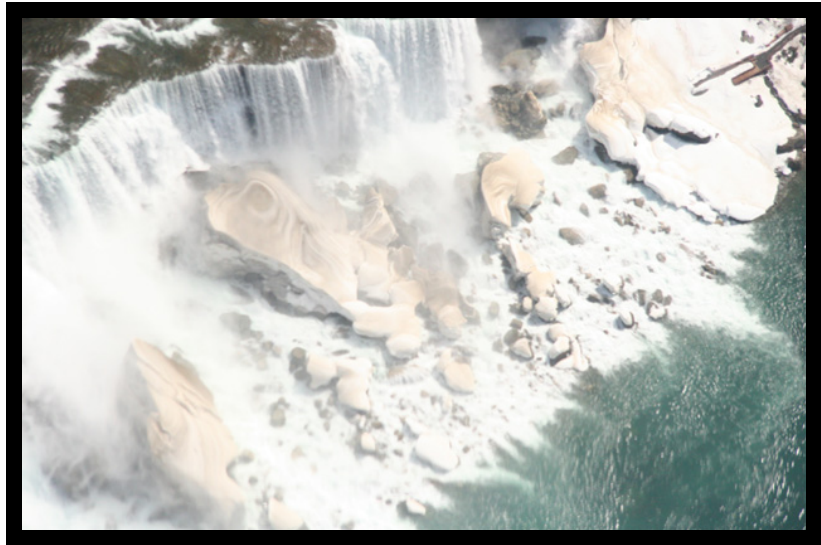


Photo by
George Jurasek

From The President Richard Smit

We have managed to get through the busiest time of the year, with Kaleidoscope, Seminar, Juried Exhibition and Fire Side Exhibition. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped ion these events. Many days were given to make them a success.

Coming up we will be having elections for next year's executive. This is your club, please consider letting your name stand for the election. Also we will be needing volunteers to lead various groups. Please let the executive know what groups you are interested in leading or assisting.

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IMAGE

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Presently we have the following vacancies: Field trips, Rep for Arts Burlington, Volunteer Coordinator, Christmas Potluck,, Rep for GTCCC and Evaluations. Additional volunteers are also required on Seminar Committee, Kaleidoscope committee, Christmas Sale Committee, I strongly encourage newer member to volunteer, The old guard is getting tired, I believe every one has something to offer.

Peter Young will lead the New Exposures for the Non B&W critique. Please remember the Studio Night will be on May 17, and Digital Group will be on May 24.

There is an organized tour to the Niagara region for a photo shoot. See Ron Chalecki for details.

Happy Clicking
Richard

May Schedule

- 3 General Meeting
Elections for the Executive Annual Award Results (*delayed until June*)
 - 7 Photo Outing (See Below)
 - 10 New Exposures
Peter Young
Critique of colour prints, slides or digital images.
 - 17 Studio Group
Product Lighting**
 - 24 Digital Group
Show and Tell
A wrap-up of the year**
- Note: The above two dates have been switched.**
- Other Events
- 02 Executive Meeting

Digital Group

DO NOT FORGET THE DIGITAL GROUP AND STUDIO GROUP NIGHTS HAVE BEEN SWITCHED THIS MONTH

Studio Group - May 17th

This month we will cover how to photography reflective objects like glass and metal subjects. To help with subject matter we will have a unique opportunity to photograph an actual Honda Shadow Ace motor cycle provided by our own member and newsletter editor John Ward. If you've wanted to see how to shoot those BIG studio subjects, here's your chance.

Digital Group - May 24th

This is our final meeting of the year and as usual it's our "Show & Tell" night were you can bring in your digital creations and show the group how you did them. Let the group in on what adjustments were needed, filters you used, layers created etc. If you don't have images to show then come to see how others did it. It's a fun evening where everyone learns something new.

HI THERE FELLOW "SNAPPETEERS",

This notice is a follow up to my last one regarding the outing on May 7. We will be meeting at the Fortinos parking lot of Eastgate Square. To those few who don't know where it is, take the Centennial Parkway exit off the Niagara bound Q/E and turn right. That will put you on.....Centennial Parkway. Keep heading southward until you reach Delawanna Drive. That will be the first light past Barton St., but then you'll also see Eastgate Square. At Delawanna you'll turn right and then almost an immediate left into the entrance. You'll see a Home Sense on the left, and Fortinos on the right. At the end of the entrance, turn right, and then right again so you head towards Delawanna. It is by the entrance that we will meet at 8:15am.

The destination again, is to the gardens in the Niagara area; with the School of Horticulture being one place. Car pooling and such will be arranged at our meeting place. The outing will only be cancelled if it snows, and hope I don't jinx us by saying that. If it looks like rain, bring appropriate cover for yourselves and gear. A light rain or drizzle can actually enhance botanical imagery. It would also be advisable to bring a lunch, and if you choose, to bring a java prior to the meeting spot, as the Tim Horton's inside won't be open yet. For those coming from Burlington, there IS a Tim Horton's at the second light from the Q/E. That's all I can think of for now, but if anyone has any questions, they can call me at 905-573-8624. Hope to see you then.

SNAPPY TRAILS,

Ron Chalecki

FYI - IF YOU OR ANY OF YOUR CLUB MEMBERS WERE PLANNING TO ATTEND - HERE'S A TICKET TO PRINT FOR FREE ENTRY (so it seems).

**Print out this Page and use as your free ticket
Thanks to Carm Griffin**

Toronto's Spring
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 Shop Hundreds of the Latest Photo, Video and Digital Products and a Great Assortment of Quality Used Equipment... Don't Miss Out!

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 May 13th, 14th, 15th, 2005 - International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd, Hall 6

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Visit the Fujifilm Booth & see the New FinePix F10 Digital Camera, featuring "Real Photo Technology"!



1 Hour Sessions

Sat. May 14th:
11:30, 1:30, 3:30

Sun. May 15th:
11:30, 1:00, 2:30



Urban Landscape Show

In case some one asks about "Urban Landscape Show" at the Carnegie Gallery in Dundas it is not open to Photographers. I happen to be a friend of Jodi Joseph and she invited me to submit some of my artwork but told me it is not open to photography.

Grant

Juried Art Show

21 members submitted 81 photos for Suzy Lake (the juror) to consider. Karen Schreiber won the juror's choice award.

Bill Warren and Paul Sparrow won honourable mentions.

The show runs from April 23 to May 23 in the Perry Gallery.

Photos can be picked up in the Latow finishing room at the end of the show. The awards ceremony will be held on Sunday May 15 th at 2 PM in the Main Gallery.

Thanks
Larry



Kaleidoscope

Our guild had a great response to this year's Kaleidoscope show. Many thanks go to all the Artists who submitted their work as well as those who volunteered their time. Special mention goes to **Bill Warren** for winning Judge's Choice as well as **Paul Sparrow** and **Karen Schreiber** who each received an Honorable Mention.

George Jurasek

Kaleidoscope 2005

OK, LETS HAVE A DEBATE

I read the Editor's comments about judging with great interest. It showed me that there is room for a serious discussion about judging. I myself have been a judge at the local level, national level through CAPA, and the international level at salons, including the Red River Salon out west. I also consider photography as an art medium, as many of you know.

Let's start with that. I quote: 'If a picture is not officially artistic in nature, should it loose points?'

First off, let me suggest that no one ever loses points. You GAIN points for the perceived merit of your work. Next there is the contention that a photo may or may not be OFFICIALLY artistic. What describes ART as OFFICIALLY artistic? There is no such a definition about any art. Art is in the eye of the beholder; it is not somehow derived at by some formula.

If I am not mistaken, you feel that DOCUMENTARY shots should be given equal billing to ARTISTIC shots. I agree that there is such a thing as a GOOD documentary shot, and that many are not so good. Let me suggest that a good DOCUMENTARY shot is also an ARTISITC shot. A simple record shot of any subject can be turned into a work of ART with good composition, angle of view, emphasis

where it should be without any fancy manipulations.

Again I quote: 'If a judge likes a picture, is that enough for a good mark?'

My short answer is YES. But let me go further, using the other contentions made. You are right; A subjective judgment is defined as one having been modified by personal view etc. To put this into perspective we must look at the definition of OBJECTIVE judgment. Oxford says; 'exhibiting actual facts uncoloured by feelings or opinions.'

That would suggest that only focus, exposure, fundamentals of composition, depth of field, saturation, contrast and other technical aspects should be used in judgments of our work. From here on ART is not relevant any more. And as I have already suggested; ART is in the eye of the beholder. It is not based on measurable scientific evidence. If that were to become the measure of a work of art, I would have good reason to get out of it. Which brings me to the crux of the matter.

I quote: 'Subjectivity should not be part of the judging process.'

Judgment, according to Oxford, is CRITICISM, OPINION, and ESTIMATE. It is not based on 1 plus 1 equals 2 or else you are wrong kind of criteria. By their very nature these three criteria, namely CRITICISM, OPINION and ESTIMATE, are SUBJECTIVE. We don't need a judge to tell us what overexposure is, or what high or low contrast is. We DO need judges to tell us what IMPACT our images have, not matter how produced. That requires a SUBJECTIVE approach to our images.

ART cannot be measured, it can only be appreciated more or less. MORE as in higher marks, LESS as in lower marks.

YOUR TURN

Joh. Friedrich

From the Editor's Desk

Last month I brought up the question of judging, not judges in general. I put forth a few questions. Joh Friedrich was kind enough to respond and open up a debate. His comments are on Page 4. Here is my response and I invite everyone who feels compelled to join in one more time for June. Then, we will end it as this is something that has no beginning, no end and no answer.

I don't agree that no one loses points. I guess I'm just sitting on the other side of the fence. I don't think judges add, they subtract especially when it comes to "Artistic" merit. I have no trouble with Technical and Composition even though one could argue their similarity but "Artistic" is my bug-a-boo.

Even the dictionary is vague on what the word artistic means. This is why I think the wording or method of judging needs to be re-defined. I'm not so sure of the word documentary either. If a judge determines that artistic means your picture should look a painting, and it is, higher marks are often given. I haven't heard one judge say that a documentary photograph is anything but mundane.

I would like to see a complete make-over in the methods of judging and the re-training of all the judges to the new method. There are too many times I have seen inconsistencies between judges. You could argue that this is good. I don't feel it is.

Joh answers yes to the question on whether a judge simply needs to like a picture to give it good marks. He goes on to qualify this and I think he makes a good point however, I said that I could hate a picture and give it an excellent mark. It simply means that I think that it had good Technical, Composition and Artistic merit. It still begs the question, "If a judge dislikes a picture, should he or she give it a lower mark?"

If Oxford defines judgement as Criticism, Opinion and Estimate they must have agreed with the Russian figure skating judges a few years back. Judging can be objective but, can it be in photography anymore than it can be in figure skating Here again Joh makes a good point, that we do need judges to tell us the impact our images have and that it requires some subjectivity.

I do not think that it is easy to bring objectivity into the evaluation process but there must be some way to bring consistency to judging.

I don't have the answer nor do I know what method could be used in future. All I am suggesting is that, there were some disappointed members this year and we went searching for a more friendly judge. I'm not sure if that is good either.

Slash

The NFRCC Convention

On April 8, 9 and 10, I had the pleasure of attending the 44th annual Niagara Frontier Regional Camera Clubs convention. NFRCC is an association of 11 Canadian and US camera clubs all in the Niagara Falls area. Attendees from other camera clubs were welcomed and quite a few arrived. I don't know the exact attendance figures however at one session I had counted 280 people in attendance.

The program began on Friday at 7:00 PM with a presentation on 3D photography and ended at 1:00 pm Sunday after a 4 Hr presentation on the art of composition. Often there were two speakers speaking simultaneously in different lecture rooms. Tony Sweet, Andre Gallant, Joanie and Gary McDuffin as well as Ellen Anon, Paul Pasquarello, Deanne Cunningham and Randy Zack kept us entertained and informed. There was a Print Exposition and a Slide Exposition both of which were judged and the winners were announced at the awards banquet. (Roast Beef Buffet included in the ticket price)

I brought my camera with me to the convention however during the event I took no pictures. I didn't bother because it's fair to assume that we really don't need to see pictures of another bunch of photographers. Instead I am including a photo of the hotel room (upgraded for free because of a mix-up) a Helicopter ride I took over the falls (we are always hearing about changing our perspective) and a photo of the ice from ground level.

In all, the weekend was an excellent value for the \$120.00 Cdn. admission price. The hotel (\$99.00 Cdn per night) or your voluntary donations to Casino Niagara were extra. The NFRCC Convention will definitely be on my list of "must do" events for next year. **George Jurasek**

