Reflections

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE STONY BROOK CAMERA CLUB

B&W Print Image of the Year

Natasha by Tony Mistretta



"Reflecting" on a New Program Year by Ellen Berenson, Editor

Welcome to the new *Reflections*! While still a newsletter by intent, our new style reflects a bit of magazine flair. Thanks to President Janet Casey and Treasurer Ed Gooltz, we've upgraded our newsletter software to Adobe InDesign. This quarter's issue is a bit late out of the gate; I am learning as I go, and the learning curve is steep. The bells and whistles in this program continue to amaze me.

Along with the many SBCC firsts this year, which Janet will tell you about in her "Up Close with the President" welcome letter, you will see added features in the new *Reflections* as well:

Ask the Expert: Have a photography question? Send queries to <u>sbcceditor@stonybrookcc.com</u>, and I will find an expert in the club to answer your question. The answer will be emailed to you as soon as it is found, and the question and answer will be published in the next issue of *Reflections*, so that others may benefit as well. Questions will remain anonymously submitted; however, the Expert who answers the question will be given a byline for the response.

What is it? This is a new puzzle in the newsletter by feature photographer Carol Wontkowski. Carol will submit a cropped photo each quarter that takes the subject out of context. Try to figure out what the object or scene is. The answer will be found elsewhere in the publication.

Travelogue: Our National Parks. In each issue, feature writer and photographer Joe Kennedy will share his experiences and photographs from his many explorations of our national parks. While this is a recurring article that will appear each quarter, I encourage all who would like to share their travels to submit a Travelogue article to <u>sbcceditor@stonybrookcc.com</u>. Articles are generally 2-4 written pages in length, along with 4-8 photographs.

I encourage all members to participate in *Reflections* to their comfort level, whether writing an article, a photo essay, a review -- as long as the submission has to do with photography, no matter how tangential, it is welcome in *Reflections*. Publishing deadlines are noted below. Feedback on this edition or suggestions for future editions of *Reflections* may be sent to: <u>sbcceditor@stonybrookcc.com</u>.

Vol. 42, No. 2	Oct Dec.	Deadline: November 15	
Vol. 42, No. 3	Jan Mar.	Deadline: February 15	
Vol. 42, No. 4	Apr Jun.	Deadline: May 15	



Let's Get to Know Each Other!

By Janet Casey

Photography is our common language, but it is the *camera*derie that draws us to a camera club. And, Stony Brook Camera Club has a lot of that! Our very first meeting was an ice cream social, where we learned about the new programming, conducted a business meeting, and enjoyed time getting reacquainted with old friends and making new ones.

Last year, as vice-president, I became an advocate of nametags because I wanted to encourage members to approach each other. We have a lot of members, and it is not always easy keeping names straight. We also have new members joining all the time. I keep my nametag in my car, so I always have it. If you forget your nametag, write-on ones are available on a table as you walk into the meetings. There is also a sign-up sheet to get a nametag if you don't have one.

This year, we are asking members to update their information on our club website and indicate if they would like to share this information with other members. You may want to contact another member to ask a photography question, arrange a field trip, or even send a get well card. We want to create a warm and friendly club with a lot of interaction.

Volunteering, including being on a committee, helping out at meetings or mentoring other members, is a great way to become more involved in the club. It can be as simple and last-minute as offering to help set up the chairs before the meet-

ing and put them back afterwards. Meetings start at 7:30 pm, but the doors open at 6:40 pm for setup and mingling. And, the more involved you become, the better the experience you will have. Members who volunteer often keep volunteering, because it is a great way to make friends and give back to the club. (I started out as New Member Contact and look where I am now!) There is always room, and a need, for more volunteers. Please contact me at president@stonybrookcc.com to let me know of your interest and availability. We'll find a place for you.

Vice President and Program Chair Ellen Kawadler and the Program Committee met every week or two over the summer to create a wonderful mix of member and guest speakers and interesting, educational programs. Introduced last year, the highly competitive **SMACKDOWN** is back again, but with two teams based on camera make rather than gender. (The men will have to wait for another year to challenge the women's victory of last season.) New this year is a comprehensive list of workshops led by fellow members and guest speakers.

Attending a small workshop is a great way to get to know other members, improve your skills and learn something new. It is also a lot of fun!

The Competition Committee, led by Co-Chairs Rob DeRobertis and Jim West, also met every couple of weeks over the summer to reevaluate the competition program based on member feedback from the competition survey. To spice things up, they created three new digital categories: Black & White, Macro, and People/Portraits. These are in addition to our regular Creative/Altered Reality, General, and Nature categories. Digital Nature has a new facelift, being divided into two subcategories, Wildlife and Non-Wildlife. (Landscapes no longer have to compete with storytelling animal shots.) There is also a new digital AA group, along with the previous A and B digital groups. Entering competitions is a good way to share your work with other members, learn from judges' comments, and improve your photography. And, it is great to see your photographs up on the big screen.

Twice a year, we have a Banguet: the holiday banquet in December, and the yearend banquet as our last meeting in June. Members share a potluck dinner, show their slideshows and have plenty of time to talk. Awards are also given out at the June banquet. Helping to plan these banquets is an easy, short-term way to volunteer.

Another way to get involved is to write an article for our award-winning newsletter, REFLECTIONS. Editor Ellen Berenson is always looking for members to submit articles and photographs on any topic. Let her know what you would like to share with other club members. Ellen can be reached at sbcceditor@stonybrookcc.com

Our club Facebook page has become a wonderful place to connect, receive encouragement, and share photos, whether it is Macro Monday, Twirl Tuesday, Waterfall Wednesday, Travel Thursday, Floral Friday, Sunrise/Sunset Saturday, or Cell Phone Sunday. (All kinds of photos welcome anytime.) Members post their upcoming exhibits, achievements and field trips. They also post and answer any questions on techniques and camera equipment.

One more thing. If you see someone you don't know, whether they are new or a member for many years, introduce yourself. Ask what kind of photography they do. Exchange favorite photo sites. Maybe even share these spots with other members as a photo excursion.

Remember to reach out to someone you don't know. Visit with old friends and make new ones. See you Thursday nights!

And, don't forget the snacks. ■



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EXCITING

NEW PROGRAM YEAR AHEAD



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SBCC YEAR-END BANQUET Photographs by Kirsten Torkelson









RECAP

SBCC YEAR-END BANQUET Photographs by Kirsten Torkelson











Promotions New Members of AA Class Digital



Debra Boucher Andre Bourque Denise Duhamel Ellen Kawadler Wendy McIntosh Ted Mertz Bud Morton Michael O'Connor Donna Parker Richard Reynolds Tony Risica Richard Shirley Joan Shirley Karl Zuzarte

Reflections Wins Two Awards in PSA Newsletter Contest!

Congratulations to all who contribute to our award-winning newsletter, *Reflections*. It truly takes a village to produce intriguing and informative content each quarter. Our April - June 2015 issue (Volume 41 No. 3) won in two categories: *Honorable Mention* for large club newsletter, and *Best Motivational Focus* in the Judges Highlights -Large Clubs category.

Some of the judges' comments included:

"What a warm and friendly newsletter starting with the president's message."

"Reflections has a simplistic design, but has well-written content. I enjoyed reading the articles."

"I Love the flashback photo of the group. And the Group photos. It looks like a fun group."

Images of the Year: 2014 - 2015



Cynthia Vogan - Print B Will you Smile for a Kiss



Rich Reynolds - Print AA Puffin TRwo



Tony Mistretta - B& W Print Natasha



Deb Boucher - Print A Orchid Splendor



Mike DiStefano - Slide Nature Devil's Garden Arch



Ray Guillette - Slide Creative Think Spring



Jim Fitzroy - Creative PB Flower Girl



Sarah Keates - Creative Great Yarn Ball of Fire

Cynthia Vogan Nature B Cormorant Catch





Christine Shaaban Victorian Marvel

Karl Zuzarte Nature A Here | Come





Ray Guillette - Slide General Christmas Sunrise with Suzie



Answer on page 41

PUZZLE THIS ...

Things that make you go, "hmmmm..."

66 If exposure is essential, still more so is the reflection." -- Eudora Welty









Your photography questions answered

What are Plug-Ins?

Plug-Ins are photo editing software that are manufactured by someone other than Adobe but designed to work with Photoshop, Photoshop Elements and in some cases Lightroom. When you load them into your computer, they insert themselves in the Photoshop filter dropdown, so access is very easy. My two favorite Plug-Ins are Nik, which is now owned and sold by Google, and Topaz, from Topaz Labs. I would suggest if you would like to expand your creativity that you look into both of these. They both have great Websites with demos and tutorials. I know with Topaz you can do free trials, which I think would be a good idea. A word of caution -- if you have an older computer, some of their latest offerings may not work; for example, Topaz Glow requires Windows 7 or newer, 64 bit and Open GL 2.1 or higher. Some of their older products will work with older computers. I will be glad to discuss these in more detail at our meetings, and, if anyone would like, I can bring my laptop and give a demo before the meeting starts.

Expert advice from: Michael J. O'Connor

THOMAS DITTMEIER

1. What or Who brought you to the club?

My love of photography over the last 40 some-odd years, and a quest to become better by association with others.

- **2. What kind of photography do you like to do?** *Mostly street photography and people*
- **3. Where is your favorite place to photograph?** *Plymouth Plantation (Plimoth)*
- **4. What do you want to learn from the club and its members?** *Sports and action photography; Lightroom advanced.*
- **5. What else do you want us to know about you?** I would like to meet other photographers and take road trips.



Little Girl





Нарру

Photographs © Thomas Dittmeier

MEET NEW MEMBER



MARK LANDMAN

1. What or who brought you to the club?

Ellen Kawadler (my cousin)

2. What kind of photography do you like to do?

Wildlife, mainly birds. I also like night photography, but haven't done much with this.

3. Where is your favorite place to photograph?

Very tough one to answer. I guess Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary (Marshfield, MA) and the Gulf Coast of Florida

4. What do you want to learn from the club and its members?

Tips and tricks, processing using Lightroom, local places to shoot wildlife, honest critiques, so I can improve.

5. What else do you want us to know about you?

I was always interested in wildlife and photography, but never really pursued combining these interests until about five years ago. I took a one-day course in bird photography with Shawn Carey, then finally bought my first good telephoto lens a year later. Since then, I've thrown more of myself into it, buying more equipment and getting out more, and enjoy it more and more.





Osprey

Photographs © Mark Landman



White Ibis



BOB MCAULIFFE

1. What or who brought you to the club?

I found this fantastic club by searching Google for a camera club in the local area code. I was in need of a photography person whom I could contact with basic questions regarding my Nikon if ever something new and unusual appeared on my camera's LCD screen (rather than driving in a panic to the camera store in Providence!) For example, the first time I saw a blinky, I thought sure I had a malfunction with my camera.

2. What kind of photography do you like to do?

My personal photo interest at this time...just shooting and getting used to my camera. (Nikon D300s)

3. Where is your favorite place to photograph?

My favorite place to shoot...Marginal Way in Ogunquit, Maine.

4. What do you want to learn from the club and its members?

There is so much to learn about photography and editing, but after reading back issues of your fine newsletter, I feel like I've found a treasure here.

5. What else do you want us to know about you?

Until recently, golf has been my main retirement interest. I am a member of my local country club and for the past 11 years have been on the staff of TPC Boston during the golfing season.

I'm looking forward to the Thursday night meetings and some of the photo shoots on your agenda...but for now, there is a major PGA Tour event coming up that will keep me busy.

This Year at SBCC

By Ellen Kawadler

his Year at SBCC: What you can expect.

Your program committee has worked hard all summer to provide the club with a great selection of activities covering a variety of photographic themes. As always, outside speakers, educational offerings and workshops were high on the agenda. We reviewed your input on the program committee survey and used this as a guideline for planning. We have lined up many impressive speakers for the year, brought back some oldies but goodies, and will be introducing a variety of educational workshops.

Thanks to the hard work of Mary and Don

Steele, we will be offering half-day weekend workshops by members who will be volunteering their time to share their expertise. Rich Reyn-

Only a set number of openings are available for each of these workshops, so please make sure we have your correct email.

olds will be offering a workshop on capturing action photos at Capeway Rovers Motocross track in Carver on September 20th and 27th, and Jim West, with help from Ed Gooltz and Ellen Kawadler, will cover basic camera skills in a two-part program on Oct. 17 and Nov. 7 at the Norfolk Public Library. The final member workshop for 2015 will be on Composition with Ray Guillette on December 5th at the Norfolk Public Library with a second part in the field at Horseneck Beach on January 9th (backup date January 16th). We have more planned for 2016, including snow photography and video workshops.

If this isn't enough, we have three addi-

tional workshops that will be held as a follow up to programs presented on Thursday nights. The first will be by Charles Needle a three-hour workshop on Oct. 9th: Impressionistic Photography: How to Create Painterly Images In-Camera. Then on Tuesday November 3rd, Tim Grey will hold a workshop at the Greater Lynn Camera Club -- all members are invited to attend. Finally on April 30th, Jurgen Lobert will follow up his program with a night shoot in Boston or Providence. We will be announcing all the information on these programs in the near future on Facebook, the Website and through email. Don't be left out; pay attention to the club emails. Only a set number of openings are avail-

> able for each of these workshops, so please make sure we have your correct email.

Other highly respected pho-

tographers besides those already mentioned will also share their expertise with us. These include, <u>Mollie Isaacs</u>, <u>Bob</u> <u>Singer</u>, <u>Damian Strohmeyer</u> (sponsored by Canon), **Joe Brady**, and Joanne Strohmeyer. And best of all, our own members are also presenting. Besides Action Photography by Rich Reynolds, Rob DeRobertis will provide insight into Defining Your Digital Workflow, Ed Gooltz will share his travel experience in Cuba, and Tony Mistretta will teach us about Studio Portraiture.

Ray Guillette will continue to offer image study, but we've added a twist. Each image study night will have a theme. To help get everyone ready for our first competi-

ON THE HORIZON

tion night, our September 24th Image Study will feature judges from our membership doing a mock judging and scoring of your images with their input for improving them for a higher score. The second image study on October 29th will call for members to submit images of people. The discussion will center around ways to improve these shots considering composition, lighting and other factors. Smackdown will return with a new competition determined by the brand of camera you shoot with. We will also bring back the New Member Showcase, Cabin Fever, Imagemakers, and Talk Photography. As you can see from the schedule, we have a jam-packed program.

We hope that we have met your expectations and will have something for everyone. Please say thanks to those who worked on setting up all these programs -- your program committee: Janet Casey, Rob DeRobertis, Ed Gooltz, Ellen Kawadler, Rich Reynolds, Stephanie Sioras, Don Steele, Mary Steele, and Jim West. ■

Action Photography with Rich Reynolds

On Thursday, September 17, Rich will be presenting a session on Action Photography, which will be followed up by an infield workshop experience on either Sunday, September 20th or Sunday, September 27th from 8:30AM - 12 Noon. These workshops will be held at the Capeway Rovers Motocross track located at 224 Plymouth Street, Carver, MA.

Rich will go over focus techniques and back button usage, vantage points, ISO, aperture and shutter setting, histogram, panning, hand-holding techniques, and tripods. Each workshop will hold a maximum of 12 people.

The following lens lengths are very good for this event: 17-55, 70-200, 70-300, 100-400, and 150-500, and 150-600. Most of the images will be in the 70-300 range. A tripod is

not necessary; however a monopod will help those who find the longer lens hard to hold for long periods of time. There are facilities at the site, and food is available for those who wish to stay longer. ■







Photographs © Rich Reynolds



"Impressionistic Photography: How to Create Painterly Images In-Camera"

Presentation by Charles Needle on October 8, 2015

Charles Needle is an award-winning, Seattle, WA-based fine art photographer, author, speaker and workshop leader with a unique eye for design and artistic interpretation. His popular "Art of Nature" creative macro workshops have attracted students nationwide.

Charles has authored three cuttingedge instructional books: *Impressionistic Photography: A Field Guide to Using Your Camera as a Paintbrush* (released March 2014), *Tiny Worlds: Creative Macro Photography Skills* (released in 2015) and *Creative Macro Photography: Professional Tips & Techniques.*

In 2011, Charles was selected as a finalist, among 15,000 entries worldwide, in the International Garden Photographer of the Year photography contest, sponsored by The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (London, England). This exhibition traveled throughout the United Kingdom.

A FujiFilm USA Talent Team member and North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) Showcase Award winner six years in a row, Charles teaches more than a dozen location workshops per year, including international destinations such as

Giverny, France with private access to Monet's Garden, Keukenhof Gardens (Holland), and The Butchart Gardens (Canada).

Charles' photographs have been selected for publication in *Nature's Best, Outdoor Photographer* magazine, *Inner Reflections* Engagement Calendar, and are in private and public collections nationwide and abroad.

To learn more about Charles' work, including his workshop and private lesson offerings, visit:

www.charlesneedlephoto.com

Program:

Unlock your creative potential and discover how to craft impressionisticlooking photographs using nothing but your digital camera. Award-winning Seattle, WA-based fine art photographer Charles Needle will describe the process of using long-exposure and multiple-exposure techniques to transform everyday scenes into unimaginable visual masterpieces.

Charles' program will begin with a short inspirational slide show, followed by a lecture covering techniques, such as Long-Exposure Pan/Tilt, "Multiple-Exposure Monet" (a technique he invented), Multiple-Exposure Rotate & Zoom, Soft-Glow Montage and Composite Montage. He will also demonstrate how



to use a free script in Photoshop to accomplish this same look, if your camera does not have a built-in multiple exposure feature.

During the break and after the meeting, Charles also will sign copies of his books, which will be available for purchase: *Impressionistic Photography: A Field Guide to Using Your Camera as a Paintbrush, Tiny Worlds: Creative Macro Photography Skills*, and *Creative Macro Photography: Professional Tips & Techniques*.



photographs © Charles Needle

Rediscover Your Creativity

Presentation by Molly Isaacs on October 15, 2015

photographs © Molly Isaacs

Molly Isaacs is a professional photographer and a respected instructor who specializes in nature and macro photography, as well as portraiture of children and families. She runs Awake The Light Photo Workshops and Tours (www. <u>awakethelight.com</u>) and leads photo groups to some of our country's most beautiful and compelling places.



She has studied with Ansel Adams, Joyce Tenneson, and others. She has photographed many famous faces including Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, jazz musician Wynton Marsalis, and actress Meryl Streep.

She has won the "Oscar" of photography, the coveted Kodak Gallery Award, fourteen times. Several of her award-winning photographs have been exhibited at Epcot Center in Disney World, and her work is in the Permanent Collection of the International Photography Hall of Fame.

She is the author and photographer of the Outer Banks Whalehead Club's official coffee table book, *The Whalehead Club* - *A Legacy Preserved*. Her work has appeared in many publications such as *The New York Times*, and *Town and Country* magazine.

She is Past President of the Virginia Professional Photographers Association. She is a nationally accredited judge for photographic competitions, and presents programs at national and regional photographers' seminars and conferences.

Program:

We all want to make beautiful images that have impact and are unique. We see images in magazines, on TV, or in movies that are visually arresting and grab our attention even though they might be of ordinary subjects, or locations that have been photographed thousands of times. But somehow they are different, more creative. Each of us was born creative, but over time that creativity has become deeply buried within us. This fast-paced educational and inspirational program will help you rediscover your creativity. It will help you re-ignite your sense of wonder and transfer that into your photography. The program is illustrated with a variety of images that will help you see things differently. Images of scenics, birds, flowers, buildings and more will help jump start your own ideas and enthusiasm. The program includes creative techniques, and new ways of shooting.

In addition, it will cover important compositional elements like line, graphic shapes, and color. It will also show you how to "see the light," with examples of different types of natural lighting. And you will learn how to use some basic camera controls to create beautiful and unique images.

Don't miss this exciting and informative program!















Assembling Composite Exposures

Presentation by Tim Grey on November 5, 2015

photograph © Tim Grey

Tim Grey is regarded as one of the top educators in digital photography and imaging, offering clear guidance on complex subjects through his writing and speaking.

Tim has written more than a dozen books on digital imaging for photographers, has published dozens of video training courses, has had hundreds of articles published in magazines such as *Digital Photo Pro* and *Outdoor Photographer*, among others. For more than thirteen years he has been publishing the daily *Ask Tim Grey* eNewsletter, answering questions from photographers. He produces the related *Ask Tim Grey* Podcast, and he also publishes the monthly *Pixology* electronic magazine. Tim teaches through workshops, seminars, and appearances at major events around the country and around the world.

Program:

Learn the secret to creating the best composite exposures, such as panoramic images and high dynamic range (HDR) photos. You'll learn how to make sure you're capturing the best images in the first place, how to assemble multiple exposures into a single image and techniques for optimizing the resulting images to perfection.

Putting the Fine Art into your Fine Art Photography

Presentation by Bob Singer on November 19, 2015

photographs © Bob Singer



Bob Singer, MNEC, is a juried Master Artist in fine art photography and an instructor at Cape Cod Art Association and the Photography Center of Cape Cod. His traditional and contemporary images hang in homes and offices across the United States and in Europe. Bob's work has been featured at the Cahoon Museum of Art, Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, Osterville Fine Art, Soho Arts, Samuell-Day Gallery, Cape Cod Art Association, Audubon Long Pasture and Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuaries, Nirvana, Venice Art Center and Abbacino Galleria in Venice, Florida. His images and articles on digital photography have appeared in and on the covers of national magazines and in the consumer press, online at Ultimate PhotoGuide and My Digital Photo, in advertising, annual reports, brochures and video productions.







Bob teaches digital photography and digital darkroom classes, leads photo workshops, judges, and presents seminars and programs at clubs and associations across the Northeast and in Florida. He is a multi-star exhibitor in PSA International Pictorial and PSA International Nature salons, in which he has earned hundreds of acceptances and awards, including the CCCW Photographic Society of America Nature Division Bronze Medal. Bob's images have also regularly appeared in the prestigious *All Cape Cod, All New England*, and *National* exhibitions as well as in many other open juried exhibitions.

Bob continually experiments with new photographic styles and techniques in an everbroadening spectrum of work, ranging from traditional domestic and international scenes to artfully treated nature and wildlife subjects to interpretive contemporary images.

A recipient of the New England Camera Club Council's Master Member appellation, he is a co-founder and past president of the Cape Cod Art Association and Grafton (MA) Camera Clubs, an honorary life member and past president of Gateway Camera Club, and a past president of Colonial Camera Club.

Program:

It takes a lot more than Photoshop and plug-ins to separate fine art photographs from snapshots. Mastering the technical side of pretty picture-taking simply isn't enough. It's about your photographic intent: what you choose to accomplish with an image, the message you're trying to convey before you commit it to paper or digital file. Join Bob in this unique program's journey to open your mind's eye, add some drops to focus your purpose, and stimulate your image visualization skills.













"A Lifetime of Sports Photography"

Sponsored by Catton Presentation by Damian Strohmeyer on December 3, 2015 photographs © Damian Strohmeyer

Damian Strohmeyer (MA) is a Boston-based photographer who has been photographing people and sports for more than two decades, working with

Sports Illustrated magazine for over twenty years. He has covered the World Series, the NCAA Men's and Women's Final Four, the NBA Finals, the World Cup, the Stanley Cup, the Indianapolis 500, several Olympics and 28 Super Bowls. His work has been featured on the cover of *Sports Illustrated* 70 times. His



client list includes corporate clients like Nike, Sylvania, The Animal Planet, Best Buy, Canon, Suffolk University, and Boston University. In addition to *Sports Illustrated*, his editorial clients range from *Bloomberg Business Week* and The Wall Street Jour-





nal to *Web MD* and *The Washington Post*. His assignment work has taken him to every state in the United States. Damian has been honored by the National Press Photographers Association in their annual Pictures of the Year awards numerous times, and he

was awarded the Region 9 Photographer of the Year by the National Press Photographer's Association for his work. The Pro Football Hall of Fame has also awarded his work and exhibits it at their facility in Canton, Ohio.

www.damianstrohmeyer.com





Program:

From the frozen tundra of Green Bay's Lambeau Field to the Big House at the University of Michigan, from Fenway Park to Yankee Stadium, from sweaty gyms to freezing sidelines, Damian Strohmeyer will share photos that have captivated sports fans the world over.

Damian's program will help you fine tune the process of capturing action photos with technical tips and practical advice about covering fast moving events. This entertaining program will bring out the sports photographer in all of us and applies to professionals and advanced amateurs as well as students and sports fans. ■



Boston's Museum of Fine Arts: A Photography Trifecta By Ellen Berenson

Photography speaks to each of us for many reasons -- some enjoy creative expression; some thrive on the technology and tools; some see the world more clearly through the lens; some enjoy making the world a bit more abstract. For me, as much as I enjoy taking photographs to share my vision of reality, I am most nurtured by the works of others. Always curious, I am a student of what my fellow photographers envision through the lens. Sometimes I am moved by the photograph itself, and sometimes I am enthralled by seeing an image through the photographer's eye. What motivated him to make this image? Is there a story behind this photograph, or is it a replica of the scene before her? Is the image thought-provoking or confusing? Why was this element included in the composition? With each question asked, a learning takes place. One more tool in my cache of photographic knowledge.

What a gift to find the MFA is hosting three photographic exhibits concurrently: Gordon Parks: Back to Fort Scott (through September 13, 2015); Herb Ritts (through November 8, 2015); and Unfinished Stories: Snapshots from the Peter J. Cohen Collection (through February 21, 2016). Nirvana to this photographer, as each caters to my curiosity in a unique way.

Gordon Parks: Back to Fort Scott

In 1950, Gordon Parks (November 30, 1912 – March 7, 2006) was a staff photographer for Life magazine. African American, Parks' editors assigned him a feature about segregated schools -- a national talking point at the time with the upcoming Brown v. Board of Education ruling in Topeka to follow a few years later. Having spent his childhood in Fort Scott, Kansas from 1912 - 1928, Parks chose to reflect on the impact of segregation through the eyes of his childhood classmates. He returned to his home town of Fort Scott seeking out remembered locations and tracing the migration of his classmates to various cities across the Midwest.

Parks reconnected with his 11 classmates from the class of 1927, who attended the segregated Plaza School. He found many had moved to Chicago or Detroit seeking work and a better life. One photograph, in particular, shows the irony of living in segregated Fort Scott: a young black couple standing in front of the local "Liberty" movie theatre, where blacks were relegated to the "Buzzards Roost," seating that was farthest back in the venue. Parks' essay is a study in the dichotomy of being African American raised a segregated world, and the similarities between people regardless of skin color. His photographs are both heartwarming and heart breaking. Parks' focus was to show the equivalences rather than the differences in black nuclear family life -- sometimes with the specter of racism still prevalent: Two African American girls watching a baseball game from the back side of the bleachers, while white citizens occupy the front rows; an "American Gothic" style photograph of a family in front of their apartment, which has bars on the windows; classmate Fred Wells and his wife Mary saying grace in their cramped kitchenette apartment, representative of the humble housing designed to meet the growing population of blacks migrating to Chicago's South Side; a mother working on needlepoint while listening to her young daughter practice piano; a poignant



Untitled, St. Louis, Missouri Gordon Parks (American, 1912–2006) 1950 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Photograph by Gordon Parks. Courtesy and © The Gordon Parks Foundation *Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

still life of neighbor Paralee Rivers' empty shoes, representing the woman who had nursed Parks' mother at the end of her life, and who was now on her own deathbed. Parks' essay never did make it to print; other world events conspired to take precedence for *Life* magazine. Despite this, and the years in between, Parks narrative still to this day speaks loudly and clearly through his lens.

MFA's Karen Haas, Lane curator of Photographs, selected more than 40 representative photographs from Park's essay.

(Addition photographs appended at the end of this article.)

Herb Ritts - Pop Culture 1980's - 1990's

Herb Ritts created iconic images of celebrities during the 1980's - 1990's. Many of his images come to mind when thinking of a particular artist: The heavily eyebrowed Madonna wearing Mickey ears; Richard Gere in 1978 while still a relative unknown. before his breakout hit "An Officer and a Gentleman"; jazz trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie demonstrating his infamous balloon cheek; a close-crop shot of Nelson Mandela, whose face expresses a lifetime of stories; nude super models Stephanie Seymour, Cindy Crawford, Tatjana Patitz, Naomi Campbell and Christy Turlington in an intertwined composition that covers the essentials. Ritts captured each individual in a way that expressed their uniqueness. He excelled at bringing out the humor and the humanness of these larger-than-life icons. I am curious about the comfort level he achieves with his subjects in order to earn the interaction he captures in the camera. What was said? How did they perceive him? How did he earn their trust to elicit such responses as these? Working solely in Black and White, for the most part Ritts' photographs are minimalistic--they require few props or content beyond the subject; however, the

images he conveys provide a world of information about his subjects.



Dizzy Gillespie, Paris Herb Ritts (American, 1952–2002) 1989 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. * Gift of Herb Ritts © Herb Ritts Foundation *Photograph © Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Curators: James Leighton, Curatorial Research Associate; Karen Haas, Lane Curator of Photographs; Anne E. Havinga, Estrellita and Yousuf Karsh Senior Curator of Photographs; Kristen Gresh, Estrellita and Yousuf Karsh Assistant Curator of Photographs.

(Addition photographs appended at the end of this article.)

Unfinished Stories: Snapshots from the Peter J. Cohen Collection

From the Kodak Brownie camera to today's Instagram, the concept of a "snap-

shot" has been ubiquitous and thematic from generation to generation. In "Unfinished Stories," Peter J. Cohen's collection displays snapshots amassed over the years from flea markets, collectors, galleries, eBay etc., dating from 1890 onward. Cohen has more than 50,000 photographs in his collection, a large group of which the MFA has displayed thematically. Given the range of years captured in this collection, the message hits home how similar we tend to be in our "go to" subjects: travel, photographers' shadows, hula skirts and coconut bras, people in trees, etc. As I meandered from grouping to grouping, I felt an affinity with the photographer, quite often saying to myself, "I have that photo!" The snapshots brought to mind people I love and places I've been, yet left me curious as to the story behind the image itself. How different was their experience from mine? Despite our uniqueness, in many ways we are more similar than we may think.



Unidentified photographer, American, 20th century *Untitled, 1918* Photograph, gelatin silver print *Gift of Peter J. Cohen *Courtesy, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Back to Fort Scott ORDON PARKS:



Untitled Gordon Parks (American, 1912-2006) 1948 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Photograph by Gordon Parks. Courtesy and © The Gordon Parks Foundation *Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Untitled, Fort Scott, Kansas Gordon Parks (American, 1912-2006) 1950 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Photograph by Gordon Parks. Courtesy and © The Gordon Parks Foundation *Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Untitled (Outside the Liberty Theater) Gordon Parks (American, 1912-2006) 1950 Photograph, gelatin silver print * Sophie M. Friedman Fund

- © Gordon Parks
- * Photograph © Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Shoes, Fort Scott, Kansas Gordon Parks (American, 1912-2006) 1950 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Photograph by Gordon Parks. Courtesy and © The Gordon Parks Foundation *Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

FT ERB RITTS



Madonna, Tokyo Herb Ritts (American, 1952–2002) 1987 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. * Gift of Herb Ritts © Herb Ritts Foundation *Photograph © Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Nelson Mandela, Johannesburg Herb Ritts (American, 1952–2002) 1994 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. * Gift of Herb Ritts Foundation *© Herb Ritts Foundation *Photograph © Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Richard Gere, San Bernardino Herb Ritts (American, 1952–2002) 1978 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. * Gift of Herb Ritts Foundation in honor of Malcolm Rogers *© Herb Ritts Foundation *Photograph © Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Untitled Gordon Parks (American, 1912–2006) 1948 Photograph, gelatin silver print *Photograph by Gordon Parks. Courtesy and © The Gordon Parks Foundation *Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

U NFINISHED STORIES: Snapshots from the Peter J. Cohen Collection



Unidentified photographer, American, 20th century *Untitled*, about 1950s Photograph, gelatin silver print *Gift of Peter J. Cohen *Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Unidentified photographer, American, 20th century *Untitled*, about 1920s-30s Photograph, gelatin silver print *Gift of Peter J. Cohen *Courtesy, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Unidentified photographer, American, 20th century *Untitled*, about 1950s Photograph, gelatin silver print *Gift of Peter J. Cohen *Courtesy, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Unidentified photographer, American, 20th century Untitled, about 1950s Photograph, gelatin silver print *Gift of Peter J. Cohen *Courtesy, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Photographing Our National Parks

A Feature Series by Joe Kennedy

As a former educator, I had my summers off to travel with family and my camera. I took advantage of those two-month breaks to spend twentyplus days touring the national parks along the Rockies, those on the Pacific coast, and even a few closer to home. Now that I have the other ten months off (happily retired), I am no longer confined to travel with the crowds during the hot days of July and August. Having the time is essential, but living in the U.S. makes getting to these iconic parks almost effortless. I have enjoyed discovering the uniqueness of each one of them!

Over the past twenty years, I have photographed about thirty National Park Service locations (that includes the parks, national military parks and national monuments). I hope to share with you some of my experiences as I revisit them through my imagery, my impressions, and a little background on each park.

For my first park, I chose one that is probably the most difficult to visit. The closest you can get to it by car is about seventy miles. Then, it's your call: a three-hour catamaran ride, a seaplane flight or a leisurely marathon swim to visit the island national park called *Dry Tortugas*.

When Ponce de Leon landed here in the 1500's, he found hundreds of turtles taking refuge on the beach – hence "Tortugas" (Spanish for turtles). Why "Dry"? That's because the area did not have any fresh water. This remote park is about one hundred square miles with a vast majority of it being water -- the waters of the Gulf of Mexico.



Dry Totugas Docking Area photograph by Joe Kennedy

As the high-speed ferry neared the docking area on Garden Key, the lighthouse atop Fort Jefferson came into view.

As soon as I exited the dock on Garden Key, I was immediately drawn to the fort and the waters surrounding it. Since there were only a few areas that were off-limits, the entire interior was at my disposal.

Construction on the all-brick Fort Jefferson was started in 1832 but never completed. It was the largest all-masonry fort in the U. S.



Dry Tortugas National Park photograph by Joe Kennedy

Another interesting feature for any architectural enthusiasts is the two hundred brick arches found throughout the structure.

The fort was abandoned by the U. S. Military prior to the Civil War but was repurposed as a prison until 1879. One of its most famous residents was Dr. Samuel Mudd. For you history/trivia enthusiasts, he was the man who set John Wilkes Booth's broken leg. Dr. Mudd

View from Dr. Mudd's Cell photograph by Joe Kennedy

was arrested for being an accomplice to Lincoln's assassination and sent here until 1869, when he was pardoned.

Earlier in this article, I mentioned the architects planned for over two hundred arches to be constructed. I was pretty sure that I had not



Arches Unlimited photograph by Joe Kennedy

only walked through all of them but also captured each and every one of them on my camera!

Dry Tortugas is one of those trips where you have to pack everything you think you

might need for the shoot: backup camera batteries, extra memory cards, flash and batteries, an all-purpose zoom lens, tripod, filters (polarizer and split ND), water, and a snack. On a more positive note, I pretty much had the fort to myself, as a vast majority of those on the catamaran were sun worshippers or snorkelers.

As I was at the mercy of the ferry company, I could not photograph during the golden hours of the day. But I was more than happy with



Fort Jefferson Light photograph by Joe Kennedy

what I had on my sensors. Looking ahead, the rest of my national park excursions will be a lot easier to reach, I promise!



Endless Archways photograph by Joe Kennedy

Next up. . . The Everglades!

hen Ponce de Leon landed here in the 1500's, he found hundreds of turtles taking refuge on the beach – hence "Tortugas" (Spanish for turtles)."

SBCC Workshop Calendar 2015-16

September 20* (Alt date Sept 27) 8:30 am- noon Max 12	Action Photography with Rich Reynolds in Carver	\$10	Reserva- tions open Sept 3rd
October 9 10 am-1 pm Max 14	Impressionistic Photography: How to Create Painterly Images In-Camera with Charles Needle at Mt Auburn Cemetery	\$60 payable to Charles Needle	Sept 3
October 17* 8:30 am-12:30 pm Max 30	Basic Photography Skills Part 1 with Jim West at Norfolk Public Library	\$20	Sept 24
November 3 TBA	Tim Grey-Presentation at Greater Lynn Camera Club	TBA	TBA
November 7* 8:30 am-12:30 pm Max 30	Basic Photography Skills Part 2 with Jim West at Norfolk Public Library	Included in fee for Oct 17	Sept 24
December 5* 10 am-noon Max 12	Composition in the Field Part 1 with Ray Guillette	\$20	Nov12
January 9* (alt date January 16) Max 12	Composition in the Field Part 2 with Ray Guillette at <u>Horseneck</u> Beach	Included in fee for Dec 5	Nov12
February* TBA	Snow Photography with Glenn Browning	\$10	TBA
March * TBA	Video Photography with Orin Siliya	\$10	TBA
April 30 (Rain date April 29 or May 1) Max 12	Urban Night Photography with Jurgen Lobert in Boston or Providence	\$12.50 payable to Jurgen Lobert	April7

*All workshop signups by members will open on the Thursday night meeting 3 weeks prior to the scheduled workshop and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Cash or non-refundable (but transferable to another member) check made out to SBCC for \$10 or \$20 (if a two-part workshop) will be required to secure your participation. You may send a check postmarked before the registration date to: *Ed Gooltz at 24 Longmeadow Lane, Sharon, MA 02067* if you will not be at the meeting on the date that reservations open.

Stony Brook Camera Club Calendar 2015-16

September 3, 2015	Ice Cream Social, Two Favorite Summer Photos, Yard Sale, Business Meeting
September 10, 2015	Preparing for the 2015 Competition Season-What's New
September 17, 2015	Rich Reynolds Action Photography (workshop on 9/20)
September 24, 2015	Image Study-Mock Judging
October 1, 2015	Competition-Digital Nature Wildlife, Digital Nature Non-
	Wildlife, Digital Macro, Slide General, Slide Nature
	Digital Submission Deadline-Fri Sept 18
October 8, 2015	Charles Needle Impressionistic Photography-How to Create
	Painterly Images in Camera (workshop 10/9)
October 15, 2015	Mollie Isaacs Rediscover Your Creativity
October 22, 2015	Competition-Digital General, Digital Creative Altered
	Reality, Slide General, Slide Nature, Slide Creative
	Digital Submission Deadline-Fri Oct 9
October 29, 2015	Image Study-Theme People
November 5, 2015	Tim Grey Targeted Adjustments in Photoshop (Using layer
	masks with adjustment layers)
November 12, 2015	Competition-Color Prints, B&W Prints, Digital B&W, Digital
	People/Portraits
	Digital Submission Deadline-Fri Oct 30
November 19, 2015	<u>Bob Singer</u> Putting the Fine into your Fine Art Photography
November 26, 2015	No Meeting
December 3, 2015	Damian Strohmeyer A Lifetime of Sports Photography
	Sponsored by Canon
December 10, 2015	Competition- Digital Nature Wildlife, Digital Nature Non-
	Wildlife, Digital Macro, Slide General, Slide Nature, Slide
	Creative
	Digital Submission Deadline-Fri Nov 27
December 17, 2015	Holiday Banquet, Yard Sale
December 24, 2015	No Meeting
December 31, 2015	No Meeting
January 7, 2016	Image Study- Lightroom Live
January 14, 2016	Competition-Digital General, Digital Creative Altered Reality Digital Submission Deadline-Fri Jan 1
January 21, 2016	Rob DeRobertis Defining Your Digital Workflow
January 28, 2016	New Member Showcase
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Stony Brook Camera Club Calendar 2015-16

February 4, 2016	ТВА
February 11, 2016	Competition-Color Prints, B&W Prints, Digital B&W, Digital
	People/Portraits
	Digital Submission Deadline-Fri Jan 29
February 18, 2016	Cabin Fever
February 25, 2016	Image Study-Critiques of Images from Workshop
	Participants
March 3, 2016	Joe Brady Ten Tips for Creating Better Landscape
	Photographs
March 10, 2016	Competition-Color Prints, B&W Prints, Digital B&W, Digital
	People/Portraits, Slide General, Slide Nature, Slide Creative
March 17, 2016	Imagemakers
March 24, 2016	John Tunney Cape Cod: A Photographer's Paradise
March 31, 2016	Joanne Strohmeyer Journey Through the Evolution of Daily
	Photojournalism
April 7, 2016	Ed Gooltz Cuba-An Experiment Gone Wrong
April 14, 2016	Competition- Digital Nature Wildlife, Digital Nature Non-
	Wildlife, Digital Macro
	Digital Submission Deadline-Fri April 1
April 21, 2016	Image Study-You Be The Judge
April 28, 2016	Jurgen Lobert Urban Night Photography (workshop 4/30)
May 5, 2016	Competition- Color Prints, B&W Prints, Digital General,
	Digital Creative Altered Reality, Elections
	Digital Submission Deadline-Fri April 22
May 12, 2016	Image of the Year
May 19, 2016	Talk Photography
May 26, 2016	Smackdown
June 2, 2016	Tony Mistretta Studio Portraiture
June 9, 2016	End of Year Banquet

Answer to What Is It? The reflection of grass and the red paint of the tractor on the rim of a tractor.

OFFICERS: President:	Janet Casey	president@stonybrookcc.cor
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SECRETARY:	Billi Manning	secretary@stonybrookcc.co
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	Dan Gyves	
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B&W PRINTS:	Bob Doyle	
COLOR PRINTS:	Tony Mistretta	
COLOR SLIDES:	Mike DiStefano	
DIGITAL:	Ann Bertulli, Denise Duhamel	
JUDGES:	David Marshak	
SCORING AND STATISTICS:	Karl Zuzarte	
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IMAGE STUDY:	Ray Guillette	
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NOMINATIONS:	Cynde Cusack	
	Lynn Ann Falvey	
	Jake Jacobson	
PSA REP:	Richard Reynolds	
PROGRAM COMMITTEE:	Ellen Kawadler (Chair)	
	Debra Boucher	
	Janet Casey	
	Robert DeRobertis	
	Ed Gooltz	
	Richard Reynolds	
	Stephanie Sioras	
	Donald Steele	
	Mary Steele	
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	Joe Cormier	
	Lou Fraga	
	Richard Reynolds	
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	Ann Bertulli	
	Mike DiStefano	
	Jake Jacobson	
	Tony Risica	
	Jim West	
WEBMASTER:	Tom Alborough	
	U U	



MEETINGS:

Meetings are held every Thursday of each month; no meetings in July and August. Consult SBCC Calendar of Events. All meetings start at 7:30PM. The regular meeting place is the Wrentham Senior Center, 400 Taunton Street, Wrentham.

Mailing Address: Stony Brook Camera Club, P.O. Box 20, Wrentham, MA 02093-0020

DUES:

Individuals \$50.00; Families: \$75.00; Students \$25.00; Seniors (over 65) \$25.00. To be eligible for competition, dues must be paid before the first competition.

NEWSLETTER:

Published quarterly solely for the information, guidance and enjoyment of the Stony Brook Camera Club, Wrentham, MA. All issues are available <u>here</u>.

WEBSITE:

Visit our Website at <u>www.stonybrookcc.com</u> for the latest schedule, updates and breaking news, and photographs from our competitions, members and activities throughout the year.

FACEBOOK:

Our Facebook page is for current Stony Brook Camera Club members. You must register with Facebook before requesting to join our group using <u>this link</u>. Any questions, see David Marshak.

OFFICERS:

Elected annually and serve as the executive committee with two past presidents. SBCC is affiliated with the New England Camera Club Council (NECCC) and is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA).

MISSION STATEMENT:

Stony Brook Camera Club: To promote enjoyment and proficiency in all aspects of photography through education, fellowship, exchange of knowledge and experience; and a broad appreciation of nature and our environment.

SBCC REFLECTIONS Ellen Berenson, EDITOR P.O. Box 20 Wrentham, MA 02093-0020 e-mail: <u>sbcceditor@stonybrookcc.com</u> http://www.stonybrookcc.com



http://www.psa-photo.org/index.php?2015-psa-conference





