



IN FOCUS

Newsletter of the Northside Creative Photography Club

Newsletter
June 2009



Photo: Infrared - Tulips - Pano, Susan Buchanan.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is not what I had intended to write this month – it was all going to be about the importance of going to exhibitions – either photographic or artistic – especially something like World Press Photo which finished up at the State Library this weekend. So it will have to wait for another time. Now let me give you a warning: what follows is a case of the warm and fuzzies!

Today we had an informal portfolio meeting and it was more than that: it was a meeting of a community of photographers. Work in progress (or not – see below) was shown and there was a free and easy exchange of ideas, advice, and critiques; above all there was a sense of being there for each other (I refer to the above warning). The meeting was called to assist anyone who was stuck, blocked, in a dark, dark place – for whatever reason. As there were common problems, it is worth sharing both the problems and the possible solutions.

- Technology is both a blessing and a curse. A number of people had technical issues around printers or software that needed to be resolved. So do it – resolve any such issues – seek advice from your fellow photographers or bring out the big guns by contacting your supplier or technical support. Don't let something outside of your photography get in your way. And don't be surprised if the technical issue turns out to be a crutch on which you lean.

- Coming to grips with a portfolio over the course of a year is similar to a photographic learning curve: there are times when you know what you want to do but have no idea how to achieve it. Again this can be technical (learn Photoshop) and in many more cases it has to do with translating an idea into images on paper. There is no way around this one except to be in action. As an example, Carolyn Pettigrew used the following strategy: If it's any help to pass on to those who are struggling

what got me going on my project was not to try and take the perfect shot but to just take lots and lots of shots that might work and then whittle them down... It gave me an idea of which images needed more work. *

- Another common problem was one of direction: which path to follow, which portfolio to complete. Discussion on this was split between working out why a change of direction was necessary at this point: was it a tactic to avoid the challenges that the original subject presented? Or was it a genuine evolution of photographic interest and ideas? For both, the resolution revolved around following your heart and your passion – an easy resolution for those in the latter group. The former group however had some serious thinking to do.

Let me add here that, from my experience of the last portfolio process and this one, it will present you with the very problems that you face in your normal photography, only amplified. There is nowhere to hide. However, there is also a community (there is that word again) dedicated to working together to resolve issues that stop you being the photographer that you want to be: it is a frightening, rewarding, heart-warming place to be. And it is not restricted to the portfolio group. It is my intention to place this editorial (if that is what it is) on the forum. As a community member, please feel free to add your contribution on where you are stuck or how you may have resolved issues with your photography.

*Please use the following link to read one suggestion and the subsequent discussion on how to radically improve your photography:

http://theonlinephotographer.typepad.com/the_online_photographer/2009/05/a-leica-year.html

Susan Buchanan

President, Northside Creative Photography



CONTACTS

POST:
PO Box 192, Gordon, NSW 2072, Australia

WEB:
www.ncp.org.au

EMAIL:
Contact via email is available from the 'Contact Details' page on our Website.

THE CLUB MEETS AT:
St David's Uniting Church Hall,
Pacific Highway,
Lindfield.
(Corner Provincial Road.)
On the 1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each month at 7.30 for an 8pm start.

PRESIDENT:
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JUNE OUTING: SUNDAY 21ST THE SPIT TO MANLY.

This is one adventurous outing. All the handbooks say 9km – 2.5 hours so we will need at least double that! So be prepared for an all day outing and hope for interesting weather. At the moment the plan is to meet at Gordon (9:30am) at the bus shelters on the western side to car pool to the Spit Bridge. The walk will then ensue with public transport from Manly back to the Spit after a refreshing afternoon tea in Manly to revive our no doubt flagging spirits. Please bring sufficient water and lunch. Please RSVP to Susan in the usual way.

From Walking Sydney: "There are few walks in and around Sydney that can compare with this one in terms of natural beauty, interest and scenic appeal."

2009 IMAGING TECHNOLOGY SHOW 26 - 28 JUNE.

The Photo Marketing Association has joined forces with the Photo Imaging Council of Australia to promote a new show concept for the Asia-Pacific photo imaging industry. The first PMA Australia show was held in Melbourne in 2007 and then in Brisbane 2008.

The Southern Hemisphere's largest photo imaging exhibition is an event not to be missed.

It will be held at the Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour.

The FCC Topshot 2009 prints will be on display from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat and Sun. There will also be a continuous screening of the Electronic Digital Images.

It is recommended that members pre-register for free at the Website <http://www.pmaaustralia.com.au/>. The cost of admission at the door will be \$20.

Note that the Friday is a trade day and amateur photographers should attend on the weekend.

CANON CREATIVE FOR A CAUSE

This is a campaign that encourages Australians to get creative to win AUD\$60,000 and to support a cause of their choice. Canon believes that a single image can change the world.

Canon is urging people to get Creative for a Cause by taking a photograph that depicts a cause that they are passionate about and uploading it, along with a 25 word description of what their photo represents and who their selected charity or charitable organisation is, to www.canon.com.au/creativeforacause

The top-three photos from each cause category as selected by popular vote and one editor's pick per category will then be reviewed by a judging panel who will select the top-five finalists. From this, the judges will select the winning image.

Australians have the opportunity to win their nominated charitable organisation AUD\$60,000. The campaign will close to entries on Friday 10 July, 2009. In addition to the cash donation made to the winning entrant's nominated recipient, Canon will reward the winning entrant with Canon gear worth AUD\$1,988, consisting of 1 x EOS 500D (Single IS Lens Kit), 1 x PIXMA MX630, 1 x Photo Paper Pro Platinum (4"x6") photo sheets. Four finalists will receive a Canon prize package valued at AUD\$698. Check website for full details and conditions.

Workshop - Sat June 13th

Just a reminder there will be a workshop held in our usual hall, 10am - 4pm, run by Steve Wiessner and is for photographers of all levels, with a huge variety of subjects covered including portrait sessions with natural light and also using off camera flash. The cost for the day will be \$15 to cover cost of the hall and a possible model. Please contact Susan if you would like to attend.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

We invite you to contribute to InFocus. If you have images you would like to see appear or a story with or without accompanying images, we would like to hear from you.

To ensure our newsletter goes out on time, please have any submissions emailed to Jan Glover at editor@ncp.org.au

MATERIAL DEADLINE: 26th June 2009 or prior.

Gore Hill Cemetery

This was our second attempt at this outing (cancelled the previous month due to rain). We had a good attendance of members, and the weather was kind – overcast but nice diffused light. Our guide Ron Heather from the Gore Hill Trust showed us graves of historic interest, and explained how the graveyard is maintained. Whilst there was a multitude of subjects to photograph, the challenge, as usual was to produce something that was simply more than a “record” shot. . We look forward to seeing many different interpretations in the outing competition on 17th June.



NCP Annual dinner

32 members attended the buffet dinner at the Greengate Hotel, Killara on 27th May and a great night was enjoyed by all. (Even though Mike’s shirt did put a few off their dinner.)



Photos: Carol and Sam Makeham, Dawn Zandstra and Michael Miller, Wal and Pat Lamberth, Gabrielle Lipscomb, Jenny Johnson, Eric Adcock, Steve Mullarkey and Jenny Turtle, Arch and Mary Raymond.

Workshops

APSCON

APSCON is the annual conference of the Australian Photographic Society, and this year it will be held from 3rd – 9th October in Victor Harbour, South Australia. It is a great opportunity to meet fellow photographers from all over Australia, most of whom are members of camera or photographic clubs. Guest speakers include Peter Eastway, Richard White, Ron Willems, Nick Melidonis and Jenni Horsnell. As well as social events and outings, there will be a number of workshops. For more information visit the APS website at: www.a-p-s.org.au or follow the links on our club website. We will put a link on the Forum for those interested in attending APSCON.

WALKING TASMANIA: A Photographer's Dream

14-23 October 2009

Led by Grenville Turner, one of Australia's leading landscape and documentary photographers.

Launceston – Quamby Estate – Bay of Fires – Dove Lake and the Overland Track – Innes track via Like Ayr to Arm River - Quamby

For more information contact the Centre for Continuing Education, University of Sydney. or visit the website:

<http://www.cce.usyd.edu.au/cce>

Go to Study Tours and download the PDF.

"PHOTOGRAPHY AS ART"

ONE DAY SEMINAR SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST 2009

Lane Cove Camera Club is pleased to announce the third of their one day Seminars, titled "Photography as Art" to be held at their club rooms on Saturday 1st August.

The seminar is open to all camera club members as well as members of the public. As numbers are strictly limited, they will be accepting registrations on a "first come, first served" basis.

The seminar outline and registration form can be downloaded from the Phototutor website www.phototutor.com.au

While you're there, have a look at the tutorials and other information. Maybe you have a suggestion or would like to make a contribution. As a cooperative project you won't get paid for any submissions, but you will get your profile on their contributor's page as well as a link to your personal gallery.

Lane Cove Camera club meets every second Thursday and visitors are always welcome.

Competitions

Australian Digital Photography Awards 2009

Entries Close June 21 2009

Entries are open for the third Australian Digital Photography Awards (ADPA) 2009 hosted by the Australian Photographic Society. Don't miss out on this FREE popular national competition. The entry form and instructions are available on the website <http://www.adpa.org.au>

Examples of successful images in the ADPA 2008 Catalogue can be viewed via this link.

The APS National

The APS National is ready for your entries. You can download the entry form from here www.a-p-s.org.au

Don't forget the digital entries are to be entered through the Digital National website - www.digitalnational.org.au You can pay for the entries using paypal or credit card. Entries close on 3 August 2009.

Murrurundi photographic prize

Theme: Water First prize: \$6,000 Peoples' Choice: \$1,500

Entries close: Friday 26 June Entry form: www.murrurundiphotographicprize.com.au/forms.html

The Manning Art Prize

First prize: \$10,000 Entries close: Friday 14 August

Entry details: <http://www.fogsmanningvalley.com.au/>

BHP Billiton Canning Waltzing Matilda Photo Comp Image of the Outback

Judge: David Oliver.

Entries close 31 July 2009. Packs & entry forms can be downloaded from the gallery website www.matildacentre.com.au/gallery . \$5000 prize money.

34th Fremantle Print Award

Total prize pool is \$28,000 Entries close: 5pm Friday 19 June

Entry form: email printaward@fremantle.wa.gov.au

Exhibitions

MOSMAN ART GALLERY

CAUGHT:

**PHOTOGRAPHS OF LIFE AT SYDNEY FISH MARKET
SATURDAY 13 JUNE 2009 – SUNDAY 26 JULY 2009
MOSMAN ART GALLERY, CORNER ART GALLERY WAY
AND MYAHGAH ROAD MOSMAN NSW 2088.
OPEN 10AM – 5PM, 7 DAYS A WEEK**

The Mosman Art Gallery in association with the Sydney Fish Market are delighted to present this groundbreaking exhibition of life behind the scenes at the largest working seafood market in the southern hemisphere.

The exhibition CAUGHT is the result of a long term personal project by photographer Birgit Neiser, who spent close to three years observing and recording life at the Sydney Fish Markets in Pyrmont.

GENERAL ENQUIRIES 9978 4178

BEING THERE: PHOTOGRAPHER TALK AND WORKSHOP WITH BIRGIT NEISER SUNDAY JUNE 21, 2.00PM – 5.00PM.

Birgit Neiser will talk about her approach and experiences of photographing life at the Sydney Fish Market. This will be followed by an information session for those interested in starting a photo documentary project. Afternoon tea will be provided between sessions. Free at Mosman Art Gallery

POINT OF VIEW: DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY TALK SUNDAY JUNE 28, 2.00PM.

Photographer and teacher Catherine Cloran traces the origins of documentary photography through the 20th century, from post-war America and Europe to present day Australia. The talk examines the works, practices and ideas of some of the major photographers. Free. Afternoon tea included.

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART RICKY MAYNARD: PORTRAIT OF A DISTANT LAND. JUNE 4 – AUGUST 23.

Documentary photographer Ricky Maynard creates sparse, strikingly beautiful images of the people and landscape of Flinders Island in The Bass Strait. This exhibition selects 60 of his images from the past 2 decades.

NG ART GALLERY

PATRICIA CASEY: SLIPPAGE

June 9-27.

3 Little Queen St, Chippendale. Ph 9318 2992

This exhibition consists of photographic images of landscapes layered on georgette cloth. Details are stitched onto the top layers, superimposing another perspective. The images invite us into an eerie world of internal landscapes, a mind's eye view of events long since past, hovering between what is real, remembered and imagined.

DOUBLE TAKE

Art Gallery of New South Wales

The Domain

7 May - 19 July

The Art Gallery is holding the Anne Landa Award for video and new media arts over the next two months, featuring work from around the world.

'DESIRER WALKS THE STREETS' BY ANDY SUMMERS

Blender Gallery, 16 Elizabeth St Paddington,

Tue-Sat 10am-6pm. Until June 30th.

After the tremendously popular exhibition of 2008 'I'll be Watching You, Inside the Police 1980 – 38', Blender Gallery is delighted to announce 'Desirer Walks The Streets', a new, unique photographic exhibition by Police guitarist Andy Summers. Desirer Walks the Streets is his latest project, a book of stunning black and white photographs released by Nazraeli Press.

Desirer Walks the Streets presents a dark stream of black and white photographs that are culled from Andy Summers's life as a traveling musician.

VIVID SYDNEY FESTIVAL - A FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, LIGHT AND IDEAS.

In a major artwork by Eno, Luminous launches with the lighting of the Sydney Opera House sails. Like a freeform painting, Utzon's masterpiece will glow with rich, continuously changing configurations of colour. Presented in association with Smart Light, the sails will remain lit for the three weeks of Luminous – from 26th May to 14th June from 6pm to midnight daily. There will also be spectacular light installations around the city. For more information go to the website: www.vividsydney.com

Upcoming Events : June 2009

Wed 3rd June : Competition: Autumn - Judge: Phil Ramsden

Wed 10th June : Committee Meeting

Sat 13th June: Workshop with Steve Wiessner "A Learning Experience"

Wed 17th June : Presentation: Mark Tedeschi "Nikons and Icons"

Gore Hill Outing Competition

Sun 21st June: Outing: The Spit to Manly – or part thereof!

Wed 1st July : Competition: Open - Judge: Len Brown

