



THE PRESENTERS

1. ANNE D'OLIVEIRA



I started photographing with my Gran's box brownie camera at the age of 8 and at the age of 16 received my first 35mm camera. After using two models of Minolta I switched to Canon with which I have remained. In August last year bought the Canon 5D MKIII.

Up until I joined the Camera Club of Johannesburg in June 2001, I realized that all I had been doing was taking pictures - nice ones at that - but just pictures. From then on I began to do photography. I have learnt a huge amount from being with a camera club and continue to do so each and every day. The old adage is absolutely true - "we are never too old to learn".

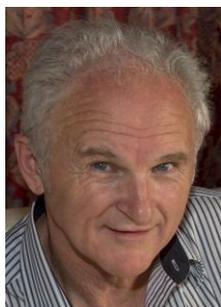
I joined the Committee at the beginning of 2002 and was appointed club Secretary. In 2003 I was elected Chairperson and hold that post to this day. I have been President of the club 3 times, am still Secretary and officer for the submission of all club entries.

In 2005 I became a Director for the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA). I also am very active in judging (physically) at many of the clubs in the Gauteng regions as well as further afield, remote club judging and have judged at numerous salons. I also participate in both National and International salons with reasonable success. I have gained my APSSA and working now on my "F" and continually set my own goals and challenges to improve my skills.

My aim since doing "photography" is not to restrict myself to any one genre of photography because I realized that there is so much to photograph I did not want to be bound by categories. As I result I have done just that. I will try anything new and attempt to master it.

I have very itchy feet and love travelling. My travels take me to unusual places and at the front of all the travel is the photography. I have been lucky in this regard and have seen many strange and unusual places. When I am not physically travelling, I am armchair travelling and photographing - always reading books on the subjects to broaden my horizons. So I am kept quite busy and this is in between running my own business where I do Project Management and Cost Control within the Construction industry.

FRANZ JESCHE



A "lifelong passion for photography" only begins to describe my journey through a long, adventurous and exciting period of time.

Born and raised in Austria, my parents instilled in me, already at an early age, the ability to see and appreciate visual beauty. My father was a keen and proficient photographer too and it was through him that I learned the value of the recorded image, in relation to treasure and equally so share one's precious moments with others.

During the years of schooling my interest in drawing, painting and art developed. But it was only when I studied architecture that I managed to save enough money to buy my own still and movie cameras. From that moment my life changed and I gradually began to pursue adventures further afield.

The move to South Africa was next on the cards. My focused dedication and hard work presented me with the good fortune I had always dreamed of - a profession I thoroughly enjoyed as well as having ample time for journeys to exotic places. Photography established itself as the driving force behind my exploits. I began to travel extensively, not only throughout Southern Africa, but equally so to many places throughout the world.

Being inquisitive and a perfectionist at heart, I continued to analyse and study photography, film making, art, design, architecture... and always managed to apply myself to these topics quite successfully.

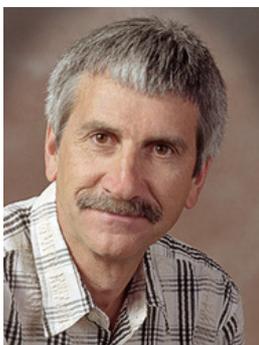
In 2001 I happened to pay the Camera Club of Johannesburg (CCJ) a visit. Not being a "club person" I was very hesitant to join but eventually did so. What pleasantly surprised me at the time was the open-minded approach to photography and the passion towards an "artistic expression" the members had in their visual presentations. Here I saw that I could learn as well as contribute.

A few years thereafter I joined PSSA to broaden my horizon further. I obtained my APSSA and FPSSA. Through National and International competitions I have gained insight into the competitive spirit of the "photographic world". Although I enjoyed great success with my submissions, I always know that there is still much more to do and learn. The ongoing quest for new and exciting visuals will never end.

Anne and Franz's presentation:

The photographs for their award winning audio visual: "In Darkest Africa"

2. Antenie Carstens FPSSA ARPS



Joined Paarl Photographic Society in 1968 and PSSA in 1970.

Professional photographer for the Department of Agriculture Technical Services from 1972 to 1980. National Service as photographer in the Air Force June 1972 to July 1973.

Joined Helderberg Photographic Society in 1973 and still active, currently serving on the committee.

Professional Photographer for the University of Stellenbosch from 1980 to 1998. Joined Cape Town Photographic Society in 1990 and still active. Currently Head of Digitisation of the National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Campus. (2008-)

PSSA Honours:

Associateship (Monochrome) in 1979; Associateship: Documentary and Literary

Associateship: Audio Visual; Associateship: Visual Art; Associateship: Service;

Fellowship: Audio Visual; Fellowship: Three categories

Other awards:

2 x PSSA service medal; PSSA Presidents Award.

PSSA Director 1992- 2005

Royal Photographic Society: Associateship awarded in 1980.

I strive to work for PSSA in a manner that will improve the standard of photography and efficiency of the society. I firmly believe that teamwork within the society is the only way for success.

Antenie's presentation:

"Looking back 60 years of PSSA: 1954 to 2015."

3. Benny Gool



Benny Gool is a South African photojournalist who was privileged to chronicle the life of Nelson Mandela – in public and private – over three momentous decades. His archive contains tens of thousands of images that combine to narrate the uniquely inspirational story of one of history's most respected and compelling icons. Gool's life work is a time capsule that reflects a defining era in world history and will echo on its pages for centuries to come. It documents not only one man's walk to freedom but also that of a nation. It was a journey that Gool was intimately qualified to document.

It was in the guise of an anti-apartheid and human rights activist that he first picked up a camera to begin documenting the injustices of a divided nation. He went on to capture the inexorable and stirring transition to democracy, the tumultuous truth and reconciliation process, and South Africa's "homecoming" as a respected member of the global community

The catalyst was one man – Mandela – and through Gool's camera we are taken on that man's journey from incarceration to beloved and inspiring world leader. The archive contains the memorable, the historic, the intimate and the cherished. And throughout, it captures the infectious humour, grace and humanity that Mandela indelibly stamped on our lives. Gool's mirror on the man of our times has attracted photographic and journalistic acclaim. His images are sought after by publishers the world over.

Benny's presentations:

Photographing South African icons: Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu etc.

Gangs of the Cape Flats

4. David Benn FPSSA



My father, a keen photographer who recorded our family history in both slides and on 8mm movie film, gave me my first camera while I was in primary school. I was hooked and have owned a camera ever since.

I took my first pictures with transparency film during my year as exchange student in the USA in 1972/73, and took my last pictures using slide film in 2008. I bought my first DSLR in 2005. It was one of the two DSLRs that Minolta made before they sold their technology to Sony. I have used Sony cameras ever since.

Jessica and I were married in 1979 and we have three children and two grandchildren. I am a Child Psychiatrist by profession.

In 1982 I became a member of the Johannesburg Photographic Society and am still an honorary life member of that club, the oldest in Johannesburg. I was Salon Director of the South African International Salon of Photography for a number of years. The 2002 Salon was the last to be hosted by JPS.

I am currently an active member of the Camera Club of Johannesburg (CCJ).

In 1994 I was awarded my APSSA for a panel of colour slides and in 2002 my FPSSA for a panel of 36 colour slides exclusively of steam railway locomotives. I love old transport of all kinds, but my first love photographically has always been the steam locomotive. Up until the early 2000s, South Africa was a mecca for steam enthusiasts. In the late 1970s and early 1980s there were over 2000 steam locomotives in everyday use in South African Railways. Through the 1990s and a few years into the 2000s the Transnet Heritage Foundation kept a significant number of steam locomotives in operational condition to work the Union Limited and special enthusiast trains. Today, a handful of dedicated enthusiasts keep a number of these behemoths in working order. They really do deserve our support. They are doing the job that a national railway museum should be doing. I have also visited China, Zimbabwe and Germany to photograph their steam locomotives, but nothing compares to the sight of a South African steam locomotive steaming through the South African veld in winter.

I now spend some of my time in arranging opportunities for steam railway photography mainly with Friends of the Rail, the Pretoria-based preservation club that runs trains to Cullinan.

In my years chasing trains along the old rail routes I realized that many of the major battles in the Anglo-Boer South African War were fought on and near the railway lines. The only way the British could move their large army was by rail, and they got into a lot of trouble when they were forced to leave the rail routes. I inherited a collection of War photographs from my Maternal Grandfather.

My first presentation brings together my rail photography, the history of this fateful War and the images in my collection.

In 2013 my wonderful family agreed that I do a trip to Antarctica.

In four weeks I ticked 3 items off my bucket list:

1. A visit to the Antarctic
2. A voyage on a Square-rigged sailing ship and
3. A visit to South America, the only other continent that I had not visited.

We had the most fantastic weather and this resulted in images that I absolutely love.

My second presentation is an account, in words and pictures of this trip of a lifetime to the Antarctic on the Europa, a Dutch square-rigged sailing ship.



5. Francois Roux – MPSSA, Hon FPSSA, EPSSA, AFIAP



I officially joined amateur photography in 1982 when I joined the Vanderbijlparkse Fotografiese Vereniging. I joined PSSA later the same year. I am an active photographer for the past 33 years. I have been exposed to judging from a very early stage at club level, because we did, and still do a lot of in-house judging at our club.

I achieved my APSSA (Slides) in 1995 with a mixed panel. I was invited as an honours judge shortly thereafter. I have since been actively involved in honours judging as a judge, and also in the administration as the organiser for the Gauteng Honours judging sessions for more than 10 years, and lately the judging session under the new dispensation.

I was elected as Regional Director of PSSA in 1999, and was asked to take the responsibility as Treasurer of PSSA the same year, a responsibility I am still entrusted with. It was also a privilege for me to serve as president of PSSA for two years.

Since the first digital salon in SA (Hermanus) in October 2005, meaning we now had 10 years of the Digital PSSA Impala log, I achieved 3 top 10 awards and twice ended 11th on the log.

I have been involved with the PSSA JAP programme since the start in 2009. I have been involved in the development of the programme together with Jill, Barrie, Johann van der Walt and others. We have presented the programme across SA over the past five years. It is important to note that the JAP programme is a task never completed. Development is taking place all the time. We receive inputs from many of our members on a continuous basis which we then incorporate and thus I also keep learning every day.

I do regard myself as a fairly versatile photographer, and I believe my Honours achievements illustrate that:

APSSA (1995) (slides) open (pictorial)

FPSSA (2004) (slides) specialist sport

APSSA (2006) (digital) specialist nature

I was honoured to receive a Hon FPSSA in 2007.

FPSSA (2009) (digital) specialist landscape

AFIAP (2011) with pictorial and nature acceptances at International Salons.

EPSSA (2013)

MPSSA – Landscapes (2013)

Francois' presentation:

Sport photography

6. Hougaard Malan



I am a professional landscape photographer from South Africa with a passion for capturing compelling images of nature. My early days in photography were spent shooting the amazing scenery of Cape Town and its surrounding landscapes, but I've travelled and photographed most of Southern Africa's greatest landscapes over the past decade. Since my first photo-trip to Namibia I've returned countless times to capture its desert scenery and it's starting to feel like my 2nd home.

While Southern Africa has vast geographical diversity and photographic potential, there are many amazing landscapes on other continents and I try to visit a new place every year. This year I visited Iceland for the first time and returned to the mountains of Patagonia to lead a workshop there. I will be showing many of the fantastic images captured on these trips in my 'Exploration Factor' talk at the Congress. This talk is all about the elements that make up the impression and impact that an image makes on a viewer and it introduces a 5th element. In this talk I try to inspire people to stop copying what's been done and to try something unique. To make use of the element I call the exploration factor.

My images have been published in all imaginable media across the world. My clients include brands like FNB, SAMSUNG, WWF, NATGEO, KLM AIRLINES and EUROPCAR to name a few. I also have an online shop dedicated to the very best of photographic accessories. These products will be on show every day at the congress from 8:00-11:00 and there will be special discounts for all congress attendees. The world's best tripods, backpacks and filter systems will be there for everyone to have a look at and play around with.

Hougaard's presentation:

The Exploration Factor

- about looking for new and unique shots instead of copying what's been done

7. Jill Sneesby Hon MPSSA, MPSSA, FPSSA(Dux)



Jill's passions are photography, wildlife, photography, travel, photography – wherever she goes her camera goes too. She is fortunate in that her photography has taken her to many wonderful places where she has lectured and judged and of course photographed. Towards the end of last year Jill visited the US to do a presentation at the PSA Conference, to attend their Board meetings (she is on the Board of PSA having taken over from Barrie Wilkins as International Relationships Vice President) and to photograph the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta and the surrounding area of New Mexico – this will be the subject for her first presentation Spirit of the Winds.

From there it was a quick flip, not by Hot Air Balloon, to India where she was scheduled to judge the FIAP Nature Biennial. Fortunately there were a few weeks to spare so she put them to good use travelling through Rajasthan with a side trip to Varanasi and the Pushkar Camel Fair which is the subject of her second presentation – Impressions of India.

<http://www.jandbphotographers.com/>

Jill's presentations:

Spirit of the Winds:

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta and the surrounding area of New Mexico

Impressions of India:

Travelling through Rajasthan, to Varanasi and the Pushkar Camel Fair

8. Johan and Margie Botha

Johan J Botha - Hon FPSSA, MPSSA, FAPS, EFIAP, ARPS, EPSSA



Photographic Interests

I am an active Wildlife photographer for 25 years already. I do enjoy however also general Nature, Pictorial, Photo Journalism, Photo Travel and even Family photography! Most of my wildlife photography is done in Africa, specifically South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Kenya, Zambia and Tanzania but I photographed also extensively in Alaska, Antarctica, South America, Australia, Europe and the United States.

Publications

South African Getaway magazine; SA Camera and Image; SA Photo
South African newspapers - The Star and Beeld;
Natures Best magazine (USA); Various French and German magazines
Various calendars and desk pads; Salon catalogues

The South African TV network 'Kyknet' has filmed a feature on me as wildlife photographer.

Lectures, Talks and Judging

I have been invited and have done several national and international presentations and talks on photography. I am currently doing wildlife photography training courses with a partner in the Sabi Sands and Botswana.

I served as judge for many South African and International photographic salons including the Qatari Al Thani Photographic Awards, the Austrian Super Circuit, the Wilmington (Delaware), International Photographic Exhibition in the USA and the Maitland International salon in Australia.

Other photographic achievements

- 2014 Natures Best Magazine photographic competition (with 22 000 entries) accepted two of my images for publication and display in the Smithsonian Museum.
- 2013 Natures Best Magazine photographic competition (with 26 000 entries) accepted one of my images for publication and display in the Smithsonian Museum. Also selected my image as one of only 12 out of all the entries for their 2014 calendar that will be sold through the Smithsonian museums and Barnes & Noble.
- 2013 The African Wildlife Foundation selected one of my images out of the 26 000 Natures Best images to use in their 2015 calendar
- Overall winner in 2009 of the Nature section of the Trierenberg Super Circuit salon with tens of thousands of entries and €40 000 of total prize money
- Winner in 2007 of the Animal Behaviour section of the UK Natural History Museum Shell Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition (40 000 entries)
- Winner in 2005 of the Mammal section of one of the biggest Wildlife photographic competition in the USA (Natures Best Photographic Magazine with 20 000 entries)
- Overall Winner of the South African Getaway/Fujifilm Wildlife competition in 2004 giving me the title of "South African Wildlife Photographer of the Year"
- Eight images in the top 80 in the Getaway/Fujifilm Wildlife competition in 2004
- Two images in the top 80 in the Getaway/Fujifilm Wildlife competition in 2005 with one as first runner-up in the Action category
- Winner of the South African Agfa/Getaway Wildlife mammal category in 2000
- Three images in the Agfa/Getaway Wildlife top 50 and one Highly Commended in 2003
- Member of the South African team which competed in the FIAP World Cup International Nature competition in 2001
- Overall individual winner in FIAP World Cup International Nature competition in 2001
- Member of the South African team which competed in the FIAP Nature Biennale in both slides and print categories in 2003
- I Won the PSSA Impala Trophy Print division with a second place in the Digital Division and a fourth place in the Slide section in 2005; first South African photographer to be in the top five of all three media (slides, prints and digital)

- Many years included under the top ten PSSA photographers according to the rating system of PSSA which is based on salon acceptances (Impala Trophy system)
- PSSA Five Diamond rating in Pictorial and Nature slides
- More than 3000 national and international salon acceptances including tens of PSA, FIAP, PSSA medals and certificates

Photographic Equipment

I am using Nikon photographic equipment.

Website: www.johanjbotha.com

Presentations by Johan Botha:

1. An Audio-Visual Potpourri - Johan and Margie Botha

This will entail several short AV's, the majority non-wildlife like the World Body Painting Championship, Santorini, The Namib Desert, etc

2. Landscapes from the Americas

We have done 3 months of mainly Landscape Photography in North America and 6 weeks in South America. The unbelievable diversity of some the US National Parks and extremes of the South American environment will be illustrated with comments on how the images were captured.

3. The Quiet Kgalagadi - Wildlife photography during quiet times

When the Kgalagadi is quiet it can be very quiet. You have then to focus on the not so popular subjects, but when you come across the famous you have to be ready to take a perfect photo. I will explain why we had one of our best trips ever in the Kgalagadi.

Margie Botha, FPSSA AFIAP



Margie Botha lives in Johannesburg with her husband, Johan. She retired a few years ago from being a school teacher working with mentally and physically disabled children for 36 years; a big passion of hers.

Photography is a hobby to her, which she enjoys sharing with her husband. She started with photography in the early 1990's and is an active member of her club and on the national and international Salon scene. She holds a Fellowship of the Photographic Society of South Africa (FPSSA) as well as an Artist of The International Federation of Photographic Art (FIAP). Although she claims not to be very competitive, she has won various awards including medals for her work and has given lectures at various occasions.

occasions.

She was also a member of the South African team who competed in the FIAP Nature World Championship in 2001.

She was editor of "Image", then the monthly magazine of the Photographic Society of South Africa for four years.

Her love for wildlife and nature photography takes her and her husband to all the wonderful locations in Africa, while they also enjoy all other aspects of photography. They enjoy traveling nationally and internationally, whenever they get the opportunity.

Margie has judged various competitions in South Africa at clubs, congresses and national and international salons. She also had the opportunity to judge in Australia; twice judged the prestigious German Mega Circuit and also monthly competitions for the German magazine, "Photogen".

Her hobby also allows for the development of her creative side, as she is very much involved in the making of photo books.

9. Johan Kloppers FPSSA APSSA(Vers)



My photographic career dates back to the early 1970's.

I started off being a member of the Sandton Photographic Society. After completing my dental studies I relocated to the Western Cape and joined the Fish Hoek Photographic Society in 1979. I was also for short periods a member of Cape Town and Helderberg Photographic Societies. I joined PSSA as a member in 1976, and since 1980 I have been a Life Member of the Society.

My main interest in photography is Wildlife, although I also enjoy all genres of photography. I have managed to win the Wildlife section of the Impala Trophy in both 1984 and 1985. I have also won many medals in photography locally as well as abroad.

In 1983 I was awarded the APSSA and in 1985 the FPSSA both with Wildlife images in slides. Since then I was awarded APSSA for Visual Arts also in slides as well as APSSA Pictorial in Digital.

Through the years I have lectured at various congresses and also done workshops on many occasions. For the past 5 years I have been serving as the PSSA Regional Director for the Western Cape.

Presentation by Johan:

My lecture is on Wildlife Photography and it will cover all aspects of this genre. It will include a short history of Wildlife Photography as well as all the building blocks necessary to be able to do images of Wildlife. We will look at the importance of the importance of: Location, light and the direction of light, the importance of composition, time of the day and year, approaching wildlife, the usage of hides, the correct exposure, birds in flight, just to mention a few of the aspects.

10. Koot Marais FPSSA EPSSA APSSA(Vers)



I have been interested in photography from a young age and joined the Bloemfontein Camera Club in 1987, where I am still an active member, holding the highest star rating, namely Galaxy. I have been president of the club on a number of occasions.

My photographic honours are as follows:

- APSSA - Colour Slides
 - Black & White Prints (Conventional Prints)
 - Colour Prints
- APSSA (Vers)
- FPSSA - Colour Slides
- EPSSA - Digital Photography

I have actively participated in salons for many years and generally finished under the top five of the Impala Trophy during both the slide - and digital photography eras. I was the winner of the Mono League during 2012 and 2013, and won the Impala Trophy for three consecutive years, namely 2012, 2013 and 2014.

I have been a member of the PSSA Honours Judging Panel since its inception. I regularly judge salons and other competitions and often lecture at congresses, academic institutions and at other organisations.

My photographs have been published in various publications. I also use my photographs for one of my other interests, namely painting. I am active in and enjoy all genres of photography.

I am a Consulting Traffic Engineer and have been married to Iloma for 32 years. We have two children.

<http://www.photovibes.com/index.html>

Presentation by Koot:

"My World of Photography" - Application for Master (MPSSA)

11. Manus van Dyk FPSSA ARPS APPSA



Manus van Dyk is a leading wildlife photographer for the past 12 years; used to live in Nelspruit but now resides in Somerset West, South Africa. Over and above contributing to several Stock Image Libraries throughout the world, he is one of South Africa's leading photographic instructors.

In 2005 he saw an opportunity to teach people how to use their new Digital SLR, as well as teaching those that have already grasped the Basics of Photography to move towards utilizing the more advanced techniques. He started the "EOS Road show" that concentrated on training people how to use their Canon EOS DSLR to its fullest potential. In 2010 on request of Canon SA and Canon Europe, he had to drop the trade name EOS and changed his company name to DSLR Training. He also runs The Ultimate Digital Course for Wildlife Photographers in the world renowned Sabi Sands Private Game Reserve in South Africa. He holds the following honours, APSSA (Vers), ARPS (United Kingdom), APPSA (Professional Photographers of South Africa) and FPSSA, and was the first photographer to achieve an APSSA and FPSSA in digital photography in South Africa.

In 2012 he moved his focus from only doing wildlife photography to photographing sport. He currently photographs all major sport events throughout South Africa for Gallo/Getty images. Manus was also appointed as one of Canon's Elite Photographers in February 2015.

<http://www.dslrtraining.co.za/index.php>

Presentations by Manus:
Low Light Photography
DSLR Workshop

12. Obie Oberholzer

Born on a farm in Africa. (On the 26th of August 1947 to be exact). Spent most of my first eight years running around barefoot like a wild little madman. Later went to an English High School and started wearing shoes. Managed to scrape through final exams but excelled at sport and girls. Was drafted into the South African Air Force, but did a lot more athletics than aerial combat. Went to Stellenbosch University and became reckless and exuberant. Studied Graphic design, drinking, dancing, rugby and athletics. Was made aware that cameras can produce images.



Fell in love with photography and Lynn. Bought a Hasselblad and got married.

Looked around and became aware of the bad political situation in South Africa. In 1970, said goodbye to all the friends and parents and went off to study photography in München, Germany. Quickly learnt that fun and hard work didn't mix. Broadened my horizons in many ways. Learnt that to excel in image making needed total enthusiasm and commitment. Received top marks in the final exams.

In 1973 worked as camera assistant at a German Film Company. Started to long for the wide-open plains of Africa. Returned to South Africa to find that Apartheid was at it's worst. Found work in Pretoria and fell around from job to job and from bar to bar. In 1975, started lecturing at The Natal Technikon in Durban. Approached teaching with enthusiasm.

In 1979, took sabbatical and returned to München to complete a Masters Diploma at the Bavarian State Institute of Photography. In 1980 was promoted to Senior lecturer, but caused some kind of shit and was demoted the next day. In 1984, applied for head of the Photography Section at Rhodes University in Grahamstown.

In 1999 was promoted to Associate Professor. Didn't cause any shit so remained in that position till my retirement from academia in 2002.

Moved to Nature's Valley and started a freelance photographic business. Have never lost my enthusiasm for photography. From 1975 to the present day, have produced 11 coffee table books and a cookbook. ('Momento Mori' was a collaboration with historians and only published in Europe). During this time, have had 34 solo exhibitions in South Africa and 10 International one-man exhibitions in Europe. Still photographing for many international publications around the world.



My wife of 44 years, Lynn, who retired from teaching when we moved to Nature's Valley, is now assisting me. My wild and wonderful sons, Nikki and Jesse, are at present living in Abu Dhabi and Australia.

<http://obieoberholzer.net/>

Presentation by Obie:
Obie's Way

13. Paul Bruins



I am a Cape Town based professional photographer, whose interest in photography was sparked off at an early age while completing a school project to build a pin-hole camera and to develop and print the results in a home-made darkroom. Although I studied and qualified as a civil engineer in the early 1980s, I never went far without a camera of some sort. From cheap disposables, to 35mm SLRs and then to medium format, I have experimented with a large range of equipment and styles. While I do have a considerable amount of studio experience shooting portraits, still-life and close-up macro images, my love

of nature and the outdoors saw me moving towards and specialising in architectural and fine-art landscape photography.

For the past ten years, I have taken great pleasure in exploring and photographing every corner of my home town and province.

For me there is no better feeling than discovering another beautiful location, waking up and getting out before the first light of dawn, and then being ready and in position to capture a compelling composition in the best possible light. The thrill of pressing the camera's shutter when all the conditions are absolutely perfect is something that is very difficult for me to describe in words. These are the moments that make me feel completely alive.

When it comes to photography, I am a perfectionist. I am extremely critical of my own images, and am always acutely aware when I have captured a scene in a less-than-perfect way. My personal goal is to continue to improve my techniques with every photograph I take, and I will return to the same location again and again, until I am completely certain that all the elements have worked in my favour, and that I have produced an image that cannot be improved upon.

My primary motivation for photographing beautiful landscapes is to share my emotions, experiences, locations and techniques with other like-minded photographers.

This passion for finding and capturing the most picturesque locations and for sharing my photographic experiences has prompted me to organise and host a number of photographic exhibitions, workshops and tours, both locally and internationally. My images have won numerous competitions and awards and have been published on calendars, in magazines and as book covers.

I continue to sell my work through fine-art photography web-sites and as stock images to international libraries like Getty Images.

My favourite quote is one from Art Buchwald – "The best things in life aren't things".

<http://paulbruins.co.za/>

Paul's presentations:

1. The Magic of Nik Color Efex Pro

A demonstration of the power of Nik Software's Color Efex plug-in filters for Photoshop and Lightroom, showing how you can creatively process your photos, transforming them from nice into awesome in 7 easy steps.

2. The 10 most valuable lessons that I learned to improve my photography

Improving the quality of your photographs is a never-ending learning-curve, with many thousands of how-to articles and books available on the internet and in book-stores. In this presentation I will describe the 10 most important things that have influenced the quality of my images.