

CONGRESS SPEAKERS 2019

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 10 coffee table books. ('Momento Mori' was a collaboration with historians). 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 40 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 Qatar and Australia.

Obie has also publish the following books during his career.

PUBLISHED BOOKS

- Ariesfontein to Zuurfontein : A Pictorial Journey (1988)
- Southern Circle : Another Pictorial Journey (1989)
- To Hell n Gone (1991)
- Beyond Bagamoyo : A Journey from Cape to Cairo (1998)
- The Hotazel Years (2000)
- Raconteur Road : Shots into Africa (2002)
- [Round the Bend: Travels Around Southern Africa \(2006\) – BUY](#)
- [Long Ago Way: In the Footsteps of Alphonse Hustinx \(2007\) – BUY](#)
- [Limburgs Momento Mori \(2010\) – BUY](#)
- [Karoo. Long Time Passing](#)
- [Cooking in the photographers house](#)

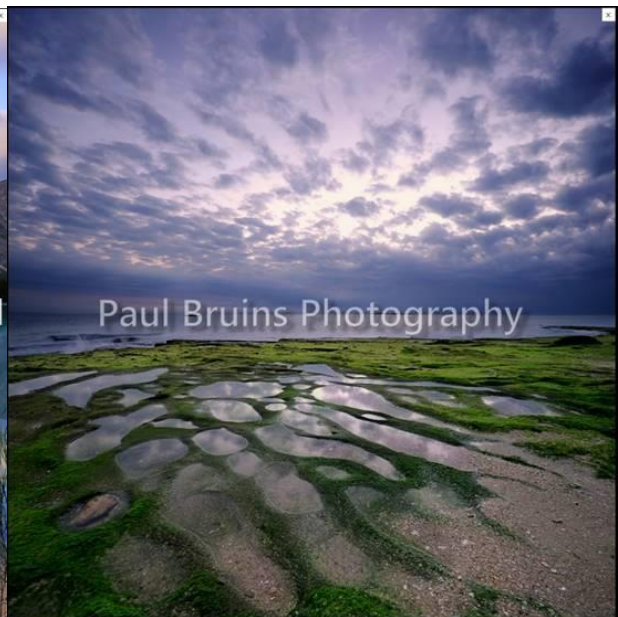
Paul Bruins <https://paulbruins.co.za/>

My interest in photography was sparked at an early age while completing a school project of building a pin-hole camera and developing and printing the results in a homemade darkroom. From then on, photography has remained an integral part of my life. Despite qualifying as a civil engineer, my passion for this creative art has meant I am seldom without my camera, and my love for nature and the outdoors has cumulated in my extensive skills as an architectural and fine-art landscape photographer.

I offer a portfolio of options for individual **art lovers, interior decorators and designers**, with a variety of choices to complete their interior decorated rooms, whether at home or for clients.

Aside from capturing beautiful and interesting landscapes and architecture, I also offer **workshops and private tuition**. With my varied experience, I am able to offer training to suit both beginners and more advanced, amateur photographers.

My keen interest in architecture has resulted in a specialist offering in **hotel, B&B and guesthouse** photography that has seen me capture the individual beauty of many establishments, both locally and internationally.



Willem Oets

Is a fine art photographer. He started photography in 1991 after he was introduced to photography as a creative medium.

He became renowned for his landscape and abstract work, as well as his award winning audio-visual presentations.

In 2009 he made a major paradigm shift by adding the human figure to his desert landscapes. This initiated the move towards his present style of expressive photography. He explores the sensuality of natural light and captures a fragile and delicate emotion in his pictures. His work reveals layers of thought and feeling and brings contemplation to art photography. He describes himself as a visual observer responding to gesture and expression.



<https://www.willemoets.com/>

<http://www.pssa.co.za/speakers/1236-willem-oets>

Christiaan Kotze

Christiaan is an International award winning Photojournalist. He specialize in Sport. He have covered Olympic games, Rugby world Cups, Cricket world cups, Soccer world cup and numerous other high profile sporting events.

He also does commercial Theatre production photography , and frequently nature and wild life photography.

He does talks and seminars on especially Sport photography

He has the interest of young photographers at heart and frequently shares his 25 years working experience with up and coming photographers.



Kim Wolhuter

Born in the Kruger National Park of South Africa, Maverick filmmaker and third generation game ranger Kim Wolhuter has spent his career documenting some of Africa's apex predators. What sets him apart are the bonds that he forms with the animals he films, giving him unparalleled access and distinctive footage of some of Africa's most revered species.

Kim's dedication to his stories sees him spend up to two years with any one species, ensuring the animal becomes relaxed in his presence to film the most natural behaviour possible. His burning passion is to dispel the myths that cloud certain predators. A deep love and commitment to revealing the truth about these animals are evident in his work

Read more at: <https://wildark.org/journals/interview-truth-hyenas>
or witness his incredible bond with the animals he documents
at <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bx9ylxXOBas>



Martin Barber

Martin's love for photography started at a young age when he was given his first camera for Christmas. Later this moved to him developing his own black and white photos in a makeshift darkroom with an enlarger station in their bathroom.

Digital photography changed everything for him and digital editing with Adobe Photoshop became his new darkroom. He worked for many years with Adobe products such as Bridge, Lightroom and Photoshop.

With his interest in creative photography he needed to study all aspects of photo-editing using these products as far back as Photoshop CS2 up to the latest Adobe Creative Cloud 2019.

He has been called as a speaker to many photographic functions and congresses across South Africa. He enjoys all aspects of photography and sees himself as a creative photographer and enjoys fine art, portraiture, altered reality, composite, and monochrome. He joined the Alberton Camera Club in 2009 and worked his way up to Grand Master, the highest level in the club and served on the committee for 7 years.

He has been fortunate in the past to have been awarded many acceptances, certificates of merit and over 100 Salons medals, and numerous other awards for local and on the International Photography stage. His love is Creative and Black and White Photography; they tell a story and that is what photography is about. He also won the PSSA Impala Trophy, the Impala Trophy for Black and White 3 times and the Impala Colour. Photography is not about taking photos its about creating and telling stories in your work.

He has a FPSSA (Hon) in Open Colour Creative, 2 APSSA (Hon) for open Colour and Black and White and serves as a honours judge for the Photographic Society of Southern Africa.



Charlaine Gerber

Charlaine Gerber, discovered her passion for photography later in life. She received her B.Cur* from the Rand University of South Africa and worked in the medical industry for more than 30 years. Since Charlaine took up photography in 2013 she has been widely published and has received numerous accolades both nationally and internationally. She received her LPSSA in 2016 and her APSSA in 2017 and DPSSA in 2019. To date Charlaine holds more than 100 National and international medals and won numerous competitions and she's had three solo exhibitions. Charlaine's range of topics stretch from landscape, nature, macro and art photography. Widely recognised for her innovation, Charlaine works mostly in composite photography with an emphasis on narrative, giving a different perspective to scenes.

Also gives regular talks, workshops and presentations at clubs, congresses and other venues on invitation. Also started giving exclusive workshops on Compositing in 2017..

"Pia Lux is the Latin phrase for 'Loving the Light' and is the essence of the way I see photography and create art photography as I do. Fine art photography is photography created in accordance with the vision of the artist as photographer. I have had a love for photography for many years but more recently a particular interest in art photography to create unique photos. I had a creative vision to not merely capture a realistic rendition or mere representation of the subject, but aim to produce a more personal, maybe evocative or atmospheric impression with my photos that might go beyond realism. I have a special interest in fine art photography, and often take photos to use in composites to create an work of art or symbolism which can be interpreted in many different ways"

Charlaine currently lives and works in Witbank, South Africa with her husband and regularly visits her four children and three grandchildren.

Some awards

2017 - Overall Winner of 1x Photo Awards

2017 - Marike Bruwer Trophy Winner

2018 - IPA awards 3rd in the Art photography category and nominated for the 'Photographer of the year' at the Lucie Awards in New York, Carnegie Hall

2017-2019 under the top ten of the Impala Trophy (PSSA).

Also read a bit more and view some of her work at <https://1x.com/magazine/charlaine-gerber-pushing-new-boundaries-in-fine-art-photography-8268> and <https://www.pialux.net>



And the moon stood still for the night