

PSSA NATIONAL CONGRESS 2012 at **LANGEBAAN – SPEAKERS**

1. FRANCOIS ROUX

Light: A Photographer's Brush

Paying more attention to light is perhaps the single most important step you can take to improve your photography.

The two most influential factors of light in a picture:

- Colour (quality)
- Direction

Light is a creative tool: there is no such thing as “good” or “bad” light, only "different".

2. BRUCE HEPBURN

Haiti Earthquake & Japan Tsunami

Rescue South Africa is an international disaster response team and I was privileged to be selected to accompany the team on missions to Haiti in 2010 and Japan in 2011 after the earthquake disasters suffered by those nations. My presentation will cover those disasters from the point of view of a rescuer on the team, giving an alternative insight to the stories and articles from the mass media. In addition I will add value to the presentation by showing delegates how they can prepare for disasters and help protect their families from them and their aftermath.

3. LEE SLABBER

My talk will be split into two halves. Scapes-through my lens, will focus on what I look for in a landscape and give ideas and tips on how to get started when in the field. Since the congress is on the west coast I will focus on seascapes. The second part of my talk will be 10 tips to improve your wildlife photography. This is a fun talk to hopefully spark everyone into getting in the field more often.

GEOFF McILLERON

Insects in flight

Recent research by scientists has revealed the remarkable diversity of insect life of the rivers of the Tsitsikamma mountains together with the discovery of many species new to science. In order to foster interest in conserving these rivers with their unique life, I wished to obtain photographs of the life of the rivers. The photographs needed to excite interest in viewers. This led to an exploration of ways in which to capture remarkable images of the insects, particularly in flight.

The adult insects are small fast-flying nocturnal insects. The capture of high quality pictures demanded very short exposures at high magnifications up to 1:1. A rig was devised that enabled pictures to be captured as the insect was at the precise point of focus of the camera. After getting good quality flight pictures of an insect 'frozen' in free flight, further experimental techniques for capturing the flight of insects were tried and developed. Some of these further techniques generated remarkable and beautiful flight 'trace' photographs. The battery of techniques revealed a lot of information about the insects including flight speed, wing-beat frequency and flight dynamics. The photographic techniques have excited scientists and 2 presentations have been delivered at international congresses of insect scientists.

My adventure into insect photography expanded way beyond original expectations and has led to many unique, beautiful, and often artistic photographs of insects in flight. Furthermore photography has been used to promote conservation of the Tsitsikamma rivers and expand scientific understanding of flight activity of the insects. This presentation concentrates on the photographic aspects of the venture - the techniques developed and how they have been applied.

4. JOHANN VAN DER WALT

The why and how of digital monochrome photography

Using a set of photographs I will illustrate what makes a good monochrome photograph and why it sometimes is better than a colour photograph. In the second half of the talk I will practically show how to convert a colour photo to monochrome using layers and blending modes.

5. PAUL GODARD

Capturing the Beauty of Nature & Time Lapse Photography of Trees

Painting the beauty of nature through images of landscapes and wildlife, more specifically, a celebration of fynbos with poetic images of flowers, journeys through Namibia and Madagascar and time-lapse photography of trees.

6. CAMERON EWART-SMITH

Winning images

A behind the scenes look at Getaway's monthly photographic competition Getaway Gallery in order to understand what it takes to make world-class, competition winning images.

7. HEIN WASCHEFORT

Creative Portraiture with reference to Cubism

My talk is going to be on creative portraiture with reference to cubism. The talk will essentially be concerned with cubism and the parallel implementation of this art form in art, architecture, literature, photography and cinematography. With this talk I aim to create an interest in photography as a fine art and also inspire photographers to contemplate creative portraiture with a literal cubistic approach as a sub-genre.

8. NICOLE PALMER

Dance of Light and the Creative Fire

In this presentation, I explore my thought process when I am behind the camera and "how to be in touch with your creativity"; confidently working with it and finding simple easy ways to keep it flowing

9. ERIC PALMER

Strobes - Flash Photography

I started photography in June 2007 & have combined it with everything I'm passionate about.

Action, insects, humour, our amazing country & controlling light. Being heavily influenced by my mother (Nicole Palmer) & other art photographers, I like to approach the scenes I shoot focusing mainly on composition, light & finding the right angle to bring the best out of my subject. I'm inspired by many photographers these days, but I try to keep to my own style as it is the only way to stay unique & not fall into the shadows the masters create.

I'm not a competitive person, but like to challenge/compete with myself & push the boundaries. Constantly looking for a new approach to a subject I've shot many times over to avoid falling into a groove & losing that creative edge. Sometimes this breaks a few of the technical rules of photography, but I see photographic rules more as guidelines & feel rigid rules only create rigid images & the world doesn't always fit the rules, so you need to be flexible to make the most out of certain situations

10. HANNES LOCHNER

Life in the Kalahari

I, have spent the last 4 years (the last two years my partner Noa, who does all the filming of the project) in the Kalahari Desert, doing a day and a night project, I'm busy working on my next publication called 'the dark side of the Kalahari.' My talk is basically about my life in the Kalahari and sharing some of my stories this beautiful piece of land offers.

11. PETER BRANDT

Black and White Digital Photography

Will be giving a basic introduction to black and white photography, followed by a run-through of some of my own photos as well as a slide-show of greatly admired, representative, images by Flickr contemporaries.

The second half of the presentation will involve a run-through of black and white conversion and editing in Lightroom, Photoshop and Nik Silver Fx, with special focus on Lightroom.

12. CHRIS DALY

Landscapes at their Best

Enhancing your landscape photography using Lightroom, Photoshop and Nik Software.

The talk is based on the work I am currently doing in landscape photography and how I get to the final image via Lightroom (or Adobe Camera Raw) and Photoshop. I will look at well-known artists with examples of their paintings as I believe the landscape photographer is also an artist and the only difference is the medium we use. I will show examples of my landscapes, some before and after working on them. In some cases I will show the stages I go through to get to the final result. The talk will also include working with the Nik Software plugins for Lightroom

13. JOHANN VAN DER WALT

The Psychology of Composition

I will illustrate to the audience what the reason behind the well-known composition elements and guidelines are and how to use this information to keep the attention of your viewer.

14. ADRI VAN OUDHEUSDEN

Conceptual Macro - Another Universe

Photography became part of my life in 1972 when I joined the Shutterbugs Camera Club in Vanderbijlpark. My main interest then was ciné. Later I started exploring the realm of monochrome and 35mm. I always pushed my photographic boundaries, but it was after Freeman Patterson's first visit to South Africa that my photography got a breath of fresh air. I also got hooked on audio-visual. It opened up more possibilities and more challenges.

I enjoy "out-of-the-box" thinking and photographing what is not usually seen, a world within another world. We walk right past thousands of images every day. If we don't learn to see the little things that are right here, in our everyday lives, then how will we be able to really stimulate our creative thinking?

15. DEREK & NORMA PEARMAN

Eye of the Beholder

A short look back at the past and how we did photography. Moving forward to today with in camera techniques only available through the invention of Digital photography. Ending with innovative equipment for the today photographer

How did they do that?

Norma will lead you through the world of Macro and Multi Image photography, while Derek will compliment that area of photography with "In Camera" Landscapes and Wildlife

16. JILL SNEESBY & BARRIE WILKINS

Around the World in 50 minutes

Judging, shooting & exhibiting internationally

17. GUS WASCHEFORT

Photography and the Law

The Legal Aspects of Photographing Public Spaces and People in Public Spaces Most photographers are unsure as to whether they may photograph public spaces and people in public spaces. Many photographers, including members of PSSA, have been told by security officials that they may not photograph specific buildings. Additionally, one also hears often of photographers who were confronted by people in public spaces who claim that the photographer acted unlawfully in taking a picture of the relevant person. This lecture will address the parameters within which photographers may photograph in such situations. The lecture will be presented by relying on example images to illustrate points that are made, accordingly, the lecture will not be dry and academic, but rather practical and interactive.

18. USCHI STUART

Working in layers

Uschi will be showing images in an Audio Visual which are not always accurate depictions of reality but a more expressive interpretation of our own visual voice. Afterwards she will lift the digital curtain and reveal the basic Photoshop techniques which she has used

19. MALCOLM JONES

The Image is in my Head – A Personal Perspective on Photography Today

Ansel Adams said "A great photograph is one that fully expresses what one feels, in the deepest sense, about what is being photographed". Whilst this may be the case for the photographer taking the photograph, because he/she is there and experiencing what is being photographed, it is difficult to communicate, fully, to another person who was not there at the same time, what one feels, via just a photograph. How one experiences what is being photographed may depend on more than one of the five human senses. Whilst part of what one 'sees' when taking a photograph may appear in the resulting photograph, a significant part may remain in one's mind. It can be argued that the camera is inadequate as an image making tool and that its inadequacies need to be compensated for by other tools and measures if a major part of an image is not to remain in one's head.

20. LAETITIA KENNY

Altered Reality

Laetitia Kenny will be doing a talk on Altered Reality and will do a step by step demonstration on to compile multi-layer composites. The talk will include cutting out options, sources of inspiration and tips and hints to make Altered Reality images more realistic and believable

21. FANUS WELDHAGEN

Cooking up a Storm

Just like our bodies need food, our soul needs spiritual nourishment and our creative spirit need a way to express itself. If yours consist of a "Sasko sam" sarmy with peanut butter for lunch every day you probably still "take" photographs, but should you opt for an exotic salad or sushi every now and then, chances are that you have crossed the Rubicon and have started to "make" photographs. The ultimate nourishment is when you start to create your own sushi platter and start dreaming of being SA's next Master chef. That's when you start cooking up a storm!

As photographers we have a vast array of ingredients, recipes and techniques which we can use to feed our creative spirit. On a culinary journey through the tools of our trade we'll be cooking up a storm, in our endeavour to create the "Perfect Storm".