

focus

the newsletter of the matamata camera club

www.matamatacameraclub.org

July, 2012

Present

Keith & Elaine, Carl, Sonya, Geoff, Sarah, Cushla, Tracy, Cassandra, Robbo, Tina.

Apologies

John, Joel, Mariette, Liz, Esther, Adrian, Jo, Stuart, Andy, Dan

Welcome

... to our July newsletter.

Critiques are an integral part of submitting images at camera club. As much as making images, giving good critiques is an art itself.

The few sentences we receive for our images each month can have a powerful effect on how we progress in image-making. A poorly delivered critique can be devastating to someone starting out, yet artful feedback can inspire a significant improvement in how your images are created. Usually though it's somewhere in-between!

We've all seen the wide variety of critiques received month-by-month given by a range of camera club judges and how we respond to those comments.

I recently was reading a pair of articles on the Psychology For Photographers website that discussed well the merits & pitfalls of both giving and receiving critiques. Also offered were techniques for handling critiques whether you are the creator or the recipient. Key amongst this is to take as much emotion as possible out of the equation.

For judges it's avoiding provocative language and being constructive; for us photographers it's remembering critiques are to help us improve, that they refer purely to the image not the person. It's all a learning process: think of those comments next time you shoot and see what you can change.

Read the full articles here;

<http://psychologyforphotographers.com/a-crash-course-in-the-art-of-constructive-critique>

<http://psychologyforphotographers.com/5-things-you-should-know-about-receiving-photography-critique>

Carl

From The President's Desk

Hi All

Got your winter woollies on yet? Winter is now officially here, but this can be an exciting time for photography, with wild waves, dramatic skies, fog and frost, and beautiful colours. Only trouble is, it's too hard to get up early, to catch the best time of the day.

I particularly enjoyed our last meeting,
Thank you to Lisa Crandall, for such an informative presentation on portraiture photography
I for one will definitely do one of her workshops, if we can organise it.

Don't forget next theme is Entranceways: Doors, gates, arches – many entranceways are around us, whether your home, local park or something else again.
Also Open Digital.

Happy Shooting

Keith.

Lisa Crandall Visit

We fortunate to have photographer Lisa Crandall, a Master of the NZIPP, as a guest speaker at the July meeting. Lisa specialises in Portrait photography and shared some of her experiences as well as tips & techniques for improving portrait images.

Based in Whatawhata, Lisa also takes photography workshops with a max. of 6 persons per workshop, email her at lisa@imageme.co.nz for more information.

Take a look at Lisa's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ImageMePhotography> or website <http://www.imageme.co.nz/>.

5Ways 2012

The latest 5Ways was recently hosted by the Rotorua Camera Club who put on a fantastic day including keynote speaker local photographer Graeme Murray (<http://www.graememurray.com/>), who amongst others works for Red Bull. Judging was done by both Craig Robertson and Chris Parker with Rotorua club taking out top honours. We had a solid third result at the 5Ways with only 7 points separating 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places.

Aliah Jan Workshop

We have been fortunate to secure the skills of Aliah Jan FPSNZ who will run a workshop for us on producing AV's, and the use of Lightroom for processing images. This will include a shoot in the afternoon and some sort of group dinner (to be decided, maybe fish & chips?)

Aliah will be partnered with her friend Leonie who will run a small section on pinhole photography.

Note: you can purchase Holga Pinhole lenses for digital cameras (canon/Nikon) on TradeMe for about \$30. And pinhole film cameras are still available new like the Harman Titan from Ilford <http://www.ilfordphoto.com/products/product.asp?n=75>

Please contact Keith if you intend to attend the workshop, we need to organise some numbers before the day.

Correspondence

Correspondence will be emailed out to members as it arrives from now on.

Events

Now til 16 Sept – Brian Brake: Lens On The World at the Tauranga Art Gallery

15 Aug – Pecha Kucha Hamilton Vol11. The Atrium, Wintec,
<https://www.facebook.com/events/334274129982787/?ref=ts>

19 Aug – World Photography Day
www.worldphotoday.org

08 Sept – Aliah Jan Workshop in Matamata

07-29 Sept – World Press Photo Exhibition, The Atrium, Wintec, Hamilton.
<http://www.worldpressphoto.org/>

Around The Web

August theme ‘Entranceways’

<https://www.mediafocus.com/image-search/entrance-ways-stock-photos.html>

39 BS-Free Tips To Change Your Photography Forever

<http://www.expertphotography.com/bs-free-tips-to-make-you-a-better-photographer>

History of New Zealand photography

<http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/nz-photography>

2012 Subscriptions

\$35.00 for individual member or \$50.00 for couples. We prefer payment by internet banking, but cash on club nights are also accepted. Only paid members are eligible to enter the monthly image critiques.

Account: Kiwibank Matamata Camera Club 38 9010 0534664 00
Reference: MCC Subs *First Name Surname*

Reminder – Submitting Images

We’re getting images coming in for the monthly critiques that haven’t been sized and labelled correctly, and this makes extra work for those organising the judging. At times there’s not even any indication which images are for the theme and which for the open categories. Please remember to;

- size your images to a maximum of 1024 x 768 pixels,
- label your images with an appropriate name, your grade and initials *i.e. myphoto_a_cp.jpg*
- send Theme and Open images as separate emails,
- and ensure either ‘(month) Theme’ or ‘(month) Open’ is in the subject line of your email.

Next Theme

The set theme for August is: ‘Entranceways’ - Doors, gates, arches – many entranceways are around us, whether your home, local park or something else again. Theme and Open images are due Monday 13th August for the meeting on the 14th.

Please read through the guide on submitting images in the 2012 Programme if you haven’t already (a PDF copy is on the website).

Quote: “Art is not a handicraft, it is the transmission of feeling the artist has experienced.”
- **LEO TOLSTOY, *What is Art?***