

VIEWFINDER



Vol. 46 No. 6

Mar 2007

*50th
Year*



Image of the Month

“Andrea”

© Gaetano Antonini

Competition Results: People

Congratulations to all the winners! – All winning images can be viewed on the ECC web site

Intermediate:		91 Entries	81 Accepted	Average 20.8
GOLD	Gaetano Antonini	Andrea		
SILVER	Kent Wilson	Ooh! Ooh!		
HM	Kent Wilson	Painter		
HM	Dario Di Sante	Julia 2		
HM	Mike Fanjoy	Porcelain		
HM	Hanna Chalubinski	Zara 1		
HM	Kent Wilson	Orange Mouth		
HM	Rich Chuchra	Little Dancer		
HM	Michael Gagnon	Say, Hear, See No Evil		
HM	Gaetano Antonini	Playful		

Superset:		36 Entries	36 Accepted	Average 22.3
GOLD	Joe Vitale	Window Washer 2		
SILVER	Diane Sawatzky	Trinidad Man 1		
HM	Diane Sawatzky	94 Years Old		
HM	Judy Griffin	Cuban Man		
HM	Judy Griffin	Elder Beauty		
HM	Maggie Sale	Lucy on a Rock		
HM	Maggie Sale	Young Photographer		

Judges: Don Dawson – Etobicoke CC

Nancy Mungall

Robert Sadoff - Toronto Guild for Photographic Art



ETOBICOKE CAMERA CLUB CELEBRATES *50th Year*

Etobicoke Camera Club was formed in 1957 and thus 2007 marks the 50th year of the club. We are going to be celebrating this throughout the year. You will see that there is an **archive section** already set up on the club's web site under the **Members Only Section / Archives**. Check it out.

Anyone who has memories, images or other information that you think might be appropriate to share on our web site, please submit it to info@etobicokecameraclub.org

If you have any other ideas for events or other ways that we can celebrate our history, please also share those for consideration by the board of directors.

From a technology point of view, we have seen more change in the last 5 to 10 years than we have seen in the previous 40 to 45 years. Some of the archival images from previous club outings may seem a bit quaint, but what have not changed in all that time are the fundamentals of taking a good image.

Thanks to Bill Harrison, and Judy and Carm Griffin for finding and digitizing the **minutes of the very first meeting of our Camera Club** which can also be found on our website in the archives section.

IMAGE CRITIQUE – People

The following is a brief summary of comments by the critiquers on the 14 images submitted for critique. The comments are perhaps less meaningful without the images but it does give you a general sense of what the judges are looking for:

1. Faces dark may not qualify as people
2. Looks soft - eyes looking away from camera
3. Soft - not in focus - dressed in old style but in modern background - try cropping feet and modern post
4. Like this shot - excitement in her face - soften the cloning lines or lines where she is coming out of tuba
5. Nice composition - subject should look at photographer in this picture
6. Looks soft - nice colours - nice face expression - well cropped good shot
7. Beautiful no negatives
8. Busy in background - head in bottom of frame try cropping blur background
9. Does not seem to be sharp enough - nice expression and composition

10. Soft image - suggest it could have been better shot as landscape and crop in
11. Nice composition - little dot of light in bottom left - child on left not as sharp as child on right - try more space between hand and bottom
12. Sharp - like this picture - might have shot it vertically with more of bottle and hand - could get rid of red mark on lip using healing tool
13. Background busy - takes away from subject and focal point - crop in closer try to get away from the white background - position yourself when shooting to optimize background.

Questions from audience to critiquers:

Q. Shouldn't judges concentrate on person rather than background?

A. Overall image impression is important

Q. You seem to be concerned with focus, what do you think about using soft focus.

A. There is a difference between out of focus and soft focus. It should be obvious. With soft focus, image is in focus but diffused.

Q. Should distractions be scanned out?

A. Yes and judges will mark an image down if there is an obvious distraction that could have been easily removed, especially in this digital era.

Q. What is difference between portrait and photojournalism / lifestyle – what are judges looking for?

A. We include all in our competitions. Image has to have impact. Important to see the face. All types have won in past. Emotion is also important. Try to focus on closest eye. Bring yourself down to level of person – this will often help with backgrounds too. Best images seem to be without flash or use camera flash toned down 2 to 2.5 stops. Flash makes image flat and lacking tonality.

Editor's Comment / Question: I have included this brief summary of critique comments in the Viewfinder as an experiment to see if you, the reader, find it useful. Another option would be to put the actual images along with summary critique comments (w permission) on our website in the Members Only Section. Please send your comments / preferences to info@etobicokecameraclub.org

MEMBER'S SHOW

Griffin Shorts

By Carm and Judy Griffin



In **Carousel Dreams**, I loved your opening sequence with the carousel images scrolling by at just the right pace. Not sure how you got it go on so long but it sure got the audience into the carousel movement. From personal experience, I know that

carousel images at not easy to capture, however you have done it beautifully - both "sharp stop action" images and "full of motion" images. I also liked the transitioning back and forth between the real world and the fantasy world of the carousel.

Somewhat that made the fantasy world seem more real. Your sense of humour at the end with the horse wink was a nice touch - everyone was asking "how did they do that"???



Your **Colours of Ireland** sure lived up to your comment that the Irish are not afraid of colour. Beautifully done - bringing back great memories for those of us who have been there before, and making those who have not been there wanting to go.

Requiem was hauntingly beautiful. The music and images went together sooo perfectly. The soft light (and excellent exposure) seemed to make the texture of the headstones come alive.



As much as I liked all the others, I especially loved the "**Dreams of a Gardener**". I have to admit that you stumped me on how you created some of the effects.

Certainly, Vegas has some pretty amazing transitions but it's what you did with it all. I cannot imagine how much work it took but the end result was certainly worth every bit of it. Real eye candy!!!

Music:

Carousel of Dreams: **Music from Amelie**

Colours of Ireland: **Once In A Red Moon by Secret Garden**

Requiem: **The Very Best of Era**

Dreams of a Gardner: **Blade Runner - Rachel's Song**

All slide shows were created in Vegas from Sony. The transition capability within Vegas is incredibly flexible as we witnessed in Carm and Judy's shows.

Comments by Editor

There were many other members who praised Carm and Judy for their inspiring presentations which were filled with wonderful images beautifully combined with their well chosen music. Many were asking about the techniques used to create the amazing images in Dreams of a Gardner. Carm and Judy always inspire members to try new techniques.

PRESENTATION

Venice and Beyond

By Maggie & Julian Sale



Maggie and Julian presented 7 shows during the evening.

The first half of the show comprised of 3 shows on Venice plus a short introduction by Julian which included a bit of history and some aerial images showing the location and relative size and position of Venice and the Lagoon Islands. Several members commented that they liked the introduction and would like to see more shows that have a travelogue component.

The three shows presented by Maggie and Julian were based upon images taken during a week long visit to Venice in September 2006. They were:

1. Highlights of Venice

The Grand Canal, St Mark's Square and other tourist areas – music by Vivaldi.



2. A Personal Portrait

A more intimate view of Venice and its people – music by Vivaldi, Handel, Bizet

3. The Lagoon Islands

The cemetery at San Michele, Murano – famous for Venetian glass, Burano – famous for lace and

colourful buildings, Torcello – famous for its Byzantine monastery. Music by Gagnon, Bach, Mozart, Winston

In the second half, Maggie presented 3 shows:

4. Autumn in the Lake District, England

Lovely autumn images set in the mountains and lakes of northwest England with fall yellows and browns accented by green fields.



Music was from American Adagios, Various Artists, and Deep Peace with Bill Douglas.

5. Morecambe Bay, Northwest England

Wonderful vistas of the largest coastal sand and mud flats in England with stunning images of evening light, boats, and tidal bores. Music by Deuter, Wind and Mountain.



6. Experience Music Project – images of a Frank Gerhy designed building in Seattle and its wonderful curved titanium outer shell. Music by Yanni.



7. Then Maggie and Julian finished with a lively show on the Chinese Lantern Festival which was put on at Ontario Place in the summer and autumn of 2006. Music from Capturing a Lotus Blossom.



All slide shows produced using ProShow Gold Ver 3.0 from Photodex.

Comments:

We know how much effort and work it takes to put together shows, without having additional problems, but you pulled it off wonderfully, despite your fears. Everyone enjoyed your presentation very much. Your photography was superb, your music well chosen, and your themes were well developed. What a nice variety of subjects. WELL DONE!

Comments from Carm & Judy Griffin

Two words: Absolutely stunning!

Comment by Diane Sawatzky

Admiring congratulations to you and Maggie for the real treat that you put together for us tonight. It was all first class.

Comments from Richard Morency

NEW MEMBERS

We now have 32 new members so far this season. This is record for new members in one season. A special welcome to all, including those from the former Islington club:

Adriana Muzyliwsky

Andrew Mason

Brian Ellis

Brian Quan

Bruce T. Lewis

Clyde Etkins

Dan Davis

David & Sybil Finlay

Dawna Brown

Eileen H. He

Garry Weiler

Gerald Sewell

Hanna Chalubinski

Helen Spiers

Janet Patterson

John Moore

Judith Howard

Judy Sher

Ken Sakamoto

Lewis & Marlene Whiteson

Mike Marshall

Peter Malchow

Peter Wade

Richard & Jackie Morency

Rita & Art Tracey

Robert Todd

Roger Leekam

Vince Ellery



JUDGING - PEOPLE

The following captures a number of the comments made by the judges who were Don Dawson, Nancy Mungall, and Robert Sadoff.

- Exposure and cropping were the main issues
- Judges liked images which tell a story
- Crowd at soccer stadium with no single person a centre of focus – “give a camera to a blind man and he could do as well” – rather blunt but refreshing to have such a candid comment. The image itself as an overall shot of the stadium was not bad but it just was not good as a people picture.
- Too many images dead centre.
- The judges seemed to like fun images.
- One judge really like to see some of the face.
- Some images did not have person as major part of image and were marked down as a result.
- If you have a landscape have person interacting more with it.
- Bright items in background can be very distracting.
- Hands can be distraction in wedding images.
- Eyes seem too have too much digital manipulation – are highlights real - one judge liked eyes in this image. This demonstrates that not all judges see all images in the same way.
- Cropping - if just on an edge can be distracting – should not cut edge or crop more. Highlight on eyes important.
- Should be sharp but not too sharp - looks like a snapshot - flash shadows distracting - use fill flash.
- Double highlight in eyes distracting for some judges but some like it.
- Summary comments by the judges
 - Lot of great images
 - Too many dead centre
 - Have person doing something
 - Most fun judging in some time
 - Really interesting different stuff
 - People Shooting people
 - Some wonderful images
 - Everyone should be congratulated on images
 - Lot of really top quality images

Overall the judges said they had the most fun they have had judging in a long time. They said ECC is a great club and with many excellent photographers.

Robert Sadoff said it was great to see a club which still had a people competition.

SEMINAR

Digital Demonstration Sessions – Basic & Advanced

By Julian Sale –	Picasa
Andy Heics –	Scanning & Printing
Kas Stone –	Photoshop Layers
Mike Fanjoy –	Photoshop Curves

Andy, Mike, Julian & Kas,

I received very positive feedback from last evening's workshop. Thanks to your willingness to share your expertise, the club members are gaining greater understanding of the digital world. Many thanks for putting together your presentations, bringing all your equipment, and answering members' questions (and going through 4 rounds of the same!!)

As I mentioned last evening, ECC is fortunate to have all of you as members as you give so much to others in the club.

Great evening! Much appreciated.

Comments from Judy Griffin

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

MARCH 2007

19 Judging: **PRINTS #2 - bring prints**

26 \$ Seminar: **Digital Workflow** - Nikola Bilic, ECC
Digital Image Optimization using Layers and Masks - Mike Fanjoy, ECC

APRIL 2007

1 Outing: **Spencer Gorge Conservation Area**

2 Judging: **PHOTOGRAPHER'S CHOICE #2**

9 Easter - No Meeting

16 Member's Show: **Toronto, My City & Autumn Leaves** - Ernest Mahle

Image Critique: Open Category

23 \$ Seminar: **Marketing Your Images** – Andy Heics, ECC

30 Member's Photo Essay Evening

MAY 2007

14 **Annual Banquet** Canadiana Restaurant



OTHER NEWS / WEB SITES / TIPS

1. ECC e-mails

Group e-mails are now being sent out from a new camera club e-mail address

etobicokecameraclub@googlemail.com

This e-mail address is reserved only for group mailings to all club members or the board, thus please do not reply to these messages.

All general mail should still be addressed to:
info@etobicokecameraclub.org

Images for competitions or critiques should still be sent to:
digsig@etobicokecameraclub.org

2. **Releases and Street Photography** – check out the Member's Only Section for this interesting article. It is a good reminder of your responsibilities (and potential liabilities) when taking pictures of people in public places.
3. **Robert Todd's tips on rechargeable batteries.** Check out in the Member's Only Section.
4. **Gerald Sewell's tip - an inexpensive source for camera batteries.** Check out www.sterlingtek.com The link is also in the Member's Only Section of our website. Batteries are available for a fraction of their selling price here in Canada. Gerald's experience is that they work as well as the original equipment batteries.
5. **New member Hanna Chalubinsky** has some of her images exhibited at the Sherway Gardens Art Gallery from March 4 - Apr. 12.
<http://www.sherwaygardens.ca/calendar/presentation.release.ch2?release=407>

Hanna says that Sherway Gardens invited her to exhibit having seen her web site.
www.hannadesigns.org
Check it out, she has some great images.
Congratulations Hanna.

This is another example of why it is advantageous to have your own web site.

Thanks to all contributors.