

Shutter Release

A newsletter for the members of the International Photographic Society

January 2013

First Place Pix!



January 16, 2012 Meeting

Wine & Cheese: 5:45pm

Presentation: 6:30pm

IMF Auditorium HQ1 RD-710

700 19th Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

EIC Theme: "People"

Print Theme: "People"

([All themes](#) for the year are posted on IPS' site)

Jim Darling: "Strangers"

Since he first began taking pictures in the mid 1980s, Jim has been drawn to the faces (and stories) of strangers. He believes the success of any portrait relies heavily on the trust that is established between photographer and subject. His background in graphic design heavily influences his work and shows through his attention to composition, texture and color. Jim is founding member of the international photo collective The Mobile Photo Group and a participating artist with Instant DC. His photographs have been featured in exhibits in and around Washington, DC including Fathom Gallery, Flashpoint, Studio Gallery, Longview Gallery and Athenaeum.

IPS Online



www.ips-imfwb.org



(must join first to access)



(discussion group; must join)

Message from the President



I hope everyone had the opportunity to unwind, relax, (overeat?), and have some fun with family and friends over the holidays.

It was good getting together for our annual potluck: my thanks for the wonderful food items everyone brought and to Adrian and Chantal for organizing the event.

From reading FB's newsfeed, I know the holidays were good to some of you by way of rather fancy new camera equipment. I'll look forward to even more spectacular images at our monthly meetings ☺

The first of our workshops on the fundamentals of photography concluded with a nice showing of images from the participants applying their new skills. Based on what I saw, I believe they are ready to enter our competitions with a bang! Some participants asked for further resources; there are many online tutorials, which cover fundamentals: one source is PSA, which Ashish covers in his regular column in this newsletter (requires membership) and another is [Digital Photography School](#).

As announced in an earlier email, the next workshop – [Photoshop for photographers](#) – is now set for Jan 29, 31 and Feb 5 (6:30-8:30pm) and will be taught by Corey Hiltz. Corey has led similar workshops for our group to great acclaim: he has an uncanny way of making complex operations seem simple. We are capping attendance at 20 people and will advertise the session organization-wide in a week, so if you'd like to secure a spot, please register now. Please note that this is pegged at an intermediate level: if you've not had any experience with basic photo editing, this will not be for you.

I'm looking forward to an exciting new year and wish you all my best for a healthy, fun-filled and photographically rich 2013!

Michele Egan
(<mailto:alsacienne@aol.com>)

Welcome New Members!

Yi Xiong (IMF) - Keith Miao (IMF) - Devakumar Sai Chinthala (IMF)

December Speaker: Gaston Lacombe



*“ In Search of
Light and Color in
Antarctica ”*

Canadian photographer and filmmaker Gaston Lacombe presented his latest project “Living Esperanza”, a 30 minute documentary about the Argentinian base of Esperanza in the Antarctic.

Lacombe, who used to work in Washington and later obtained a photography degree from the Center for the Digital Imaging Arts at Boston University, has won several prizes, including for his series “[Captive](#)” depicting zoo animals.

He specializes in documentary and travel photography.

As part of a group of seven resident artists hired by the government of Argentina to study human presence in Antarctica, he spent six weeks on the base in Esperanza.

Lacombe explained that the transition from being a photographer to a filmmaker is not easy. But it is well worth the extra effort since most employers now want to hire those who can shoot both still and moving images.

Photographers have some advantages over filmmakers, one of them being that their eye is well trained to compose images in a frame. And the equipment used can be the same, since most photo cameras also do videos nowadays.

Lacombe noted that a filmmaker must show more patience in his work: when the photographer can be content with a particular image in a frame at one point in time, the videographer must think about how this image will evolve over time and also how the sound will play out.

When doing both photography and video for the same project, he admitted that it is not easy to decide when to switch from one to the other. In Esperanza, Lacombe decided to use photography for landscape and animals, and video for people.

In “Living Esperanza”, which has been shown around the world, Lacombe said he used the same principles as when putting together a photo essay. The film has 6 sequences, each of them being a mini photo essay with opening shot, overall shot, medium length shot, detail shot, portrait, and closing shot. But the most difficult part of film is editing. Lacombe had about 30 hours of footage that he had to cut down to a half hour.

During the questions & answers session, Lacombe suggested to a fellow traveler to bring a polarizing filter for his camera as well as plenty of extra batteries. Humidity and condensation are constant issues and may create problems for some cameras.

Color balancing is crucial in conditions where the light is intense (snow, big white sky, ocean). He advised to constantly overexpose the image to ensure that the white didn't appear gray on film. He sometimes relied on the automatic color balance feature of his camera.

Lacombe used two lenses for this project: 24/70 and 70/200. He used the TV (time value) function on his camera. He would set the shutter speed at 1/30 or 1/50 and let the camera choose the aperture.

Finally, Lacombe explained that cropping video is much more difficult than cropping photos and may result in a grainy film. Hence the need to ensure that the frame is carefully selected at the outset.

Member Profile: Raihan Elahi



- Nationality: Bangladesh
- IPS member since: May 2012

Where do you work?

I joined the World Bank in 1997. I worked as a Financial Analyst in the South Asia Region Energy Sector before moving to the Africa Region Sustainable Development Unit as Senior Energy Specialist. I was based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 2008 to 2011 and moved to HQ afterward. I am currently task managing several energy sector projects in East African Countries.

What got you started on photography?

The beautiful birds of Ethiopia and its natural resources got me restarted on photography during this current spell. I always enjoyed taking pictures since childhood. I started taking pictures with my father's Rolleiflex Camera (Twin-lens Reflex Camera), then graduated to SLR Film Camera's quickly. Then came the era of digital coolpix, fixed lens, cyber shot cameras and I also moved on. But I never enjoyed taking pictures with those cameras and the cost of a Digital SLR was a deterrent when I was a student. Slowly, frequency of me taking pictures reduced. But after I moved to Ethiopia, I was stunned with its natural beauty.

As I knew I was there for a short period, I wanted to capture my memories through pictures and soon became a member of the Nikon DSLR family.

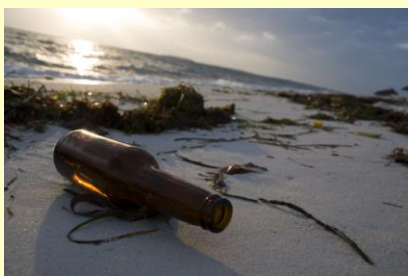
What interests you most about photography now?

Photography interests me in two different ways. Good pictures taken by other photographers inspire me to be like them. The pictures also make me wonder about their ability to see things differently. I take keen interest on other photographers' works and try to always learn something new from them or their works.

On the other hand, my pictures work for me as a time machine. My pictures make me go back to the very moment of clicking the shutter. I can smell the air and feel the breeze of the captured moment when I look at my favorite pictures.

Favorite Picture:

This used bottle in a deserted sea beach at sunset reminds me of the lonely part of life.



PSA

New Year Greetings from the PSA Corner! 2013 is planned to be an important year for PSA, and many of the ongoing initiatives will start showing the results for its members, especially in making PSA more IT savvy. 2013 is also the year of increasing PSA's international focus, including using social media tools like Facebook to engage members.

How does the year look like in PSA? Well, the milestone is the PSA annual conference. The terms of many volunteers end, and begin, at the end of the Conference. The exhibition season is year around, but there is a sense of a new exhibition season after the conference, and the interclub activities begin in the fall. The honors, awards and

recognition processes begin after the Conference, with submission deadlines only months away. The Society and its Divisions and Committees, with the addition of new officers and other volunteers, begin their years' organizing and carrying out their regular work, and planning and implementing new ideas. So it's an exciting & busy time the year around!

Coming to this month's journal, Campbell's Digital Toolkit talks about two of my favorite plugins – Nik and Topaz. The PSA Journal invited the Society's Divisions to report on their Image of the Year Competitions and this month, the journal showcases those images. The article 'Making Exhibitions Quality Monochrome Images' discusses how to make good black and white images. The article 'Photographing the Mandarin Fish' takes us to the joys and adventure of underwater photography. Most photographers take portraits with only the subject, but 'Portrait with Props' describes using props such as hats, gloves, jewelry, old eyeglasses, pipes, ladies fans or parasols to relax the subject or to allow the subject to utilize the prop to become a character or act out a part.

Founded in 1934, PSA has members in over 70 countries. Individual, Club, and Council memberships offer a wide variety of services and activities: a monthly magazine; online photo galleries, image evaluation, study groups, and courses; competitions; an annual conference; recognition; and discounts on photography related products and services. You can always visit the PSA website for lots of free information and news about PSA activities. The website can be found at <http://www.psa-photo.org>

Have a great 2013!!

**Contributed by Ashish Bhateja,
PSA Representative**



*IPS is a member club of the
Photographic Society of
America*

www.psa-photo.org

Do you know?

- * That the competition [rules, guidelines for submission](#) as well as [themes](#) are posted on our site? Check them out as a reminder!
- * That you can look up [posing guidelines](#) to improve your portraiture photography?
- * That there's an [SLR camera simulator online](#)? It'll help you practice the best combo of the magic triangle of aperture, shutter speed, ISO (Thanks to Mary Wilson who posted this on our Facebook group).

[Hint: join us on our [Facebook page](#) to get up-to-the-minute info on interesting photo topics]

December 2012—Winning Images



Approaching Japan © Gerda de Corte



Old Lady © Gerda de Corte



Stormy Sky © Michele Egan



Tossed Ideas © Ceyda Oner



Water Wall © Michele Egan



Snow © Yanna Zhang



Spring Reflections © Carmen Machiado



Arlington Wintergreen © Fred Cochard



Grasses in the Snow © Jean Boyd



Mosquito Galore © Manorama Rani



Georgetown Tree © Stephan Eggli



Miniature Beach © Ceyda Oner



Cusco Woman © Alex Culiuc



School Closing 2 © Alain Cornet



Unexpected © Jack Bujanovs



Plane Watching © Michele Egan



Hanging on a Thread © Raihan Elahi



Eyes of Hope © Kemal Cakici



Curiosity © Chirag Sanghani

December 2012 Competition Results

Prints Competition—OPEN (Group A – 8 Entries)

1st place – Gerda de Corte: "Approaching Japan"

2nd place – Gerda de Corte: "Old Lady"

Prints Competition—OPEN (Group B – 16 Entries)

1st place – Michele Egan: "Stormy Sky"

2nd place – Ceyda Oner: "Tossed Ideas"

3rd place - Michele Egan: "Water Wall"

HM – Yanna Zhang: "Snow"

Electronic Image Competition-OPEN (Group A – 20 Entries)

1st place – Carmen Machiado: "Spring Reflections"

2nd place – Fred Cochard: "Arlington Wintergreen"

3rd place – Jean Boyd: "Grasses in the Snow"

HM - Manorama Rani: "Mosquito Galore"

HM – Stephan Egli: "Georgetown Tree"

Electronic Image Competition-OPEN (Group B – 34 Entries)

1st place – Ceyda Oner: "Miniature Beach"

2nd place – Alex Culiuc: "Cusco Woman"

3rd place – Alain Cornet: "School Closing 2"

HM – Jack Bujanovs: "Unexpected"

HM – Michele Egan: "Plane Watching"

HM – Raihan Elahi: "Hanging on a Thread"

HM – Kemal Cakici: "Eyes of Hope"

HM - Chirag Sanghani: "Curiosity"

Competition Reminder

No comments or interruptions of any kind from the audience are allowed under any circumstances.

Pls note the table is missing the points for those who submitted (and didn't place) images in the December print competition. If you submitted prints (A: 8 entries; B: 16 entries) pls contact Michele Egan (alsacienne@aol.com) so that we can update the table. Thanks!

Points Standing | 2012–2013 Season

Last Name	First Name	Sep/12	Oct/12	Nov/12	Dec/12	Jan/13	Feb/13	Mar/13	Apr/13	May/13	Ann. Exhibit	Total
A												
Gürgen	Emine	16	5	10	5							36
Pinon	Marco	8	8	10	5							31
Rani	Manorma	8	5	8	6							27
Eggli	Stephan	5	10	5	6							26
DelCorte	Gerda	7		5	13							25
Machicado	Carmen		7	8	10							25
Forest-Sarr	Louise	5	10	5	5							25
Boyd	Jean	5	5	5	7							22
Palmioli	Manuella Lea	5	8	7								20
Sarr	Bassirou	5		5	5							15
Cochard	Fred	5			8							13
Titsworth	Morin	5	5									10
Franzetti	Carlos	5										5
Faux	Hannah			5								5
Arin	Tijen		5									5
B												
Oner	Ceyda	10	8	5	13							36
* Culiuc	Alex	13	7	5	8							33
Thurein	Win	8	8	10	5							31
Bujanovs	Jevgenijs	9	11	5	6							31
Egan	Michele	6	5	5	13							29
Cornet	Alain	6	10		7							23
Morin	Denyse	5	5	11								21
Lumanau	Angela	5	5	5	5							20
* Karsten	Junius	5	5	5	5							20
Eken	Sena	5	5	5	5							20
Sanghani	Chirag		5	7	6							18
Cakici	Kemal	5	5		6							16
* Zhang	Yanna		5	5	6							16
* Elahi	Raihan	5		5	6							16
Titsworth	Jack	5	5	5								15
* Sydygalieva	Bermet			8	5							13
* Triana	Adriana	6	5									11
Voytsehovska	Galina		6	5								11
* Mziray	Elizabeth			5	5							10
* Arbatli	Elif		5		5							10
* Rigaud	Chantal			5	5							10
Kundu	Pritthijitt (Raja)	5	5									10
* Jensen	Leif			8								8
* Verner	Dorte			6								6
* Rowena	DelaCruz				5							5
* Jim	Beardow				5							5
* Jamal	Mustafa	5										5
Ringlien	Clarisa	5										5
* Madeleine	Masson			5								5
* Nardello	Renato	5										5
* D'Sen	Asmin	5										5
* Winkler	Hernan		5									5

* Eligible for Rookie of the Year

Please check your awards & score. For questions, email Evgenijs Bujanovs bujanovs@me.com

* Eligible for Rookie of the Year

Please check your awards & score. For questions, email Jack Bujanovs: jack.500@windowslive.com

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<p>SHUTTER RELEASE welcomes article ideas and submissions from club members. Deadline: <u>close of business on the last business day of the month prior to the issue month</u>. Please send submissions by e-mail to the editor(s) as unformatted word or text files. If you wish to add images, please make sure that the longest side does not exceed 800 pixels.</p>			