

TA CAMERA CLUB JULY 2017

The Presidents Perspective July 12th 2017

Greetings fellow photographers, we are now in the middle of the Wintery blast for the season so hope you are keeping well and warm.

The fishing trip went well and I managed to leave with the bragging rights for the biggest Snapper caught, a very nice 70cm whopper. Skipper on the day was boasting when he landed a 60cm beauty and was crowing about showing how it was done until about an hour later my reel started peeling line. He was not so happy to be out done but all on board ended the day with a good catch. (See page 3)

The recent Impressionism workshop attended by 4 from our club members was thoroughly enjoyed and was very successful for the attendees and tutor. Kim Westerskov was most impressed with our results and I have attached his newsletter for you to read and see our work and his comments. Putting our photos from his workshops into his newsletter was an honour and a privilege and not something he does very often but he was suitably impressed with our results to do so.

Images for the TA Trophy subject is Architecture which need to be submitted after next club night coming up as a set of 3 images or prints, which tell a story and taken within the Te Awamutu region or area that uses TA as its service town. Also your best images for the year need to be submitted too so go through your files and find what did well at club judging or something that just appeals. Up to 3 images or prints or a mix is acceptable for this entry.

The new Facebook group page is getting some a good following and sharing of images on it, if you have FB please join us and have your input.

Next months set subject is Impressionism and after that it will be Black and White so get out and about and make sure you create some new images to put forward and after our upcoming Lightroom workshop I am sure we will all be able to make the most of some new skills to enhance these topics and images.

Have added a good read for you to enjoy, no matter where you are on your photographic journey.

Look forward to seeing you soon and keep warm and cosy during the cooler weather to come.

Happy Snapping,

Tess Smith

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David duChemin article

This is the photography advice I wish I'd been given as soon as I became reasonably comfortable with the basics of using my camera. I wrote a version of this three years ago in response to an email exchange I had with someone. Jennifer is a composite of all the students who've asked me to look at their work online and offer some advice. My advice has changed over the years. I hope you'll find something gold in here.

Dear David,

I'm a second-year photography student. Would you look at my work and offer me any advice?

Dear Jennifer,

Thank you for the invitation to spend some time with your work. I know you meant for me to look at your work and give you advice based on that, but I only know how to struggle with the making of my own art, not yours. I could make suggestions about colour or composition but they'd only bring you closer to making your work look like mine, and no one needs that. Only you can discover what your art will look like. So here's what I've got. It's what I wish I'd heard sooner:

You're young. I still think I am too, but it's relative. You're at the very beginning of this process and much as you think you are beginning to know who you are now, well, Life has a way of changing that person, and with it, her art. You ain't seen nothing yet.

So since you're at the beginning, spend more time working on the artist than the art. Be patient with her. Allow her to express her wants and desires and chase hard after them. They're likely to change along the way. Chase them wherever they lead. Learn to listen to, and trust, that voice.

Take risks. Take more risks.

Be heartbreakingly vulnerable with the world and your art.

Don't take yourself too seriously.

Be curious. Look around corners and ask, "What if?"

Be patient. Outwait the others and you'll be there when the unexpected magic happens.

Call bullsh*t on safety and face your fears daily. Don't be afraid of the unknown. Discovery only happens in the unknown.

Do your work. Always do your work. Even when you think it's sh*t. Keep doing it. Because making lots of bad art is the only way to get to a place where you'll one day make great art. Failure is a much more faithful teacher than immediate success (which usually isn't what it seems). And happy accidents account for more wonderful results than we like to admit.

Look at, and study, the work of the masters. Form strong opinions about that work, and be willing to change them. Always ask why.

Look at the world with all your senses; seeing is about perception and that's a whole-being kind of thing. Experience life, don't just *shoot* it. You can't photograph deeply what you haven't experienced with some depth.

You know how to expose and focus. Now it's time to turn your attention to the things that truly make powerful, beautiful photographs: the visual language.

Colour outside the lines and ignore the so-called rules. Look for principles instead; they last longer and serve us better.

Composition is everything. Even when it's not and the moment is everything, it's composition that'll make that moment as powerful as it can be within the frame.

Lastly, through all that, learn your craft, and be so good at it that no one can ignore you. But never confuse craft for art. One is a means, the other an end. And if one day soon you win an award or someone pays you for the work you so love, don't mistake that as validation any more than the lack of that recognition means your work isn't good art. These things are measured in deeper ways.

I did look at your work: it's a beautiful start. But right now, the harder and more interesting task ahead of you is to tend the garden from which the better fruit will one day come: you. Obsess about the work, we all do, but remember that in five years you'll look back and see this work—as it is for all of us—as only a starting point. Don't get too hung up on it. Your job now is not to make masterpieces, but to learn to master your tools and materials.

Your best work will always be ahead of you. It's true now, and it'll be true in 25 years. We never "arrive." There is only the winding, beautiful journey as we chase our changing vision and the muse that's always a few steps ahead, just disappearing around unexpected corners. Never lose the wonder.



Proof of the catch

Whats On

Saturday July 15th

Lightroom Workshop 9.30 am, clubrooms

Tuesday July 18th

Club night starts 7.30 pm

Thursday July 20th

Committee Meeting 7.30 pm 30 Payne Road, 2nd house on the right.

August 19th & 20th

Steamfest Otorohanga, for tickets go to www.steamfest.co.nz

Club Nights

Start time for meetings is 7.30pm, Tess will be there earlier to assist with set up. Competition entries go to Gary and need to be sent in by July 23rd. Our set subject is Architecture for the TA Trophy and also your best images or prints for the year also need to be submitted. Look forward to seeing your entries on the night.

***Comitee: Patron: Earnie McLay, Secretary Rod Glasson, President Tess Smith 8722853
Vice President Kees Rombouts Treasurer, Elaine McFall Competiton Secretary Gary Wood
Comittee, Chalie Coles, Pam Thomson (events co-ordinator), David Peake, John Halliday,
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