

LIGHT AND SHADE

A Newsletter published by Pictorial Photographers of America, New York, N.Y.

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November 2006

Calendar for November

Tuesday, November 14: Competition

Prints, Digital images, and Slides (All categories color and black-and-white images.) Two entries maximum for each category.

Judge: Charles Traub

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Traub is Chair of MFA Photography, Video and Related Media, School of Visual Arts in New York City. He holds an MS from the Institute of Design at the Illinois Institute of Technology and a BA degree from the University of Illinois. He was formerly the director of the prestigious Light Gallery of New York. He is President of the Aaron Siskind Foundation for support of creative photography. He is one of the co-founders of *here is new york*, a Democracy of Photographs, which received the Brendan Gill Award of the Municipal Arts Society, Cornell Capa Infinity Award, and a Distinguished Service Award from the Children's Aid Society of New York. He has had numerous one-person exhibitions including Marcus Pfeifer Gallery, Van Straaten Gallery, Art Directors Guild of New York, Chicago Center for Contemporary Photography, The Art Institute of Chicago, The Light Gallery, and the Hudson River Museum. He has authored and edited many books including *Beach, Italy Observed*, and *Angler's Album*. His work has been published in *Connoisseur*, *Fortune*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *American Photographer*, *Popular Photography*, *Aperture*, and *Afterimage*. He has received awards from the New York State Council on the Arts, Hendricks Foundation, Illinois Art Council, Manda Foundation, Olympics Arts Organization Committee, and the Mary McDowell Center for Learning.

Tuesday, November 28: Program: Steven Fromewick

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Fromewick is a professional pet photographer who has lived in New York all his life. He has been photographing for over 30 years. He recently decided

to combine his three passions—pets, photography, and New York City. His photographs capture that special something that makes the pet so unique and lovable. He does not use a studio, preferring to shoot outdoors in natural settings or in the pet owner's home. He wants his subject to be in their favorite places doing their favorite things with their favorite people.

His website, www.nypetshots.com, has numerous pictures of his clients.

Exhibits & Events:

Czech Photography VII, Fashion + Photographs, by Jiri Turek, at the Leica Gallery through January 6th.

This “diptych” exhibit is devoted to the brilliant, photographic artist, Jiri Turek. His unique photographs are divided between fashion and fine art. His work is unique in composition and black-and-white printing.

The Leica Gallery is located at 670 Broadway two blocks north of Bleecker Street. Hours: Tues. thru Fri., 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Sat., 12:00 – 6:00 p.m., 212 – 777 – 3051.

Looking Back from Ground Zero, at the Brooklyn Museum through January 7. The museum marks the five-year anniversary of September 11, 2001, with an exhibition of works from the permanent collection that includes paintings, photographs, prints, and drawings of the Lower Manhattan area around the World Trade Center site before, as well as after, the attack. Among them are a late eighteenth-century print of the southern tip of Manhattan island, a number of photographs of the area in the 1930s by photographer Berenice Abbott, a large-scale photograph by Gerard Maynard, titled *WTC II.11.03*, as well as Christoph Draeger's *WTC September 17*, and a number of photographs by G.N. Miller, an artist who spent several weeks at Ground Zero following the

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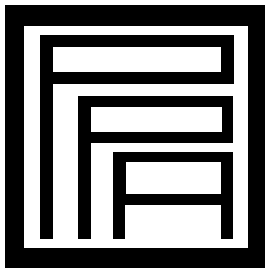
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Pictorial Photographers of America

Organized in 1916
Affiliated with Photographic Society of America



The sole aim and constant endeavor of PPA is the promotion of art in photography and the making of better pictures.

Meeting Place:

St. Peter's Rectory
346 West 20th Street
New York, NY 10011

Meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month and start promptly at 7:00 p.m.

President's Message

As anticipated, our 2006-2007 season began in two very special ways: first, with a "**Homecoming Party**" featuring both photographer **Gladys Rice Washburn**, daughter of early PPA member Pinks Rice, speaking on early photographic techniques and sharing some of her father's images with us, and with a 12-minute video by **Bill Seaman**, PPA member since 1946 with reminiscences on the club as it was then and featuring some of his own work. Second, we had our **first digital competition** and rearranged our competition and seating in the process. The competition sequence was digital images, then prints, then slide images, with each category including both black-and-white and color images, judged together. We set up the competition in the larger of the rectory rooms and moved our sign-in activities to the smaller, and it worked out more smoothly than we had anticipated. All those attending also pitched in to help the evening run as smoothly as possible in all aspects.

Special thanks go to Bob Himmel for the many hours he has spent coaching us in proper submission of digital images and in setting up the digital competition. As our webmaster, Bob then surprised all of us by creating a slideshow of the highest scoring images for our website homepage. Be sure to enjoy it!

Judge for our initial competition was **Will Story, manager of Chelsea's John Stevenson Gallery**, where wonderful, seldom seen images by Imogen Cunningham, including a number of vintage platinum prints, can be savored through late November.

Will's comments were succinct and thoughtful and we look forward to having him back with us.

In the wake of the Westbeth exhibit, we have the pleasure of welcoming a number of **new members** to their first full season with us: **Meryl Greenblatt, Kristin Hannesson, Jon Paul Hannesson, Jane Lazarus, Warren Simons, and Joe and Arlene Stuhl**. We are very pleased to have them—their energy, enthusiasm, and beautiful images (and truffles!)—with us and look forward to their continuing contributions. Watch these pages in future months for new member profiles.

We have much work ahead of us, with an opening reception for the **rectory exhibit** tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, December 5, and the exhibit at the Manhattan **Borough President's office** to plan and get up at the beginning of January. I will be away from November 14-29 and hope to get the next steps in each of these efforts organized and delegated prior to leaving. Stay by your phones and computers!!

Manhattan Miniature Camera Club will be exhibiting there (1 Centre St.) in November, a good chance to see their work and a help in planning our own efforts.

The officers have begun to **review the bylaws** to bring them up-to-date with reference to our current practice, as well as to check our current practice against the current requirements. Bylaws were distributed to those of you at the last meeting; if you did not receive a copy, please let me know and a copy can be sent via e-mail. We would like each

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President's Message (cont.)

member to review them and to submit any suggestions for consideration, and hope that revisions can be in place by the elections for the 2007-2008 season in the spring.

—Kathryn

Exhibits & Events (cont.):

disaster. Also a 1930's picture of lower Manhattan from the Brooklyn Bridge by D. J. Ruzicka, former PPA member and member of the first PPA executive board. Several books by artists are also on view, including the work of Art Spiegelman and Mimi Gross. These books, providing poignant text and images, offer insight into the calamitous event and the national and international issues related to its aftermath.

Looking Back from Ground Zero: Images from the Brooklyn Museum Collection is co-organized by Marilyn Kushner, Curator of Prints and Drawings and Deirdre E. Lawrence, Principal Librarian/Coordinator of Research Services at the Brooklyn Museum.

Brooklyn Museum is located at 200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY. Hours: Weds. – Fri., 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sat. and Sun., 11:00 a.m.– 6:00 p.m., 718– 638– 5000.

"Pictorialism" In The Masters" Words by James Flack, PPA Member

Whenever I've had the opportunity to speak to a group of photographers about the evolution of pictorial photography, I am frequently asked, "Yes, but what exactly is the definition of photographic pictorialism?" I try to sum it up in just a few words, saying its photographic images that are imaginative, reverent, transcendent, interpretive, spiritual, artistic, humanistic, personal, ethereal, etc., and I'm never very satisfied with my answer. Perhaps a better answer would be to quote from writings of the early masters of pictorial photography and let them answer in their own words.

"I believe in photography as an expression for an artist."

—Clarence H. White, 1923

"A 'pictorial' photograph is the antithesis of a matter-of-fact record; since a "picture," from an artistic point of view, must be a personal idea or impression visualized in a beautiful manner. In other words, it must be an *interpretation* of the chosen material, which serves merely as a vehicle for communicating to the beholder what the picture-maker had in mind."

—William S. Davis, 1923

"It would be impossible to define exactly what is referred to as pictorial quality; but it is within the mark to say that "character" is a somewhat too inclusive word, and "beauty" (as generally understood) a word of too limited significance. . . . To the pictorialist the panoramic, the pretty, and, in general the superficially striking are things to be strictly avoided."

—The Photo Pictorialists of Buffalo, 1921

"The aim of the artist must always be to arouse in those looking at his work some emotional mood or sentiment."

—Paul L. Anderson, 1939

"Merely copying nature will rarely make a picture; there must be individual interpretation by the artist, and the camera, properly controlled, can make pictures that show this individuality very plainly. What we try to put into a landscape picture is a record of the impression which a scene made upon us at the particular time and under the peculiar circumstances of our seeing it."

—Arthur Hammond, 1946

"We make pictures to give pleasure and there can be no pleasure in pictures without elemental ideas. Admirable technique of itself is of little importance to the spectator, for he is only delighted when he is moved or touched."

—F. C. Tilney, 1930

"Stieglitz, at present, makes his pictures sharp and is ready to tell everybody that a fuzzy picture is not the thing. Clarence White likes his pictures softer, and has held to that view, which speaks well for his first opinion. Steichen made them fuzzy years ago, and now cannot get them sharp enough. So what are we to think? Each one has something to say and each statement is different. One might think from this that Pictorial Photography must be an art, for we find the same conditions among painters, all wrangling about what is best. True it is, therefore, that photographers have all the indispositions of artists and, if that makes art, we surely have it in photography."

—J. W. Gillies, 1923

Book and DVD Reviews

Night and Low-Light-Techniques for Digital Photography, by Peter Cope, Amherst Media, Buffalo, New York, 2006, ISBN 1-58428-174-X, soft cover, 128 pp, 100 color photos, \$34.95.

Features:

- Exposure techniques for low-light scenes.
- Previewing the results to ensure success.
- Tips for selecting interesting subjects.
- Using software to make the most of your night and low-light images.
- Step-by-step techniques for photographing some common and interesting subjects.

Peter Cope is the author of many photography books.

Quotation of the Month

"I hope we shall never see the day when photo shops sell little schema grills to clamp onto our viewfinders; and the Golden Rule will never be found etched on our ground glass."

—Henri Cartier-Bresson

PPA 2006-2007 Program Dates

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
October 10 October 24	Season Opener Party, and Business Competition
November 14 November 28	Competition Program
December 12	Competition
January 9 January 23	Competition Program
February 13 February 27	Competition Program
March 13 March 27	Competition Program
April 10 April 24	Competition Program
May 8 May 22	Competition: Theme Night— <i>Abstractions</i> Competition: Portfolio Night
June 5 June 12	Annual Business Meeting Annual Awards Dinner

Competition Rules (November 2006)

1. All competitions, except as noted in the yearly program, are held at the first meeting of each month from October through May.
2. Judges will assign a score between 6 and 9 for each entry. A score of 9 is an Award and will receive 3 competition points. A score of 8 is an Honorable Mention and will receive 2 competition points. A score of 7 is a Merit and will receive 1 competition point. Scores of 6 receive no competition points. Scores will be assigned provided that there are at least three photographers in each picture category.
- Note:* Images with a score of 7 or 6 will be allowed re-entry. The judge will *not* be informed of this rule.
3. A member is permitted to enter up to 50% of their season entries, in a particular medium, with images taken prior to becoming a member. (This does not apply to new members in their first club season.)
4. **Prints:** Members may enter up to two prints in the Print category every month. Every print must have a title and the maker's name on the back for identification purposes.
5. Prints must be mounted on firm board, no larger than 16"x20".
6. A print may be entered up to three times. If a print has won an Award or Honorable Mention in any season, it may not be entered again at any time. See "Exceptions"—Portfolio Night Rule below.
7. **Traditional Slides:** Up to two slides (2"x2") may be entered every month in the Traditional Slides category, mounted in ready mounts. Sandwich entries are permitted. Glass mounted slides will not work in our projector. The maker's name and picture title must appear on the mount.
8. Slides may be entered only twice during the year and once in the new year if they were entered in previous years. If a slide has won either an Award or Honorable Mention, in any season, it may not be entered again at any time. See "Exceptions"—Portfolio Night Rule below.
9. Slides must be clearly spotted or marked in the *lower left-hand corner* as you hold them for hand viewing.
10. **Digital Images:** Up to two projected digital images may be entered every month in the Projected Digital Images category. They may be digitally "enhanced" to any extent by any photo imaging software. Maximum width and height are 1024 and 768 pixels respectively. Entries *must* be made initially with a camera, and be submitted no later than *48 hours* prior to the meeting to the designated member who will prepare them for display. Rules applying to scoring and re-entry are the same as for traditional slides.
11. One "Best Image of the Night," with a score no less than 8, will be selected from each category.

Exceptions

Theme Night: Chairpeople or program committee members may preview entries to assure that they conform to the theme. Makers may be asked to give their rationale to help determine the eligibility of their entry. Please adhere to the given theme. Relevance *plus* photographic merit will count.

Portfolio Night: Three images for each category which have been submitted in the present season or non-winners from prior seasons, may be entered.

October Competition Results

Will Story, Judge

Digital Projected Images

Awards

Buck, "Gehry Interesting"

Buck, "Water Lily, No. 2"

Decker, "Snowy"

*Himmel, R., "Streetscape"

Honorables

Himmel, R. "Bumpy Ride" Safdeye, "Rickshaw"

Levine, "Coney" Sandler, "Bow River"

Levine, "TV" Simons, "Sand Goddess"

Raggi, "Reflection" Trapani, "Roof Detail"

Prints

Awards

Buck, *"Seating Plan" & "Venetian Journal Lamplight"

Hannesson, J. "Central Park"

Sandler, " Alberta Haystacks"

Stuhl, A. "Red Poppy Bud" & "White Poppy"

Stuhl, J. "Three Sisters"

Honorables

Decker, "Mojakar Shadows"

Hannesson, J. "Bow Bridge"

Hannesson, K. "Dancing Wild Flowers"

Reid, " Rock Formation" & "Early Peoples"

Sandler, " Athabasca Falls"

Stuhl, J. "Here's Looking at You"

Traditional Slides

Awards

Decker, "Wet Leaves"

Hannesson, K. "Angelic Flower"

*Himmel, J. "Broken Window"

Safdeye, "Sun Upon the Building"

Trapani, "Wagon Wheel" & "Death Valley"

Honorables

Buck, "Flaglike"

Decker, "Shredded"

Green, " David's Itch"

*Selected "Best Picture of the Night."

Himmel, J., "Remains"

Himmel, R., "Playground Scene" & "Water Taxi"

Stuhl, A. "Berries" & "Ready for Halloween"

Stuhl, J. "Cotswald Canal"

Season Cumulative Scores

Digital Projected Images

Buck 6

Himmel, R. 5

Decker 4

Levine 4

Raggi 3

Safdeye 3

Sandler 3

Simons 3

Trapani 3

Himmel, J. 2

Reid 2

Prints

Buck 6

Stuhl, A. 6

Hannesson, J. 5

Sandler 5

Stuhl, J. 5

Reid 4

Decker 3

Hannesson, K. 3

Traditional Slides

Trapani 6

Decker 5

Himmel, J. 5

Hannesson, K. 4

Himmel, R. 4

Safdeye 4

Stuhl, A. 4

Buck 3

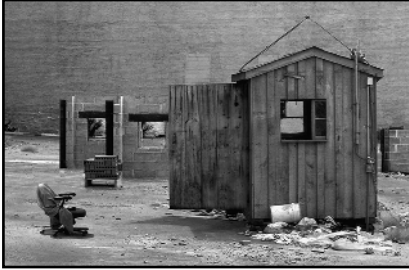
Stuhl, J. 3

Green 2

Hannesson, J. 2

Competition Winners—October, 2006

Digital Projected Awards



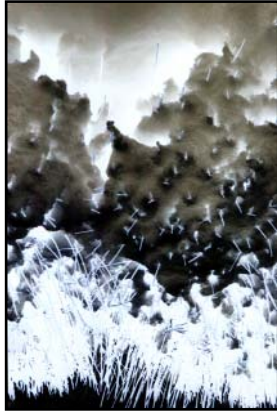
*Robert Himmel, *Streetscape*



Kathryn Buck, *Water Lily, No. 2*



Kathryn Buck, *Gehry Interesting*



Elisa Decker, *Snowy*

Print Awards



Herb Sandler, *Alberta Haystacks*



Kathryn Buck, *Venetian Journal Lamplight*

Traditional Slide Awards



*Kathryn Buck, *Seating Plan*



Elisa Decker, *Wet Leaves*



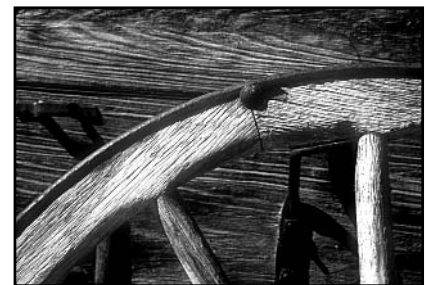
Krista Hannesson, *Angelic Flower*



*Himmel, J. *Broken Window*



Gilly Safdeye, *Sun Upon the Building*



Richard Trapani, *Wagon Wheel*

*Best Category Image of the Night