



www.darkroomers.com

Monthly Newsletter – June 2011

June

06-01-11, WED 7:30pm: Presentation Night – Our presenter tonight will be **Memphis Barbree**. “A child of Florida’s Gulf of Mexico coast, I wandered out to New Mexico in the late 1980s. Once there I fell in love with the land and dove into what I call a feral existence. I lived primitively in the mountains north of Santa Fe and on some beaches and jungles during a couple sojourns to Hawaii. I joined with the ebb and flow of the natural world and studied eastern spiritual practices and matriarchal and shamanist life. There were some years that no matter what the weather was doing, I was in it – sunshine, rain, warm breeze, thunderstorm, blizzard, dust storm. I learned more in these years about my self and the world than in all the rest of my life combined. I learned to not only watch, but to listen and to feel. I now practice listening to and feeling the world around me as I make my photographs. Many people meditate by sitting. I do that at times, but mostly I meditate by photographing. I travel the Earth looking below surfaces, into the nature of life and the life of nature. I seek stillness within myself while photographing. I work to communicate the spirit, mystery and form of the world I experience. Predominantly a fine art photographer, my preferred visual story telling medium is black-and-white photography, but I don’t hesitate to create with color or photograph in documentary style if that’s what is needed to tell a story. I am a lover of the craft of the print and create my photographic prints personally using processes based on traditional darkroom techniques and adapted to current technology and digital tools. I regularly exhibit my work in both group and solo exhibitions around the U.S. When I teach photography, I share the classic ways of photography and help my students use them as a tool kit to express their unique artistic voices in the world. I teach workshops for the Santa Fe Photographic Workshops and regularly mentor private students.” <http://memphisbarbree.com> . Refreshments – **Frans Alkemade**.

06-05-11, SUN: Darkroomers members **Ed Ledgerton** and **Vern Elmore** will be hosting the Photo Arts Building from 12:00 to 5:00.

06-19-11, SUN: Darkroomers members **Wally Owens** and **Toni Narins** will be hosting the Photo Arts Building from 12:00 to 5:00.

06-15-11, WED 7:30pm: Critique Night - Our guest judge tonight will be **Rick Wiley**. Refreshments – **Janice Roudebush**.

A message from outgoing Darkroomers president John Sisti

I am happy to announce that Wally Owen will be succeeding me as Darkroomers president. Wally is an accomplished photographer with a mastery of both the digital and analog realms, up to and including 4 X 5 film (if not larger?). He has been an invaluable resource to many a club member and is looking forward to continuing to share his knowledge and experience with us all.

It has been an honor for me to serve the Darkroomers over the past eighteen months. We have a terrific club and you have all been very gracious in tolerating what was for me my best attempt at a new and unfamiliar role.

Besides being an always more-than-willing club member, and very kind and helping gentleman, Wally is busy working man with a long work commute. He will need all of the help that we can give him as he takes on this role.

Please join me in thanking Wally for undertaking the presidency for our club, and in pledging to him all of our help and support.

Thanks and congratulations Wally!

Other News

If your prints have been accepted at our monthly critique meetings, you are also encouraged to submit those images for the SCACC Interclub Competition, which takes place throughout the year. This gives Darkroomers members the chance to compete against the best images from the other SCACC member clubs. All entries must be in digital format, so if you're using film you'll need to scan the image to participate.

Ed Ledgerton's images will be displayed in the PAB front room for the month of June. If you would like to sign up to have your own "show" in the PAB, just contact **Wally Owens**. Here is the schedule for 2011:

July 2011: **Toni Narins**
August 2011: **Frans Alkemade**
September 2011: **Mike Bugera**
October 2011: **Janice Roudebush**
November 2011: **John Sisti**
December 2011: **Marietta Baginsky**
January 2012: **Oscar Ibarra**
February 2012: **Nancy Varga**

Local Exhibits and Events of Interest

At the Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla, **Emperor's River: Philipp Scholz Ritterman**. This installation documents the San Diego photographer's 2009 journey along China's Grand Canal. Viewers can see the clashes between old and new, urban and rural in today's China. Through September 5. 700 Prospect Street, La Jolla, CA 92037-4291. (858) 454 3541. mcsd.org .

At the Art Expressions Gallery, **Imogen Cunningham**, "a West Coast master of photography, began producing work in 1906 and continued until her death in 1976. Working predominantly in black and white, she favored platinum prints and was part of the influential Group f64, a group of photographers (which also included Ansel Adams, Edward Weston, John Paul Edwards, Sonya Noskowiak, Henry Swift, and Willard Van Dyke) whose goal was to produce pure and unmanipulated photographs that utilized the full technical capabilities of the camera and were contact printed without any retouching. Her image quality resulted in exquisite detail. Her bodies of work included portraiture and abstracted expressions of the human form, but it was her botanical flora pieces that have proven to be the most iconic. Her themes tend to fall somewhere in between documentation and fantasy, emphasizing her belief in the 'crucial importance of experience, and of expression over documentation.'" 2645 Financial Court, Suite C, San Diego, California 92117. (858) 270-7577. <http://www.artexpressionsgallery.com/> .

At the Joseph Bellows Gallery, **Sea Creatures**, featuring works by Joni Sternbach, Dana Montlack & Liz Lantz. "The separate exhibitions will feature selections from each artist's work that examine life above, below and around the sea. They include one-of-a-kind tintype portraits of surfers (Sternbach), images of life beneath the deep (Montlack), and the lifestyles of women surfers around southern California (Lantz)." June 11 through August 31. 7661 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037. (858) 456-5620. <http://www.josephbellows.com/upcoming/> .

Also at the Museum of Photographic Arts, **Inside Out: Portraits From the Permanent Collection**. "Almost from its invention, photography was an ideal medium for portraiture. But what is a portrait? As the author Richard Brilliant writes, "Making portraits is a response to the natural human tendency to think about oneself, of oneself in relationship to others, and of others in apparent relation to themselves..." Inside Out explores this question by looking at the many varieties of photographic portraiture, ranging from daguerreotypes to the interpretive portraiture of Arnold Newman, including the experimental approach of Man Ray and a view of Marilyn Monroe through time." Through September 25, 2011. <http://www.mopa.org/exhibitions/current.htm>

And also at the Museum of Photographic Arts, **Imagine That!** "Imagine That! showcases the historic pursuit of photographers seeking to capture unique perspectives, unknown realms and phenomena inaccessible to their eyes and immediate senses. This exhibition from MoPA's permanent collection examines a desire in photography to create images of the unseeable and asks the viewer to examine photography not as an extension of the human eye, but as a pursuit of discovery, observation and technology driven by the imperceptible." Through January 29, 2012. <http://www.mopa.org/exhibitions/current.htm> .

Upcoming Speakers and Judges

July 6 - Our presenter will be **Mark Wade**. "The interest in photography for Mark came in 2004/5, and his knowledge was assimilated through technical manuals, online forums, and experimental sessions. In 2006, Mark began his journey with San Diego's IN FOCUS LEARNING CENTER, headed by Rod Deutschmann. The training he received from the IFCL opened up his world of photography, starting with mechanics, moving through composition, techniques, and use of artificial light. Most importantly, he learned the power of message building, and staying true to the work...which in some instances will mean 'breaking rules'. Mark's work has won multiple honorable mentions from the juried San Diego Fair Photography contest, one piece captured a fourth place in its respective category. He is also a two-time winner of the MTRP amateur photo contest, also placing with several other works. Two of his black and white works were nominated for the 5th Annual International Spider

Awards in 2010, these works will be published in the upcoming magazine THE PHOTO PAPER. LENSBABY has published his works in their online gallery lineup. Self published book works include [A Walk in the Park](#), a photo essay of works made in Mission Trails, and [The Lord is My Shepherd](#) an inspirational photo book composed with verses from the bible. Mark's training and exposure to a 'pure photography' philosophy allows him to create unusual images in the camera through unorthodox techniques. His images have been described as 'expressive' and 'impressionistic'. Mark owns BLUE MARBLE PHOTOGRAPHY capturing weddings and portraits.”

Thought for this month:

“There is only you and your camera. The limitations in your photography are in yourself, for what we see is what we are.”

This was said by Ernst Haas. A good reminder to keep it simple and pure. Don't overthink think it.

- The Darkroomers Photographic Club meets the 1st and 3rd Wed of each month at 7:30 PM at the Photo Arts Building in Balboa Park – 1780 Village Place, San Diego 92101. One block west of Park Blvd and next to the Spanish Village Art center.