

the LensPaper

NORTH COUNTY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

February 2004

February 2004 Meeting

Wednesday, February 25, 2004
Quail Botanical Garden, Encinitas
Ecke Building Meeting Room
Enter Front Gate - **Exit Rear Gate**
Front Gate is Locked at 7:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - Front Gate Opens

6:15 p.m. - Sign-in & Refreshments

6:30 p.m. - Announcements & Member Greeting

6:45 p.m. - Member Share

7:15 p.m. - Break & Refreshments

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Presentation

Donations: First-time guests free, returning guests \$3.00

FEBRUARY'S SPEAKER: Peter Gorwin

Our speaker for February will be Peter Gorwin.

Peter Gorwin is the founder and President of the Photographic Arts Group that operates under the auspices of the Escondido Arts Partnership for the purpose of promoting and educating photographers throughout the entire San Diego area. On last New Year's Eve, eight photographers hung their work as part of a Photographic Arts Group show for Escondido's annual First Night celebration. Thanks to the energy of its membership, the Photographic Arts Group will generate two new shows within the next two months. On March 20th, PAG will open its show at the Archives of Escondido, and on May 1st, it will open its show at the Cafe Artista in Escondido.

In March of 2002, participation in a Santa Fe Workshop conducted by Dan Burkholder, guru of the digital negative, strongly influenced his current approach to making a desktop negative from Photoshop for the purposes of printing on various emulsions, however, most of his recent images have been generated from Ultra Chrome Inks on Epson Printers. On the fine art front, his work in the area of making archival ink jet and alternative process prints have earned him three one-man shows within the last two years. Four of his images hung at the Fountainhead Tanz Theatre 2003 Black International Film Festival in Berlin. In Escondido, California, the Cafe Artista gave him a show through April of 2003, and in December 2002, the Archives Gallery of Escondido showed his work in People and Places. Last



August many of his images were exhibited again at the Archives Gallery of Escondido in The Phantom 4 show, jointly produced with three other local photographers. In October, 2002, his images could be seen in the North County Camera Photographer's Gallery show Desert Suite. Last December and January his images were exhibited at the Avalon Gallery on Ray St. with the Digital Arts group. On February 13th, some of his images will be hung in Water Worlds at the North County Camera Photographer's Gallery, the actual artists' reception to take place on the 20th.

Over the last decade he has also won prizes at the San Diego County Fair: in 1991, 3rd place in the Black & White division at the 42nd International Exhibition of Photography; in 2002, 2nd place for a digital blend in the eArts division.

Peter attended Columbia College of Communications and Loyola University in Chicago during the late 60's. During the early 70's he moved to New York to pursue a career in professional theater. He received his first formal instruction in photography in an ROP class taught by Bob Bjorkquist during the 80's. In 1992, he completed an AA Degree in Photography from Palomar College. He completed his English Degree at California State University at San Marcos in 1994.

He taught high school photography for three years during the late 90's at the Army and Navy Academy, a private military school in Carlsbad, California. In July of last year, he taught a workshop, Photoshop for Photographers, in conjunction with Siggraph 2003 at the Art Institute of California, San Diego. At that time, one of his images could also be seen there in an exhibition given for participating instructors. The lion's share of his income now comes from doing digital photographic retouching and design.



Trona

by Peter Gorwin

Peter's website is www.pgphotographics.com. He can be reached by phone at (760) 738 8131 or by cell at (760) 250 5902.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Mike McMahon

I would like to take a moment to update you on some exciting new developments in the club. As discussed at our last meeting, the Board position of Webmaster has recently transitioned from Dave Wages to Tom Scott. We extend our sincere thanks to Dave for his two years of service and we

welcome Tom and his willingness to volunteer his time and talent for this very important role.

In fact, Tom is in the process of redesigning our website to make it more responsive to the needs of the members and more welcoming to those who are approaching NCPS for the first time. Improved photo gallery space for members will be a big plus. This will allow you to show your work on the internet without the need of designing and maintaining your own site! Many other enhancements are planned...stay tuned for more information.

Another exciting development is the availability of a digital projector for our meetings. This is courtesy of our Publicity Director, Carrie Barton, who has graciously offered the use of her personal projector. We will soon publish instructions on how you can prepare your digital images for Member Share. For those of us who balk at matting and framing, this will make participation much easier.

To guide the development of the website and the guidelines for projector usage, we have formed a Digital Committee to provide timely feedback to Tom and Carrie. While the Board will approve the final outcome, the committee is in a better position to quickly hash out the details of page design, image file specifications, etc. Please join me in thanking the members of this group for volunteering: Carrie Barton, Hugh Cox, Bob Harrington, Emile Kfour, Mike McMahon, Jim Respass, and Tom Scott.



Last but not least, I'm happy to report that the photo shoot to San Juan Capistrano on February 7th was a great success. We extend a special thanks to Carolyn Taylor who organized a wonderful day complete with a ride on the Amtrak, a gallery visit, and plenty of time to shoot at the Mission and other locations in San Juan Capistrano. Twenty-seven members turned out for this fun and enlightening event. Don't miss out

on the upcoming shoots – take note of the Photo Shoot column in this newsletter and mark your calendar early.

Happy Shooting!

Thanks to Robert de Crevecoeur, our January speaker, for sharing his journey through his wonderful landscape and nature images.

PHOTO SHOTS by Carolyn Taylor

Twenty-seven NCPS members enjoyed "riding the rails" to San Juan Capistrano recently to get acquainted with each other, check out the photo opps, enjoy a lingering lunch and visit Bob Hansen's gallery and studio. We captured Mission scenery, close-ups of century-old houses, a few barnyard pets, old-time residents of the Rios district, and lots of shots of each other. These photo shoots offer a relaxing way to meet fellow photographers, learn more about our craft and get questions answered - all reasons we joined NCPS in the first place, right? We'll share our treasured "snaps" at the Feb. 25 meeting.

Our next shoot comes courtesy of members Richard and Twink Bumann who welcome us to photograph their Olivenhain ranch, property that has been in the family for generations. Look for weathered barns, animals and artifacts. Many will recall the popular shoot and the Holiday festivities at their home a few years ago. Circle the leap year date: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29 from 2p.m. to 5 p.m. RAIN DAY IS MARCH 7.

Directions: From I-5, exit east on Leucadia Blvd. Continue past El Camino Real (street name becomes Olivenhain Rd. (0.9 mi). Turn right on Rancho Santa Fe (1.4 mi.) and left on Lone Jack Rd. (1.5 mi.). Turn right onto Fortuna Ranch Rd.. (0.2 mi) and right onto Bumann Rd. (0.7). The address is 3666 Bumann Rd. Look for your smiling photo buddies.

“PHOTOGRAPHING THE NUDE” – A WORKSHOP FOR NCPS MEMBERS by Emile Kfour

Introduction:

For those of you who have seen my B&W or Color Nudes either at NCPS meetings or on my website at www.HumanScape.com will notice that the nude figure is one of my favorite subjects in photography. The question why is very complicated, but in short I can summarize it into two main parts. First, I think the human body in all its forms is extremely beautiful. Regardless of gender, age or shape, there is something beautiful to be found in every part of it. Secondly, it can be transformed into nearly anything you want. Given a talented photographer, a willing model and a minimal amount of equipment, fantastic images can

be created. So the draw for me is really the infinite possibilities that the nude figure can provide me as an artist.

How to Get Started:

Most people think that starting to make artistic photographs of a nude figure requires first and foremost a nude model. That is in fact the last thing that you need, not the first.

First some people will need to get over the fact that nudity is bad. Pornography is to most people demeaning, insulting and unacceptable as an artistic form. The reality is nude photography is not pornography. Nude photography, like any other form of photography, is supposed to invite the viewer to learn something new, expand their knowledge and the boundaries of the world around them. Photography is also supposed to open a window into who the artist may be and how they perceive the world around them.

So first, you will need to think about what you want the images to look like and say about who you are and how you perceive the world. Next, you should think about the look of the images. Do you want them to be high key, low key, stark, abstract, detailed, etc.?

Finally you need to be comfortable with the subject. This may take many forms. Try nude photographs of yourself. This is a great way of turning the camera on yourself so to speak. Also, look at some of the references below to get an idea of what you think are good fine art nudes and what are not. Only after this are you ready for the model.

The Workshop:

The workshop is a very good way to explore this subject in a safe and comfortable environment. It provides you with enough guidance to explore the subject and learn from the experience of the instructor and the other participants. The format of this workshop will be loosely based on the Socratic method of learning through exploration. This method has been taught successfully for many years by an acquaintance of mine. The object is to get the participants to start thinking about nude photography in a structured way so the process of working with the model and the equipment quickly becomes natural to them.

Part I

Due to the time and space constraints of the workshop, the first part will be a self-assignment that should be done before the workshop. Use the references below and any others that you can come up with to help you become familiar with the subject. The best way to learn a subject is to practice. As lighting and camera angle are so important, it is helpful to do some practice shots



before the workshop. Use a small artist's mannequin, or even a can of beans and a small table lamp to practice taking photographs. Move the light, the subject, and the camera to see how they can impact the image. The point is not to come up with incredible images but just to see how small changes can have a huge impact.

I will also have a few images and books at the workshop to help you think about various interpretations of the nude from well known and not so well known photographers. This will help you think about camera angles, lighting and the nude form. It will also help you form an idea of what appeals to you and what does not. Through these references you will find some classic poses that have been used by painters before photography ever existed. You will also find poses that are very original and truly make you appreciate the art and skill that is required.

Part II

The first part of the workshop will require no cameras or models. We will sit as a group and get to know each other a little bit because if we are not comfortable with the other people in the group, it will make it very hard to be comfortable in the workshop.

Part III

Now that we have started to think about these basic issues it is time to introduce the model to the group. I think it is important to have a little bit of a personal connection with the model to create successful images. One thing you will find out about photographing any model is that if they are not comfortable during the photo shoot, it will immediately show up in the images. Their hands, feet, mouth and eyes will show the tension that they are feeling regardless of how much they try to hide it.

For the first set of images, the model will hold the pose for approximately 5 minutes. This will let the participants explore the nude form from a number of angles and see how the light and camera angle can be used to create fascinating images.

Part IV

For the next part, the model will do a set of poses that will require more balance and will only be held for a minute or so. The goal for the photographers is to start to use the knowledge that they have gained so far to visualize the image and execute it quickly. This is now exercising a different part of your creativity.

Part V

The final exercise will give the participants complete freedom to position the model and lighting. The only catch is you can only take three frames of any given pose. The point is now for you to use everything you have learned up to this point to pick what you think will work best as a photograph. In some ways it is a self-test.

Part VI

Finally we will sit down again and briefly share what everyone has learned or gained from the workshop.

Equipment:

Camera: You will want a camera that you are familiar with. It is highly recommended that you use a camera where you have easy control over aperture and shutter speed. An SLR/DSLR would be best. Lenses between 24 mm and 105 mm range should work very well. I would suggest that you go for the fastest lenses that you can use in that range rather than going for a slow zoom lens.

Film: I would suggest 3 or 4 rolls of 400 ASA B&W film or 400 ASA B&W C-41 processed film. Slide and color negative film are a bad idea because they are not as forgiving of light intensity or temperature.

Monopod: You can bring a monopod if you would like, but do not bring a tripod because there will be no room to use it.

Lighting: I will provide a number of studio Hot Lights for lighting the model. Flashes and strobes are not necessary.

Signup:

- Any NCPS member who is current on their dues can sign up for the workshop.
- Due to the fact that this is the first workshop of its sort that we have organized and the limited space in the studio we are limiting it to eight participants.
- To sign up you will need to hand Nancy Jennings a check made payable to the "North County Photographic Society" for \$15 at the February general meeting or send it in the mail by the end of February so we can get it before the board meets in March. Please write your name and photo workshop on the check. The deposit will cover some of the expenses of the workshop. The balance will be paid for by the club.
- If there are more than eight members who sign up, we will select the eight names from a hat. The rest will have the checks returned to them. It is possible that we will have this workshop again, so anyone who was not able to get into this one will get first choice next time.
- The checks are non refundable for the people who are selected for the workshop because we will incur the costs whether you show up for the event or not.

When:

The workshop will be held on **Saturday March 20, 2004, in San Diego from 11AM to 3PM**. Please bring something to eat for lunch. I will provide soda and water to make sure no one gets parched working with the studio lights.

Where:

It will be at Jeff Brosbe's house at:
2615 33rd Street
San Diego 92104

Directions from North County –

Take 5 South to 805 South to University Avenue/North Park Way exit (3rd exit after the I-8 cross over). Go straight at the stop sign at the end of the exit ramp and then turn left at 32nd St. Go straight until you get to Maple. Turn left on Maple and left

again on 33rd St. Just after you get onto 33rd St., look for the easement on your left just past the 2-story house. Park on 33rd and walk to Jeff's house. There will be a balloon at the mailbox and another one at his house so you just need to follow the balloons.

Finding a Model:

There are a number of places to look for a model but it is never easy. You need someone who you can trust and who will also trust you and your ability to keep their dignity and not defame them with your work. I would suggest you start with your spouse or close friend. Explain what your vision is and see if they share that vision. Also, tell them that they can destroy the negatives if they do not like them. This will give them a sense of control over the outcome. Then, select a location that you both feel comfortable with, preferably a private location like a house, apartment or a secluded outdoor location.

NOTE: I will be providing the model for this workshop.

Fine Art nude Photographers/Artists:

Edward Weston
Kim Weston
Imogen Cunningham
Alfred Stieglitz
Patrick Nagel
Kahlil Gibran

Books

The Model Wife: Six Women
The Body: Photographs of the Human Form
Love and Desire: Photoworks
The Human Figure: A Photographic Reference for Artist

The Web:

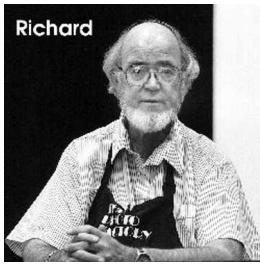
One of my favorite sites for contemporary nude photographs is www.PhotoSIG.com It is a great photo community to get comments and help on your photography regardless of what you are interested in.

Of course my site www.Humanscape.com
Jeff Brosbe's site www.beyondwordsgallery.com

MEMBER SHARE by Emile Kfourri

For February's member share, show one or two images that are either nudes or portraits.

SPONSOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Richard Cavin, owner of the Photo Factory located at 733 Third Ave., San Diego, CA 92101, tells the following story:

“I established The Photo Factory in 1971 to specialize in quality Black & White photo lab services. From the beginning, quality and service were

the most important goals in building the business. ‘Setting the standard in black & white’ not only became our motto, but our way of doing business.

We offer a full range of services from film processing to large size wall murals, copy services and conversion from digital files to fiber paper prints. Our most important product is service to our customers. Each order is handled by dedicated professional lab technicians with customer satisfaction as their main objective. We use only real B&W paper and chemistry for traditional prints.

In 1997, my wife, Dorothy, and I opened the Photo Factory Gallery at 732 Fourth Ave in San Diego. ‘Dorothy’s Gallery’ represents many local area photographers offering gelatin silver prints to the public.

We offer a 10% discount to students and NCPS members who present documentation/membership card with their order.”

Please contact The Photo Factory at 619-235-6369, 1-800-479-7997, FAX (619) 235-0041 and/or visit our website at <http://www.photofactory.com/>.

NEW MEMBERS

NCPS welcomes the following new members: Sally & Doug Burgess, Carlsbad; Andrew Heinke, Encinitas; Michelle Wolf, Escondido; and Nelson Photo Supplies, San Diego.

SHOWS

Tom O. Scott will be having a solo exhibition at the Encinitas City Hall, 505 S. Vulcan Ave., Encinitas, during the entire month of March. The exhibition will feature many pieces from his Sand Art portfolio, his new Natural Abstracts portfolio, as well as other studies. There will be an artist’s reception at the City Hall on Wednesday, March 10, from 5pm to 7pm. You can preview some of the works that will be on display at Tom’s website <<http://www.tomoscott.com>>.

The Ordovery Gallery will be featuring their “Valentine’s Day Show”, February 14 through April 10, 2004. This show features two very different styles of fine art photography by a

husband and wife team, Alyce Pagano and Jim Pagano. There will be a reception on Valentine’s Day, Saturday, February 14, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

ARTICLES WANTED

Over the past six months, the Lens Paper has featured a number of fine articles written by Carrie Barton, Jeff Brosbe, Richard and Twink Bumann, Robert Harrington, Jack and Nancy Jennings, Al Joseph, Emile Kfoury, Mike McMahon, Mort Needle, Barbara Royer, Ed Stalder, and Carolyn Taylor for which we are truly grateful. The Lens Paper “Staff” is looking for articles on hows, or whens, or wheres with photographic interest (film or digital). A half or one or two column article to include an image or two to illustrate the subject where appropriate is invited. Please communicate with Hugh Cox at hmcox@att.net to indicate your interest in participating. The deadline for submitting the finished article is the first Wednesday of each month. Images should be jpegs that are actual size at 300 dpi. We thank you for your support.

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Digital Imagination Group

Digital Imagination Group meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the 101 Artists' Colony, 25 E Street, Encinitas (one-half block east of the Coast Highway), from 7:00 p.m. to around 9:00 p.m. **For More Information**, contact James G. Respass at (858) 272-1926 or <jim@greenflashphotography.com>. At the upcoming March 3rd meeting, guest artist Michael Sussna will be presenting his art and technique using "Fractals".

SPONSORS

The North County Photographic Society thanks the following sponsors. Please show your appreciation by visiting them.

<p>North Coast Photographic Services 5451 Avenida Encinas, Suite D Carlsbad, CA 92008 (760) 931-6809 www.northcoastphoto.com</p>	<p>The Photo Factory 733 Third Ave. San Diego, CA 92101 1 (800) 479-4997 richard@photofactory.com</p>
<p>North County Camera 830 West Valley Parkway Escondido, CA 92025 (760) 737-6002 www.nccamera.com</p>	<p>Professional Photographic Repair 7910 Raytheon Road San Diego, CA 92111 (858) 277-3700 prophoto@gte.net</p>
<p>Oceanside Photo and Telescope 1024 Mission Ave. Oceanside, CA 92054 (760) 722-3348 www.optcorp.com</p>	<p>Yolie's Digital Imaging 135 East Broadway Vista, CA 92084 (760) 724-8585 www.yolie.com</p>

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NOTE: Please place NCPS in the Subject line of all e-mail correspondence.

TO REACH NCPS

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