



Snapshots



'Gold Bar' - Nick

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Upcoming Meetings

May 8
Banquet

We are a group of photographers who view and practice photography as art; our chosen means of creative expression is the printed photograph. We gather every 2 weeks for dinner at a Toronto restaurant, followed by a lively discussion, providing honest evaluation and feedback on each other's photograph(s). In this supportive environment, we see and understand how our work is perceived by others. We are always happy to welcome other photographers who would like to share their work with us.

Marvin and Mort...Welcome Back to the Sunny North!

It was great to have you back in the meetings, even if it was only for 1 or 2.

I Think We Have a Winner!

You've seen the flyer for the O3C's Travel Day Seminar in the 'News From the Ontario Council of Camera Clubs' in the past few issues of Snapshots. That event, which included a photo contest, was held on Saturday, April 19th. There was only 1 category in the contest - Travel Related Photos.

I am very pleased to announce that the 3 judges chose Dass' image, 'Maiko', as the 1st place winner, which came with a \$1,000 gift certificate toward a future O3C/Photo Tour Trekkers photo tour. Congratulations Dass!!

You saw Dass' image in this season's Snapshots Issue #4, but it's definitely worth another look.



Dass offers this description of 'Maiko':

I have a deep connection to Japanese culture and spirituality. When Jill and I were there last year, one of the images I wanted to capture was of a Geisha or Maiko. A Maiko is a Geisha in training. They live in the Geisha house from age 15 to 19, at which point they must decide if they want to fully embrace the Geisha lifestyle or not. Geisha don't get married; they are considered married to their art. Geisha and Maiko go through rigorous lifelong training in dance, music, singing, the art of conversation, etc.

There is an area in Kyoto that is the centre of Geisha culture. We went there every evening around 6:00 to try to catch a fleeting glimpse of the illusive Geisha and Maiko travelling to their appointments in the tea houses. That's how I captured my Maiko shot.

It is possible to book a private audience with a Geisha or Maiko, if you can afford it: about \$400 - \$1,000 US per person.... and up.

"Those of us with water in our personalities don't pick where we'll flow to. All we can do is flow where the landscape of our lives carries us."

...from 'Memoirs of a Geisha' by Arthur Golden

The April 3rd Meeting

Members attending 8
No. of Prints 11
Moderator Laurence

Prints Shown on April 3rd

Marvin Cooper

Foursome

Leif Petersen

Thanks

Dass

A Moment in Marseilles
Extra - *Rajasthani Camel Herder*

Nick Janushewski

Gold Bar

Steve Rees

Rowdy Neighbour

Laurence Sitwell

A Disappearing Era
Extra - *Life Among the Ruins*

Marie Algieri-Goldgrub

Boxed In

Craig Lauder

Herder
Extra - *Masai Life*



'A Disappearing Era' - Laurence



'Life Among the Ruins' - Laurence

Tobacco Kilns

In recent years I have been touring the country roads of Durham Region and Northumberland County, where there have been about 150 tobacco farms from the 1950's, for a decade or two. In the Municipality of Clarington, in Durham, I have come across five sites with tobacco kilns.

- 2 sites with single kilns. Both still standing.
- 1 site with 9 kilns - 6 standing when I first visited; now only 3 are still standing.
- 1 site with 9 kilns - 6 standing when I first visited; now all are completely removed.
- 1 site with 8 kilns - 8 standing when I first visited and all in quite good condition; now all are completely removed.

Laurence Sitwell



'Thanks' - Leif

'A Moment in Marseilles' Dass



*"If you were going to shoot a mime, would you use a silencer?"
...Steven Wright*



'Camel Herder' - Dass

"It's easier for a rich man to ride that camel through the eye of a needle directly into the Kingdom of Heaven, than for some of us to give up our cell phone."

...Vera Nazarian, The Perpetual Calendar of Inspiration



'Foursome' - Marvin

"I am happy out here. Dirty feet, messy hair and wild water on my skin. Out here with the wild things; this is where I belong."

...Brooke Hampton



'Rowdy Neighbour' - Steve R.

I was lucky enough to visit P re-Lachaise Cemetery in Paris, a place that is famous for acres of grand, imposing monuments to the great & good (mostly) of France. Included there are the graves of many well-known people, including Jim Morrison of The Doors. His grave is a very popular spot for visitors, with probably about a dozen people coming by during the hour I was there on a rainy weekday morning in November.

I was struck by the items left by previous visitors - framed photos, trinkets, and even a bright green plastic lizard. By comparison, the neighbouring plots were sombre, grey, formal (forgotten? ignored?) places, much more in keeping with normal ideas of a famous, posh cemetery. There was even a long loop of metal barriers enclosing Morrison's grave - and about 10 of the neighbouring plots - separating them from public access.

What would these other residents have thought, if they'd known they were to be next to such a 'rowdy neighbour' in P re-Lachaise? What do their descendants think, when they come to visit?

Steve Rees

"People fear death more than pain. It's strange that they fear death. Life hurts a lot more than death. At the point of death, the pain is over."

"There are things known and unknown and in between are the doors."

...Jim Morrison

The April 17th Meeting

Members attending 11
No. of Prints 13
Moderator Marie

Prints Shown on April 17th

<u>Dass</u> <i>Window</i>	<u>Steve Rees</u> <i>Parisien Shuffle</i>	<u>Marvin Cooper</u> <i>Bonsai</i>
<u>Leif Petersen</u> <i>Hungry Mountain</i>	<u>Craig Lauder</u> <i>Zanzibar Early Morning</i>	<u>Dave Kempton</u> <i>Vintage Hamilton #1</i>
	<u>Nick Janushewski</u> <i>Decision</i>	
<u>Doris Woudenberg</u> <i>Mellow Season</i> <i>Extra - Stacked</i>	<u>Laurence Sitwell</u> <i>1 To 5</i> <i>Extra - Still Standing but Not for Long</i>	<u>Mort Shapiro</u> <i>Destination Unknown</i> <i>Extra - Summer Day</i>



'Bonsai' - Marvin



'Vintage Hamilton #1' - David



'Window' - Dass



'Hungry Mountain' - Leif

"The mountain offers us the scenery...it's up to us to invent the story that goes with it."

...Nicholas Helmbacher

"I'm a doctor of cowshit, pigshit and chickenshit...when you doctors figure out what you want, you'll find me in the barn shovelling my thesis."

Kurt Vonnegut



'Decisions' - Nick



'Parsien Shuffle' - Steve R.



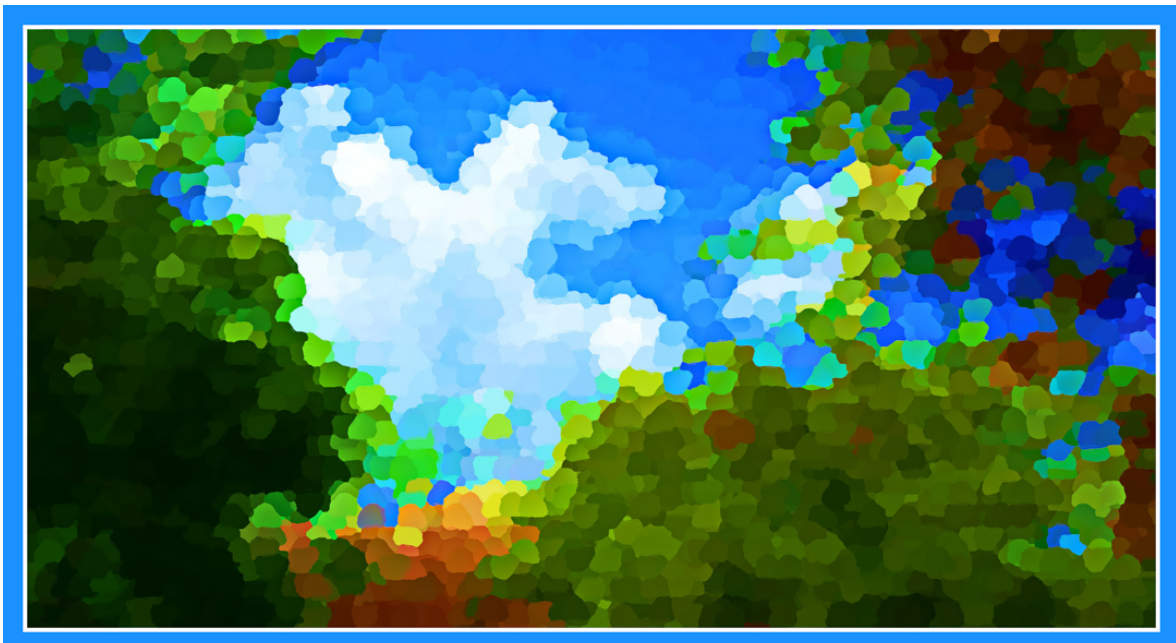
'1 to 5' - Laurence



'Still Standing but Not for Long' - Laurence



'Destination Unknown' - Mort



'Summer' - Mort



'Mellow Season' - Doris



'Stacked' - Doris

Dass' Inspirational Photograph

My purpose in creating this Inspiration series for Snapshots is to offer members the opportunity to expand their photographic horizons by exposing them to the work of acknowledged masters who thought for themselves and created their own path.

William Klein - American Artist & Filmmaker

William Klein is known for his unconventional style of abstract photography depicting city scenes. Although similar in subject matter to other street photographers and fashion photographers, Klein's images break from established modes. "I came from the outside, the rules of photography didn't interest me. There were things you could do with a camera that you couldn't do with any other medium—grain, contrast, blur, cock-eyed framing, eliminating or exaggerating grey tones and so on.", he reflected. "I thought it would be good to show what's possible, to say that this is as valid of a way of using the camera as conventional approaches."

Born on April 19, 1928 in New York, NY, Klein studied painting, but never received formal training in photography. His fashion work has been featured prominently in *Vogue* magazine, and has also been the subject of several iconic photo books, including *Life is Good and Good for You In New York* (1957) and *Tokyo* (1964). In the 1980s, he turned to film projects and has produced many memorable documentary and feature films, such as *Muhammed Ali, The Greatest* (1969). His works are held in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art in New York, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Art Institute of Chicago, among others.

Klein is ranked 25th on Professional Photographer's list of 100 most influential photographers.



Antonia + Simone + Barber Shop, New York (Vogue), 1961

April 17th AGM

The AGM minutes, along with the President's report, the Treasurer's Financial Report and the Directors' reports are all posted on a private page of the website: <http://www.focalforum.ca/2023-2024-agm.html>

The chart below shows the Elected Executive Board for next season.

As pointed out several times previously, we are still looking for a Vice-President. If you have not yet served on the Executive Board, please consider stepping forward. If you have served in the past,

Elected Executive Board: 2024-25

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| • President | Nick Janushewski |
| • Vice-President | Open |
| • Treasurer | Leif Petersen |
| • Secretary | Craig Lauder |
| • Membership Director | Allan Flagel |
| • Print Director | Marie Algieri-Goldgrub |
| • Newsletter Editor | Leif Petersen |

Advisors

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| • Past President | Leif Petersen |
| • iVP | Steve Gilligan |



What's Coming Up?

- **May 8th - Year-end banquet.** Per the recent email, this year's banquet will be held at Il Fornello at 8851 Yonge St. Richmond Hill (just north of the 407) beginning at 6:30 PM. At this point, we have 23 members and guests confirmed, but we can still add you to the list. If you will be bringing a print for our table top display, please send your print title to Leif.
- **June 22nd** - This year, summer officially begins on June 20th, so Bonnie and Leif would like to invite you to a **Summer BBQ**. More information will come out later, but mark your calendars. The rain date will be Sunday, June 23rd.
- **July 20th or 21st** - A possible summer outing to Moore Water Gardens, Port Stanley. Let Leif know if you're interested. Check out some photos to get an idea of the photographic subjects, during this early morning shoot: <http://www.focalforum.ca/moore-water-gardens-gallery.html>

News from the Ontario Council of Camera Clubs

Photography Competition

- If you're interested in competing in this year's O3C Open Challenge, you can find all details on the Council's website: <https://o3c.ca/competitions/open-challenge/>
- If you're a member of another camera club, you can enter through that club or through the TFF.

Photography Tours

If you're considering a photo trip this year, check out the new line-up of exciting O3C photo tours offered through Photo Tour Trekkers: <https://o3c.ca/photo-tours/>

REMINDERS

- Send a digital copy of your image to Leif. Size: Horizontal = 1920 on the long edge; vertical = 1080 on the long edge; file name format: Your Name-Image Title-Meeting Date
- Send an email to Leif by 6:00 PM Monday to let him know if you will attend Wednesday's meeting.