

FOCUS

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWS

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Number 5

Finding inspiration from *Genuine Men*
 Author Nancy Bruno's photography focuses on male role models

Americans expect politicians, church leaders, business executives and professional athletes to serve as positive role models for today's youth. But in recent months there's been a flurry of media attention surrounding high-profile men behaving badly. Men who once served as role models no longer fill the shoes. In the wake of such news, many are left wondering where the genuine role models have gone.

As a mother of two young boys, photographer and author Nancy Bruno is spearheading a movement to address the need for positive male role models in today's society. Bruno has launched The Genuine Men Project to celebrate everyday men who define what it means to be a person of character, strength and authenticity. The project includes a photography exhibition and book, *Genuine Men: Journeys in Stories and Stills* (Bridgeway Books, May 2008) which features candid black-and-white photographs and life-defining stories of 35 men from the community.

"Men today continue to be judged by their jobs, bank accounts, cars, homes and outward appearance," says Bruno, who holds bachelor's degrees in historical sociology and literature/rhetoric from SUNY Binghamton. "Powerful role models should not be defined by material gain and physical perfection but by the way they face and live through their life experiences. The Genuine Men Project captures the essence of what it means to be a man worth emulating."

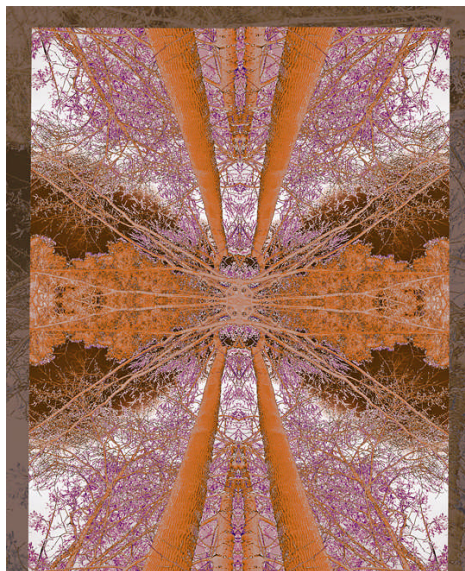
Born in upstate New York in 1970, Nancy Bruno has been fascinated with black and white photography her entire life. As a little girl, she

[Continued on page 4]

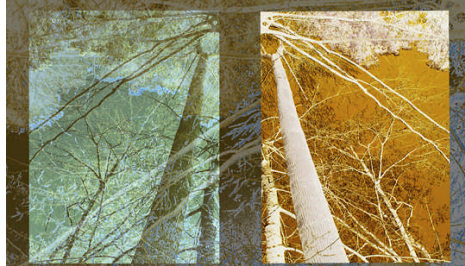
January Calendar

Date	Competition	Program
Wed. Jan. 5	Print: What's Your Perspective? – Your best example of an image that illustrates an unusual perspective of your subject	Joe Marcuccio "Creative Techniques with Mirroring Images"
Wed. Jan. 12	Projected: Emotions – Joy, fear, sorrow, frustration, etc. Capture them.	Alyssa La Patra "Hardly a Holga"
Wed. Jan. 19	Board meeting @ 6:30pm	Nancy Bruno "Genuine Men"
Wed. Jan. 26		Bob Riccardo "Restoring Damaged Photographs"





Autumn Blaze © Joseph A. Marcuccio



Ice Trees © Joseph A. Marcuccio



Pink Velvet © Joseph A. Marcuccio

Joe Marcuccio will talk on Creative Techniques with Mirroring Images on Jan 5th

Joseph A. Marcuccio, Professor of Visual Communications Technology at Fulton-Montgomery Community College in Johnstown, NY, has been teaching for 25 years. His course work includes a variety of subjects in print media involving digital publishing, web page design, graphic design and digital photography. In addition he has taught various training workshops at FMCC involving Adobe software and digital photography.

Joe is a long time member of The Graphic Professionals Resource Network and past president and educational chair of the Adirondack Club of Printing House Craftsmen. He has a B.S. from Rochester Institute of Technology School of Printing and Photography. He also holds a MS in Curriculum Planning and Development from the State University at Albany. Joe is a retired United States Naval Reservist, Lithographer First Class. He resides in Saratoga Springs with his wife, Elizabeth, and two children, Joseph and Andreia.

Joe considers framing, composition, highlight detail, light and shadow important and integral elements of a photograph. He uses filters to capture unusual light and shadows found in the spectral band of light.

The beauty and elegance of natural trees living in nature's design can be photographed in such a way that portrays them in an interesting and unusual light. The "Tree Mirrors" photos you see here were taken in winter after an ice storm. The tree branches were frozen white in a still quiet winter wonderland while their branches glistened in the gleaming bright winter sun. Joe digitally crafted the properties of natural light, shadow, color and texture to express the essence of this theme "Tree Mirrors". This series of symmetrical digital photo composites embellishes blended color, connecting elements of design to create a new vision for these natural trees. "Tree Mirrors" consists of seamless flowing energy, mystic elegance and touching expressive movement. The trees gracefully embrace each other in their magnificent beauty as they connect to their natural environment. Their outreaching branches create emerging shapes, and intricate branch patterns. The names given to these trees represent their new personalities as seen through Joe's eyes.

Lightroom Resources

- Robert J. Near

Tips, techniques & tutorials <http://www.jkost.com>
 Julieanne Kost's blog <http://blogs.adobe.com/jkost>
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“Hardly a Holga”

by Alyssa La Patra

My presentation on **Wed. Jan.12** will be a selection of projected images featuring my most recent photographs, which explore human emotions as the primary subject matter. This body of work has been photographed with a Holga, a crude manual camera with a plastic lens. I photograph my images in a low-light environment without a flash. I use a tripod, long exposures, and reoccurring manipulated dolls to impart the complexity of relationships and depths of human emotion to the viewer.

I am a local artist currently attending the graduate program at The College of Saint Rose for Art Education. My love for black and white photography emerged like a well-exposed print in the developing tray when I took my first photography class as a senior in high school. From my earliest experiences in photography I found comfort through a process that allowed me to transform my thoughts and emotions into a concrete visual representation. The curling strips of 35 mm. film, strong and pungent smell of chemicals, amber glow of safelights, and the cherished photographic image itself became a bridge between experience and language. Through an image, I found the courage to articulate memories, stories, and perceptions of reality, both visually and vocally. Today, I continue to use photography as a vehicle for expression and I remain an avid enthusiast for the medium, especially in its most traditional forms.



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Critique and assistance in helping SPS members to compete in club and inter-club competitions.

I have been a member of SPS for over 40 years and due to severe arthritis I am limited in my ability to actively go on field trips and photograph events.

I am offering my services to all new SPS members and members who have been in our club for less than 5 years. This is a 'free' contribution by me.

I can assist with choosing the correct image, composition, use of Photoshop, etc and in resizing for internet competitions.

I will be able to do this on the internet or by phone.

You can call me at 489-7678 or write kendeitch@aol.com.

Ken Deitcher FPSA

Schenectady Photographic Society's meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church at 603 State St. in Schenectady, NY. Parking and entrance are at the rear of the building off Chapel St., a short one-way street off Nott Terrace. Additional information and directions on our website

<http://www.schenectadyphotographicsociety.com/>

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Genuine Men [Continued from page 1]

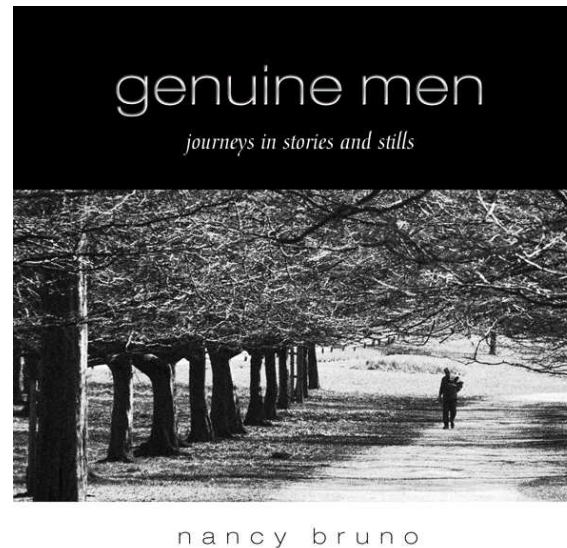
would search for images in books and in antique frames at her grandmother's home, hoping for a glimpse into the past to better understand the present. Her love of photography and curiosity in human nature would ultimately lead to a career as an accomplished photographer and writer.

Bruno has mastered two different areas of her craft: documentary photography and architectural/interior design photography. As a documentary artist, Bruno's unique style of becoming "invisible" to her subjects allows them to live unencumbered by the presence of a camera. With each series, her goal is not only to portray the essence of her subjects in their truest expression, but also to allow the audience to create meaning through their own eye. As an architectural and interior design photographer, Bruno's eye for angles, symmetry and detail allow her to capture the simple elegance and spaciousness of any room or building. Preferring to work on location and with the environment's natural lighting and design, her images reflect the true nature and beauty of each space.

In 1996, Bruno moved to Montreal, Canada where her fiancé had been transferred for work. While volunteering with a women's literacy program, Bruno started taking photography and printmaking classes at the Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts. It was there that she created her first documentary that examined Canadian life during the cold, long winter. A year after moving to Montreal, Bruno and her husband relocated again to London, England where she continued studying photography and printmaking.

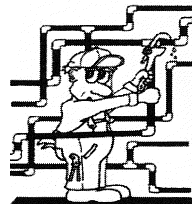
Since moving back to upstate New York in 2001, Bruno has worked as a documentary photographer, telling stories through the medium of black and white 35mm photography. She currently runs her own business, Nouns Photography, where she specializes in capturing the essence of people, places and things.

The Genuine Men Project expands on Bruno's community art project and touring photo-documentary exhibition, The Beautiful Women Project, launched in 2006, which encourages women of all ages, sizes and backgrounds to embrace a healthier notion of "beauty." Bruno has teamed both projects up with several non-profit organizations such as the American Heart Association and YMCA Outreach for Youth to raise money and awareness for their causes.



Bruno lives with her husband and two sons just outside of Albany, where she continues to photograph life's most wonderful untold stories. Her work can be viewed in galleries throughout the Northeast. Visit www.thegenuinemen.com for more information. Nancy Bruno will be our featured speaker on **Wed. Jan. 19.**

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December Print Competition Winners



Rob Near photographed **Morning Dew** (*2nd place Assigned, above*) on the road side in Greene County in early morning light through fog, with a Nikon D700 on a tripod and Tokina 105 mm Macro Lens. f/4.0 @ 1/2000 sec. ISO: 200. **Kim Koza** spent her whole trip to Italy **Chasing Laundry** (*2nd place Color, below*). This scene was down an alley, just waiting to be shot! Shot ISO 200 on auto with a Canon 10D and 28-135 mm lens.



Flipped Façade (*1st place Color, original below*) was taken by **Luba Ricket** with an Olympus P&S on program, through her car window as a drive-by shot. Some images ask to be flipped – but then she's still not sure if the flip will be appealing. This is a simple flip with "difference" as the blend mode. Printed on Endura Metallic paper.



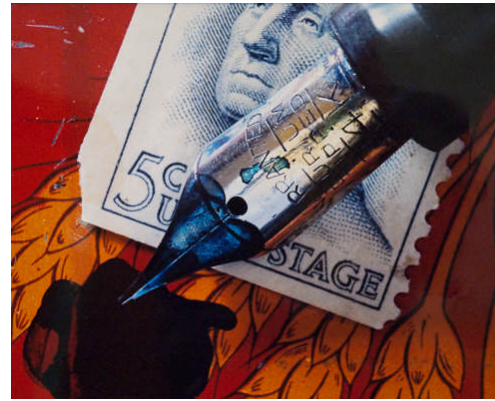
Kim Koza loved this outdoor restaurant and scene at **St. Mark's Square** (*1st place Monochrome, below*), although she couldn't even afford to have a cappuccino there! Shot ISO 200 on auto with a Canon 10D and 28-135 mm lens hand held.



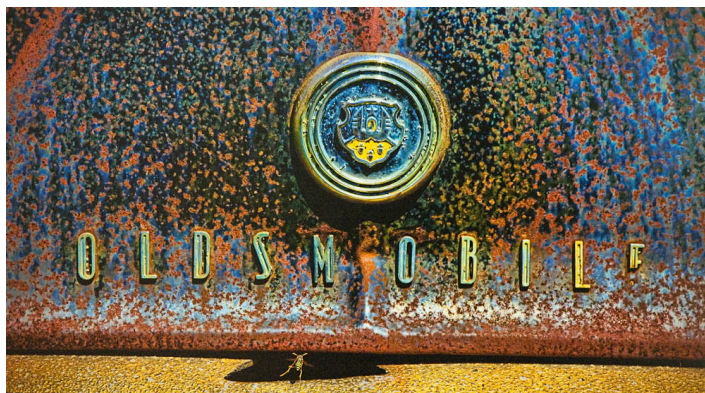
December Print Competition Winners [Continued from page 6]



Grand Gorge Farm (3rd Place Monochrome) was photographed by **Rob Near** on the road side late on an overcast rainy day with a Nikon D700 on a tripod and a Nikon 24-70 mm lens @ 28 mm. HDR with 5 exposures one stop apart, shot at f/8. ISO: 200. Converted to B&W with Lightroom.



Inkblot (1st Place Assigned, above) by **Bob Warner**. There were a lot of bees around at Merli Carriage Mfg. Co. in Duanesburg the morning that **Bob Ricardo** waited for one to fly into the car to shoot **I'm Home** (3rd Place Color, at left) with a Canon 7D and EF24-70mm f/2.8L USM lens. f/11 @ 1/500 sec. ISO: 640. Printed on an Epson 4000 on Epson Premium Luster Paper.



Spidey (3rd Place Assigned, below) is by **Sean Sullivan**.



Rebekah Sokol was **Waiting for Godot** (2nd Place Monochrome) at Mohonk Mountain House trails in New Paltz. Shot in afternoon light with a Canon Rebel Xti and Tamron 18-250 mm lens. Desaturated in Photoshop.



December Projected Competition Winners



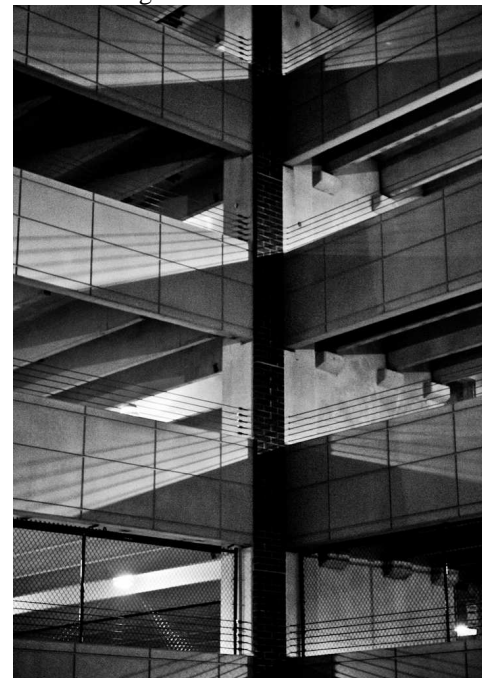
Riding High (*1st place Assigned, above*) was shot by **Barb Lawton** at the Cobleskill Fair, in twilight, with a Canon 50D and 18-200 mm lens. When she arrived at the viewing stand the security guard saw her big cameras and invited her to shoot from the track infield where the setting sun and clouds were perfect for creating a backlit subject. She shot in rapid-fire mode at ISO 3200. **Phil Olivo** shot **Winner's Circle in Black & White** (*2nd place General, below*) at the Saratoga Race Track around 7:30 am in overcast light with a Nikon D300 and Tamron 18-50 mm zoom lens. F/2.8 @ 1/4000 sec. ISO: 200. He applied a graduated filter in Lightroom to darken the sky and then converted to B&W his vision being to show that the winner's circle is an elusive dream for most jockeys.



Rob Near shot **Single Leaf** (*3rd place Assigned*) on the roadside in Greene County with a Nikon D700 on a tripod and Tokina 105mm Macro lens. f/4.5 @ 1/2000 sec. ISO: 400.



Max Tiller photographed **A Face in Mexico** (*1st place General, above*) with a Pentax SLR and 50 mm kit lens on 35mm ISO 100 color slide film in Mexico City around 1 PM in available light. Scanned on a flatbed scanner and Topaz Adjust 4 used on the final image. **Sean Sullivan** used a Nikon D700 and Nikkor 24-70 mm F2.8 lens. to shoot **Parking Garage Noir #1** (*3rd place General, below*) next to meeting hall around 9 pm in ambient light. f/2.8 @ 1/50 sec. ISO: 1600 Converted to B/W in Lightroom.



December Competition Results

Print Competition Results

Assigned Topic: Macro Mania		
1	Bob Warner	Inkblot
2	Rob Near	Morning Dew
3	Sean Sullivan	Spidey
4	Marianne Rahn-Erickson	As Men Go I Am Very Very Small
HM	Ken Deitcher	Paper Wasp
HM	Pat McCormick	Golden Spider
HM	Bernie Mattus	Hold Yar Breath
HM	Bernie Mattus	Fly
Color		
1	Luba Ricket	Flipped Façade
2	Kim Koza	Chasing Laundry
3	Bob Ricardo	I'm Home
4	Kim Koza	Bermuda Days
5	N. Sukumar	Menhir Delivery
HM	Sean Sullivan	Death Row
HM	Ron Herdon	Strange Light
HM	Ray Henrikson	Hot Dog Wagon
HM	Max Tiller	Dance Troupe
HM	Saul Aronson	Windows to Another World
Monochrome		
1	Kim Koza	St. Mark's Square
2	Rebekah Sokol	Waiting for Godot
3	Rob Near	Grand Gorge Farm
HM	Sean Sullivan	Map Room
HM	Barb Lawton	At the Wash Basin

Projected Competition Results

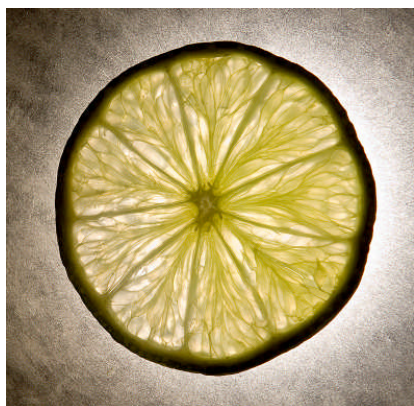
Assigned Topic: Backlit		
1	Barb Lawton	Riding High
2	Jeffrey Altman	Lime
3	Rob Near	Single Leaf
HM	Luba Ricket	Lilies behind Leaf
HM	Sean Sullivan	He Went That A Way
General		
1	Max Tiller	A Face in Mexico
2	Phil Olivo	Winner's Circle in Black & White
3	Sean Sullivan	Parking Garage Noir 1
4	Jane Riley	Vests on a Pole
5	Jane Riley	Broadalbin Simplified
HM	Rob Near	Coxsackie Sunrise
HM	Rob Near	Grand Gorge Barn
HM	Max Tiller	Checkers
HM	Ken Deitcher	Tagus Cove
HM	Barb Lawton	Southwest Succulent

Judge: Joe Schuyler

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December Projected Competition Winners

[Continued from page 8]

Lime (2nd place Assigned) was shot by **Jeffrey Altman** at his home with a D3 DSLR on a tripod and 24-70 mm f/2.8 lens. f/8 @ 1/250 sec. ISO: 400. He used a narrow beam strong spotlight underneath and a trial and error process to obtain the background effect, achieved with wax paper over a glass pane.

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The *Focus* is published ten times a year by the Schenectady Photographic Society. The organization meets each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. from October through May to promote and present informative programs, activities and competitions in the photographic arts for photographers throughout the Capital District. Members range from novice to expert. Annual dues are \$40.00 for individuals and families. The *Focus* newsletter is included in the membership dues. SPS meets at the First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, New York. Parking and entrances are on Chapel Street, a one way street off Nott Terrace. Guests are welcome at all regular meetings. **If you change your email or mailing address, let Bob Riccardo know at briccardo@verizon.net**