HOW DID THEY DO THAT???
Member Technique Showcase ~ December 3rd

**Do you enjoy the monthly competitions, but are left wondering just how those winning photos were made? Well, some of the secrets are out - as your fellow SPS photographers share their techniques.
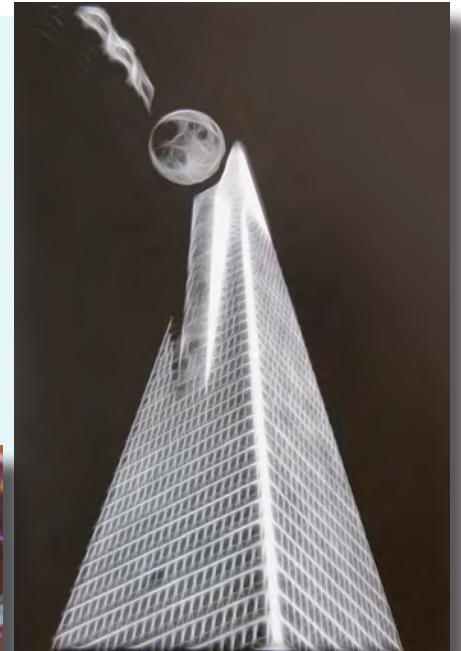Join us on December 3rd !**

Per Print Group Co-Chair, Rebekah Sokol, "This program is a series of brief presentations by members who have demonstrated some cool technique{s} in their SPS competition submissions in October or November. Our goal is to foster a flow of information between members, teach everybody something about some processes, and inspire other members to try new techniques themselves and try something new in their own photography."

"Trans Am"
© Ken Deitcher

"White Rose"
© Linda A Tommasulo

"Backyard Melange"
© Ray Henrikson

"Hang Time"
© Dave Bennett

"The Wedding Tree"
© Marianne Rahn-Erickson

"Two Leaves" / © Kim Koza

"OLD CAMERAS AND PETROGLYPHS"
by Peter Bowden ~ December 10th

Join us on December 10th for a unique two-part presentation from photographer Peter Bowden. He will discuss his transition from film to digital and will bring his collection of cameras as well as a slide show illustrating what those cameras produced.

The second section will be about his discovery of, love of and artistic endeavors recreating rock art on canvas. Those paintings are now available at the Edge of the Cedars Museum in Blanding, Utah, and The Hogan Gallery in Moab, Utah.

© Peter Bowden

Edge of the Cedars Museum Shop

© Peter Bowden

© Peter Bowden

Ready for Mounting

The Woz and the Horses

FLOWING WATER PHOTOGRAPHY
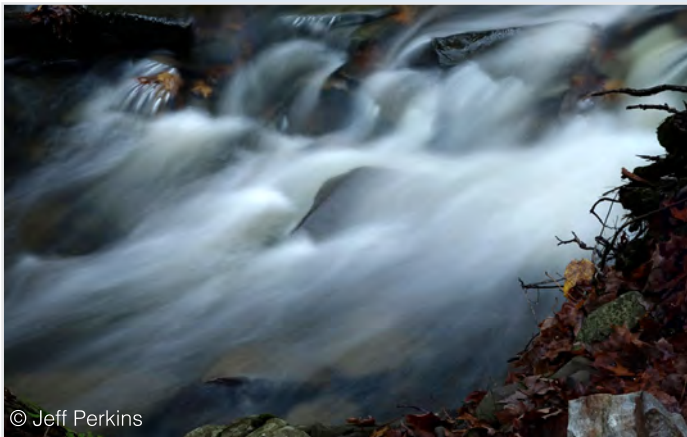## by Jeff Perkins

© Jeff Perkins

One of my favorite photo locations is the Christman Sanctuary in Delanson. This beautiful Nature Conservancy preserve is one of the best places for water photography in the Capital District. To be there after a good rain when the water is flowing is itself a spiritual experience.

When I see flowing water I want to make the water looks somewhat creamy to give me the sense of motion and flow. There are times, of course, when you want to capture the majesty and power of the crashing waves and stop the action. I am not going to talk about that type of photography.

What I want to talk about is how to make the water look smooth, but on the other hand if you make it look excessively smooth it looks quite artificial. The smoothness of the water is dependent really upon several factors: the shutter speed of the camera, the aperture and the ISO. All of these factors interact; and, as the photographer, it your job to adjust them to get the effect you desire.

If the shutter speed is too slow because of a number of factors (including a very slow shutter speed and using a neutral density filter), the water develops a thick milky look.
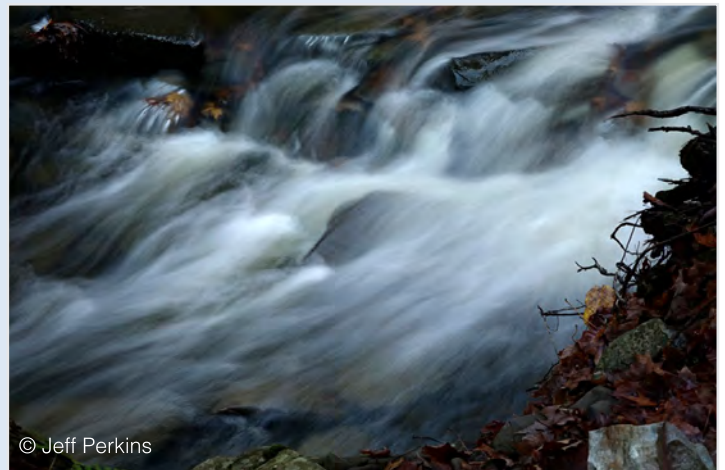
F14 ISO80 Tv1sec

© Jeff Perkins

I find a shutter speed up about 1/15 to 1/4 of a second sufficient to create the "milk effect" I like.

By opening the aperture, the shutter speed can be reciprocally adjusted. There is more detail in the water as well as the rocks.

F8 ISO80 Tv1/15 sec

© Jeff Perkins

To create flowing water photography you need a number of key ingredients. First of all, a good camera where you can control all the aspects of the exposure. This will usually be a digital SLR or a high-end prosumer camera that has controls. These images for example were shot with a Sony RX 10 with its wonderful 24-200, 2.8 Zeiss lens.

You definitely need a tripod, remote shutter/cable release or use the two second self timer; a polarizing filter is a must, and good light. Good light for this type of photography is actually shade or when it is overcast. You have to pay close attention to white balance if you're shooting in JPEG because in the shade or overcast light there will be a bluish tint to the water as created by the color temperature of that light. Bright sunny days (when the sunlight is directly shining on the water and the rocks) actually are very bad for this sort of photography. You often get blown out highlights that you cannot fix.

Continued...

FLOWING WATER PHOTOGRAPHY ~ Continued...

I start out in aperture mode, the meter then sets the shutter speed as mentioned and the ISO varies depending upon the light on the scene. If needed, from there, I will go to manual. Always check your histogram for a good exposure curve.

If I want to make the shutter speed faster because the water was too creamy looking, I simply adjust the ISO or the F stop.

ISO Adjusted: F14 ISO400 Tv1/15 sec

© Jeff Perkins

F13 ISO80 Tv1sec

© Jeff Perkins

© Jeff Perkins

Going out to the Christman is a wonderful experience and a great place to use and understand the reciprocity built into the exposure triangle of ISO, Aperture and Shutter speed.

SPS IN NYC...

A couple of photo-ops from PhotoExpo:

© Bob Coppola

© Herb Brown

FRACTALS
by Ken Deitcher

What, Why, and How ???

I have been using fractal creations as backgrounds in many of my images. I use them for impact and their unusual design patterns.

The definition of a fractal is both confusing and many times abstract. The official definition is a mathematical set that typically displays self-similar patterns, which means it is "the same from near as from far."

Raw Fractals

The term 'fractal' was first used by mathematician Benoit Maldelbrot in 1975. To create them, a mathematical formula is placed in a program that creates the color and patterns. The interesting fact is that the image can be enlarged without losing its characteristics.

Several years ago I purchased a digital program called KPT which created these images. With several clicks of my mouse I was able to create unusual images within minutes.
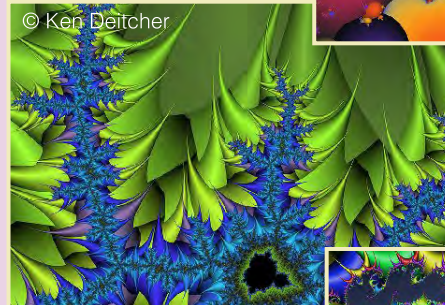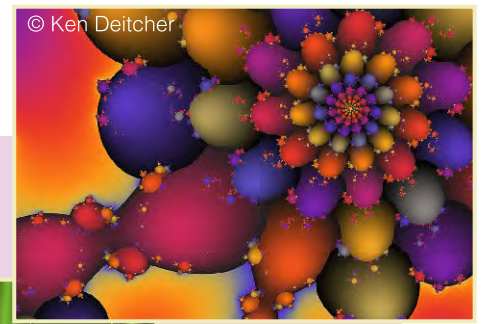
Images with Fractals Added:

Shown here are several 'raw' fractals and their inclusion as backgrounds for my images. You can see how the shapes and colors increase the effect of the fractal on the whole image.

A year ago, an interesting side note regarding creating these shapes affected my creativity a bit. At that time I had a hard drive failure and, in restoring this, the KPT program was not restored. Prior to this I created and saved about 100 fractals which I now use.

If you want to learn more about fractals and their use, there are several videos available:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=
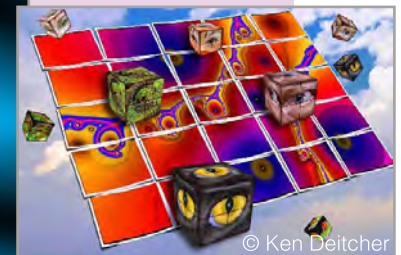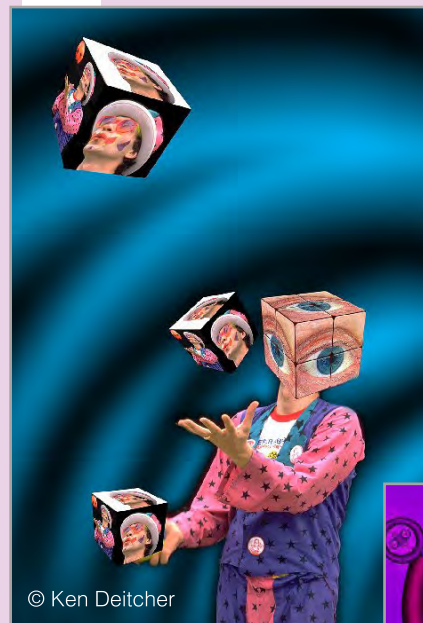cXM9J77StL0&feature=player_detailpage

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=
cXM9J77StL0&feature=player_detail-
page#t=45

PRINT JUDGE: Photographer **Joan Heffler,** a Saratoga Springs/Schenectady/Albany wedding, corporate, portrait and event photographer with the eye of an artist and the technical expertise of a true professional. She captures unforgettable images of bar and bat mitzvahs, corporate events, portraits, and weddings.

General
"Welcome to Upstate NY"
© Marianne Rahn Erickson

Monochrome
"Trans Am"
© Ken Deitcher

Assigned - Technology
"What I Face"
© Dow Smith

General
"Black Lava Beach in Iceland"
© Jane Riley

Assigned:
Coffee, Tea or...
"One"
© Sean Sullivan

PROJECTED JUDGE: **David Brickman** - a (former) exhibiting artist, art critic, and curator for over 30 years. David is a current member of the Board of Directors and longtime member of the Exhibits Committee of Albany Center Gallery. He is now employed as an auditor for the Office of the New York State Comptroller. Check out his "Get Visual" blog at http://dbgetvisual.blogspot.com.

To see all of the winners, log on to www.spsphoto.org, click "Competitions" and "Recent Winners."

SCOTT KELBY PHOTOWALK
Photos by our leader: Sean Sullivan

Once again, Sean Sullivan took on the task of organizing our local Scott Kelby PhotoWalk. Here are a few of the images he captured along the way.

© Sean Sullivan

© Sean Sullivan

© Sean Sullivan

© Sean Sullivan

© Sean Sullivan

PSA NEWS

Why not participate in the PSA Interclub Competitions? A committee of SPS members reviews all images and determines which ones are submitted to PSA. Put your best foot forward in the "PID" Category, which is open to all subjects. Deadline is December 20th.

More information and a copy of the Guidelines/Procedures for the Projected Image Division can be found at The PSA Projected Image Competition website. Contact Inter-Club Coordinator Phil Olivo if you have any questions.

SPS IS ON FACEBOOK!
Just type
"Schenectady Photographic Society"
in the search box.

COMING IN JANUARY

January 7th
"Getting New Photos Out of Old Gear"
by Chuck Miller
~Plus~
Print Group Competition
(Assigned Topic: People Taking Photos)

January 14th
"Photographing Abandoned Property"
by Ian Creitz
~Plus~
Projected Image Competition
(Assigned Topic: Take Five)

January 21st – Guest Speaker
"Digital Nature Time-Lapse Photography"
by Joe LaFevre

January 28th
Mentoring Night: "Bring Your Camera"

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

PRINT COMPETITORS... did you win 1st place?

If so, I'd like to include your photo in the Focus. So that we have the best image, please forward a digital file within two weeks of winning, sized as you would for digital competition (1024 x 768, 300 ppi) to: focuseditor@icloud.com.

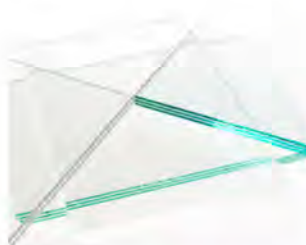(Note: Projected Images will automatically appear, unless requested otherwise.)

ADK BALLOON FESTIVAL WINNER

Out of 325 entries, Linda Tommasulo garnered 5th place in this year's Adirondack Balloon Festival Photo Contest, winning breakfast for two at Sutton's in Queensbury.

©2014 Linda A. Tommasulo

2014-2015
Print Assigned Topics

2014

October 1 — The Backyard
Show us what's in your backyard (or your neighbor's).

November 5 — Technology Rules
Show us how technology is important in our lives.

December 3 — Trick or Treat
Show us how you celebrate Halloween

2015

January 7 — People Taking Photos
Unique images of those "other" photographers.

February 4 — Hip to be Square
Show us some squares, but don't get boxed in.

March 4 — Doors
I'll take door #3. What door do you take?

April 8 — Shadows
Don't be afraid of the noon-time sun.

May 6 — Print of the Year

2014-2015
Projected Image* Assigned Topics

* Deadline for the Projected Image competition is Sunday at midnight prior to the competition.

2014

October 8 — Minimal
Images with simple or primary forms.

November 12 — Coffee, Tea or...
Show us your favorite beverage.

December 10 — Monochrome
Varying tones of only one color.

2015

January 14 — Take Five
Idiom's figurative meaning, or literal interpretation.

February 11 — On the Fence
Undecided or literal meaning.

March 11 — "X" Marks the Spot
Need some form of an "X" in the image.

April 15 — Out of the Blue
Sudden, unexpected occurrence; or something blue.

May 13 — Projected Image of the Year

Have Something to Contribute?

Been somewhere special, taken some great images, or just want to share some photo knowledge with club members?
Please contact me (Linda Tommasulo) with articles, comments or suggestions:
focuseditor@icloud.com
Thank you!

SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1931

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         Perkster46@yahoo.com