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February at SJCC

Time to Exercise Your Creativity



Time Waves by Susanne Kuski

Many people argue that they don't have a creative bone in their body. Perhaps you're a member of this crowd. If so, I'll argue right along with you that it's true. Because creativity isn't a bone. It's a muscle. And the more you exercise it, the

stronger it becomes. If you've ever wished you were more creative, or if you absolutely love creating outside of the box, you're in luck. February at SJCC is all about creativity and we're offering many opportunities for you to exercise and express your own special brand of it. But before I cover all that, please indulge me in a little digression (sort of).

I'd like to thank those of you who participated in our Member's Round Table Discussion, whether live or via some well-considered email before or after the fact. Your feedback is invaluable. We're actively discussing and researching some refinements based on the candid views you expressed. As you are all well aware, these are tough times to engineer the perfect experience, but we're working towards crafting something valuable and rewarding for our members. And this too will require us to exercise some creativity. So please bear with us while we work it out.

There is one change that we are making effective immediately. **We will no longer be meeting in-person for our Challenge nights** – those meetings will be held via Zoom only. The effort to produce the hybrid meetings with so few people attending in person is just not sustainable at present. Perhaps it will become a viable option again in the future. Our workshops and field trips (naturally) will continue to be in-person events and are excellent opportunities to socialize and get to know your fellow SJCC members. But even with those, we want to make sure that effort is being put in the right places. Please take a few moments to review the workshop and field trip offerings for the remainder of the season and, if you have not already done so, email us a list of those programs that you're interested in attending. This will allow us to prepare for or alter a scheduled event depending on demand (or lack thereof).

While you're on our website reviewing the upcoming programs, take a detour over to our gallery and follow the link to our [Flickr page](#), where we feature every single photo entered into our challenges. You may even want to bookmark it. It's an excellent opportunity to spend as much time as you'd like studying and appreciating photos that you likely only saw on screen for a few moments. In lieu of the schmooze time we once spent mid- and post-meeting to discuss each other's presented work, it's a way to show your appreciation by flagging

favorites or leaving a comment. Plus, you can get a jump on our end-of-year Behind the Lens nominations. (Note: we'll be scouring the Flickr gallery for favorites instead of asking you for written lists. A monthly gallery visit will save you a lot of time when I start nagging you in May.)

With that all now said, pull out your calendars and mark down these February events. For a short month there sure are a lot of them!

Sara Ascalon, President

Reminder: save this email for all the dates and zoom links provided... but, just in case, you'll find a copy linked in the member drop down window at the top of our website.

SJCC Creativity Boot Camp EVENTS AT A GLANCE

February 9: Finding Your Creative Voice by Rich Lewis
February 14: Mobile Photography Users Group Meeting
February 18: Workshop: Photoshop Layers and Masking
February 21: Challenge Meeting
February 25: Workshop: Painting with Light
February 26: Field Trip: Moravian Tile Works and More
February 28: Critique Circle

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEETINGS

Monthly Presentation: Thursday, February 9 at 7pm via Zoom
Finding Your Creative Voice: Learn how one simple word and four questions can change your photography
By Rich Lewis

Every photographer needs to find their unique creative voice. It is the basic building block of creating a unique photographic style that allows a photographer to make photographs that do not look like everyone else. So how does someone develop a style? It was something I struggled with for years until I realized a simple solution... Ask questions. In this presentation I teach you 4 simple questions whose answers will lead you to define your style. I also teach one important key word that will drive everything you do with your photography, and possibly your life. This presentation is full of examples of how this questioning approach leads to creative solutions based on a unique creative voice.

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84126318594?
pwd=dTBSaitSNHNoSm14bTJOUHpSNDR3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84126318594?pwd=dTBSaitSNHNoSm14bTJOUHpSNDR3Zz09)

- Meeting ID: 841 2631 8594
- Passcode: 931327

Mobile Photography User Group (MPUG): Tuesday, February 14 at 7pm via Zoom

From Our Mobile Photography Master, Jeff Feeny:

February theme is “Vintage” and “Monitor Lighting” which means you need to use the light emitted from some sort of electronic device to light your subject.

Please make sure you get the images to Jeff no later than the Monday night before the meeting. Send them to foneartstudio@icloud.com,

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83239804273?
pwd=Vmc0czRsR0pWSDdxTWdIN3JNcy9mdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83239804273?pwd=Vmc0czRsR0pWSDdxTWdIN3JNcy9mdz09)

- Meeting ID: 832 3980 4273
- Passcode: 282398

Challenge Night: Tuesday, February 21 at 7pm, VIA ZOOM ONLY**Judged by Lesha Moore**

- **Assigned Topic: Creative** – Use your imagination to create something a little out of the ordinary through a unique concept, post-processing or both.
- **Open**

Zoom Meeting Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82330778352?pwd=b0lzcTBLWHR0NWxPQnBHQVFoU0NtUT09>

- Meeting ID: 823 3077 8352
- Passcode: 733506

If you are unsure of how to upload your challenge entries, now is a good time to acquaint yourself with the process. [There are useful videos here](#). Even if you are comfortable with it, it wouldn't hurt to check to see if your password is working. Doing this before the deadline crunch will assure that we can help you sort out any problems. To avoid disqualification and disappointment, it is also advisable to [review the eligibility criteria](#).

Critique Circle, Tuesday, February 28, 7pm via Zoom

Join our Critique Circle and hone your image evaluation skills. Instead of "experts" offering advice, each participant will have the opportunity to critique the submitted photographs and offer constructive input on the image's successes and shortcomings. This activity will help makers and evaluators alike by building the skills needed to objectively assess your own work during and after the creative process. You may submit up to three photos for critique. Depending on the number of submissions, we may not be able to get to all of them, so please indicate your order of priority. Email photos to info@sjcameraclub.org by noon, February 27. You do not have to submit photos to participate or observe.

Zoom Meeting Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84022439337?>

[pwd=KzAxQ2M5KzRmRVgxSytDaXNIbCsrUT09](#)

- Meeting ID: 840 2243 9337
- Passcode: 365316

WORKSHOPS

Photoshop Layers and Masking, Saturday, February 18, 10 am, in person and via Zoom*

Presented by Rich Lewis

To edit a photograph in Adobe Photoshop, layers are used to make global adjustments, and masks within a layer give you the ability to apply adjustments to a specific area of a photograph. This workshop will introduce you to these features of layers and masks:

- An introduction to the concept of layering your image adjustments.
- What is the purpose of the specific adjustment layers?
- How to apply masks to a layer to reveal and hide the effects of an adjustment layer.
- An introduction to layer blending modes to tailor how an adjustment is applied to a photograph.

Don't worry if some of these terms are new to you. They will be explained with the goal of introducing the amazing power of Photoshop to your photography. This workshop is geared for SJCC members who are relatively new to Photoshop.

*Please note: even though we will be streaming the workshop live on Zoom, due to a degree of interactivity and limitations of the Zoom platform, the program will be best experienced in person.

Zoom Meeting Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85075150258?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85075150258?pwd=RUJSOEEvQ1B6Y0hOQnJiUEVEMS9rQT09)

[pwd=RUJSOEEvQ1B6Y0hOQnJiUEVEMS9rQT09](#)

- Meeting ID: 850 7515 0258

- Passcode: 220757

Painting with Light, Saturday, February 25, 4 pm, in person only
Presented by Pat Worley

Explore Light Painting Photography. This photographic technique where the artist opens the shutter of a camera for an extended period of time and uses various light sources to create color and design within the frame. There is no photo editing. Light painting images are created in real time and captured in the camera in one single photographic frame.

We will begin the workshop reviewing the work of inspiring light painting artists and then practice what we learned. The techniques are fun and easy to do. This is a hands-on workshop! Tripod and cable release are required.

To register for these or any other workshops, please email us at info@sjcameraclub.org.

FIELD TRIP

Moravian Tile Works and More, Sunday, February 26, 2-5 pm
Doylestown, PA

Photograph the interior of this unique tile works. It is an architectural gem with great light, historic artifacts and a functioning hand made tile company. Cost is \$8.00 per person, paid directly to the Tile Works on the day of the field trip.

Note. Only some of the rooms are heated, so dress accordingly for the weather. Before this trip there will be an optional trip to the Michener Museum's sculpture garden.

To register, please email us at info@sjcameraclub.org

Zoom participants: If you are using your smartphone, sign in with the Zoom app and use the appropriate meeting ID and Password.

IMPORTANT: Our presentation and challenge meetings are recorded for members to review. The exception is when presenters do not want their presentation recorded. Links are posted in the SJCC Members Lounge Facebook group. Due to their file size, videos may be deleted after 30 days to make sure our drive has room on it. Also, please do not download them or share the links. All presentations are the intellectual property of the presenters. They allow us to record them if the videos are only viewed by club members. Out of respect for the privacy of our members, that also applies to recordings of our challenges. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

Challenges, Presentations, and a Bunch of Other Cool Stuff.

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