

# U3A(CANBERRA) CAMERA CLUB

## Communiqué

February 2017

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### Head On Photo Awards Now Open for Entries! Call for entries worldwide

Photo: Megan Lewis

The *Head On Foundation* invites photographers, creatives, amateurs and enthusiasts to enter the Head On Photo Awards 2017. The prize pool is worth **\$50,000** in cash, equipment and software from a variety of industry leaders. All finalists will be exhibited in *Head On Photo Festival 2017*, Australia's premier event of its kind and one of the world's leading photo festivals. Entries Close: Sunday 26 February 2017, 11pm (AEDT)

### 3 New Exhibitions at The Photography Room

Launching their 2017 program, *The Photography Room* in the Old Bus Depot at Kingston has announced three new exhibitions. These are of B&W photographs by Sean Davey ("Solomon Islands") and Spiro Miralis ("Underpass") and colour images by Dimitri Mellos ("I speak of the City"). The exhibitions opened on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and close on 12<sup>th</sup> March.

### What is HDR?

Note: From now on I will include a short article in each issue of *Communiqué*. This first might be of interest to members contemplating the newer features of our technology.

Reprinted from RedRiver Papers newsletter, [http://www.redrivercatalog.com/infocenter/articles/best-inkjet-paper-for-hdr-photography-images-printing.html?trk\\_msg=6Q7NHECGHDD4B8GTSTK0400V64&trk\\_contact=0196DAHTIG90N6LR1VGS2QMVI4&utm\\_source=listrak&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=Red+River+Paper%27s+HDR+resource&utm\\_campaign=HDR+Photography+%26+Printing+Primer+%7c+New+Favorite+Photo+Location+%7c+Photo+Links](http://www.redrivercatalog.com/infocenter/articles/best-inkjet-paper-for-hdr-photography-images-printing.html?trk_msg=6Q7NHECGHDD4B8GTSTK0400V64&trk_contact=0196DAHTIG90N6LR1VGS2QMVI4&utm_source=listrak&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Red+River+Paper%27s+HDR+resource&utm_campaign=HDR+Photography+%26+Printing+Primer+%7c+New+Favorite+Photo+Location+%7c+Photo+Links)

From Wikipedia:

"In image processing, computer graphics, and photography, **high dynamic range imaging (HDRI or just HDR)** is a set of techniques that allow a greater dynamic range of luminance between the lightest and darkest areas of an image than current standard digital imaging techniques or photographic methods. This wide dynamic range allows HDR images to more accurately represent the range of intensity levels found in real scenes, ranging from direct sunlight to faint starlight."

"High-dynamic-range photographs are generally achieved by capturing multiple standard photographs, often using exposure bracketing, and then merging them into an HDR image. Digital photographs are often encoded in a camera's raw image format, because 8 bit JPEG encoding doesn't offer enough values to allow fine transitions (and also introduces undesirable effects due to the lossy compression)."

**So, stated simply, we capture, process, and print HDR images to:**

- a) create images that more accurately reproduce what the human eye can see in terms of exposure
- b) create images that offer a heightened view of reality with greater saturation and tonal range

**How do I make HDR images?**

There are a number of ways to create an HDR image. While this article is not intended to teach you HDR processing, you should know a little about how to get started.

To arrive at an HDR image, you can either process multiple image exposures or use data from one image to make an HDR image. The best method is to expose a single scene using multiple shutter speeds. This will afford you the most amount of information, especially in shadows and highlights.

**Processing HDR Inside Photoshop**

[HDR merge in Photoshop](#) (Cambridge in Colour)

[HDR merge in Photoshop Elements](#) (Photoshop Support)

[Single Image HDR in Photoshop](#) (Layers Magazine)

**Processing HDR in Lightroom**

[Single Image HDR look in Lightroom](#) (Digital Photography School)

**Software for creating HDR images**

Software that plugs into Photoshop, Photoshop Elements, or other editing program is available to process HDR images. As with most specific purpose tools you will get lots of adjustment capability. These programs can be very useful, especially if you are committed to HDR photography and have a little extra money to spend on the task.

One of the most well known resources for HDR images and techniques is [Stuck in Customs](#). We encourage you to browse the site and watch this [HDR technique video](#).

Here is a non-exhaustive list of HDR software and plugins:

- [Photomatix](#)
- [Topaz Adjust](#)
- [Nik HDR Effects Pro](#)
- [Ohanaware HDRtist](#) (Mac / Free)
- [Ohanaware HDRtist Pro](#) (Mac)
- [HDR Expose](#)

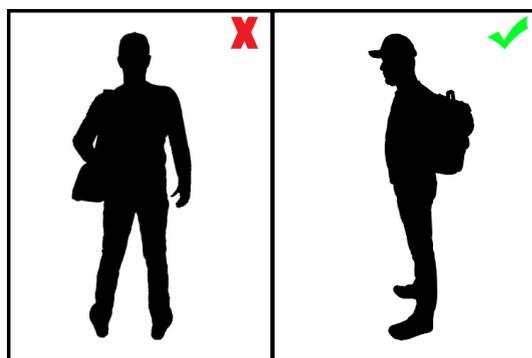
There are more choices. A web search for "HDR software listing" or "HDR software reviews" will reveal your options.

At this point RedRiver refer to one of their proprietary papers which has a *metallic* surface and say "There is some debate if this paper was invented for HDR or it was the other way around. In

any case, metallic [paper] is the ideal surface for the bold colors, broad exposure range, and hyper-realism of HDR processing. This paper is a high gloss with a captivating iridescence that adds amazing depth to your prints". Of course, you can use other papers, especially gloss papers, to take advantage of HDR.

## Flashing a "V" Sign Might Lead to Identity Theft

According to the National Institute of Informatics in Japan people in the habit of flashing a Churchillian "V" or "Peace" sign when being photographed are running a risk of identity theft. The Institute contends that modern cameras and lenses are so good finger prints shown in even casual snaps could be copied and used for nefarious purposes. Of course you could place tape over your fingertips (but reversing your hand to hide your palm is not an option).



## 10 Tips to Help Photographers Avoid Back Problems

The *Digital Photography School*

(<http://digital-photography-school.com>)

posts some useful tips for photographers. A post by Ivo Guimaraes has some valuable advice for that 80% of the world's population who suffer from one kind of

back pain or other. Among photographers, one cause can be prolonged sitting at a computer processing our digital images. For the full list of 10 tips go to the web page (<http://digital-photography-school.com/10-tips-photographers-avoid-back-problems/>). One well worth republishing here is #1 on the list: *Trade your shoulder bag for a back pack*. This redistributes the weight of all those cameras and lenses rather than loading down one side only.

## Adobe Creative Suite 6 has been officially retired

As many of us feared back in 2013 when Adobe announced its move to a subscription-based sales model, the company announced on January 9<sup>th</sup> that its *Creative Suite* of programs will no longer be sold as stand-alone software. This means that unless you already own *Photoshop CS6*, if you wish to use it, you will have to take out the monthly or annual subscription. *Lightroom 6* is still available for individual purchase but the writing is probably on the wall, that it too will go the way of *Photoshop CS6*. Of course, both *Photoshop.cc* and *Lightroom.cc* are bundled together in the subscription program for approximately AUD10 a month. These are regularly updated whereas, if you own any of the old *Creative Suite* programs, they are now not updated and lack the new bells and whistles. However, for most of us, CS6 and even earlier versions can probably still do more than we normally require and buying an old version might still be the way to go. So far there is no mention of the sale

of *Adobe Photoshop Elements* being restricted like its Big Brother but rumour is that if you own a new computer you might well have to update to *Elements 14* which runs in 32-bit mode.

## Photography in Tokyo

As some members know, I spent Christmas in Tokyo where not only can you escape most of the season's humbug but the galleries and museums are open even on Christmas day. Japanese photographers have been in the forefront of photography since its invention so it was interesting to see some local exhibitions. I saw three in colour celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Tokyo Museum of Contemporary Photography. These mostly consisted of panoramas on a gigantic scale — it looks as though “big” and “panos” are all the rage. More interesting — at least to me — were the photos of the clutter and jumble of this busy metropolis of 38 million people. In these photos, the photographers had concentrated on the abstract patterns and other aesthetically pleasing arrangement of debris, junk, banners and suchlike detritus of city life.

In B&W what struck me most was the use of very high contrast and the use of the shadow/black part of the tonal range to hide unneeded elements of the scene. That meant that the highlights were left to tell the story. Some members saw the exhibition of high-contrast photographs by Sydney photographer Ali Nasserri about a year ago at Bungendore who used the same technique to great effect.

**Bob Hay**