

# Camera club Communiqué

May 2018 U3A ACT Australia

## Murray Foote Exhibition: *Wild Places and Wild Music*

Murray Foote, from the *Canberra Photographic Society*, is holding an exhibition of his photos at : Smith's Alternative, 76 Alinga Street, from Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May. This is a live music venue so check opening hours on the web site.

## Free Booklet on Portraiture

The *Digital Photographic School*, which is frequently quoted here on *Communiqué*, is offering as a free download a .pdf tutorial on *Portraiture*.

This can be accessed at <https://digital-photography-school.com/download-ultimate-guide-portrait-photography/>

To obtain the booklet you will need to subscribe to the dPS newsletter but that is itself a worthwhile thing to do. Incidentally, dPS is also offering a free download booklet on *Street Photography*.

Still on Portraiture and with dPS, three useful video tutorials about

*Common Portrait Mistakes You'll Want to Avoid* can be accessed at

<https://digital-photography-school.com/common-portrait-mistakes-to-avoid/>

## Exasperating Myths About Photography



Cole Dunn, a photographer writing for *Picture Correct*, lists several myths about photography which exasperate him.

Carine Felqueiras: *The Child and the Cameras*

These include "Photography is easy". He says: *Sure, it's easy to take a picture; however, being a*

*photographer is more than just taking a picture. It's an art. It requires experience and skill to take a visually appealing picture....* You can read the

rest of these exasperating myths (Cole's arguments will prepare you when next someone shows their ignorance) at

<https://www.picturecorrect.com/tips/the-top-5-most-exasperating-photography-myths/>

## Double the Distance Method

If you read through a recent article by Spencer Cox on *Photography Life*, you will find this interesting tip for getting the right focus in landscapes. Called *Double the Distance Method*, Cox explains as follows:

*The first step is to know where to focus; all the camera settings and techniques in the world won't help you take a sharp photo if you aren't focused at the right spot. And luckily, there is a "right spot" to focus for landscape photography – one that gives your photos the greatest possible detail from front to back, where the foreground and background are equally sharp.*

*All you need to do is focus at "double the distance" – twice as far away as the closest object in your photo. If the closest object in your photo is a patch of grass one meter away from you at the bottom of your composition, find something that's about 2 meters away, and focus there. (This all applies equally well for feet, or paces, or any other system you use; it's just double the distance.)*

This method is a convenient application of [hyperfocal distance](#) (i.e., the closest focusing distance that allows objects at infinity to be acceptably sharp). Cox has much more to say about focussing for landscape photography so read his whole article at <https://photographylife.com/landscapes/how-to-focus-landscape-photography>

## Bounce Flash for Portraits

On-camera flash produces harsh, unflattering portraits but there are occasions when you cannot escape using supplementary lighting. One solution using flash is to point the flash at a wall or ceiling and light your subject with *bounce flash*. Frank Myrland, a Canadian photographer, has written what amounts to a "all you need to know", comprehensive tutorial on bounce flash at <https://digital-photography-school.com/quick-guide-bounce-flash-more-natural-looking-photos>. Bounce flash is a handy tool to have in your photographic repertoire.

## What Do You Mean?

Ever wondered what people mean when they are talking how they edited g their photos? A useful and well-illustrated guide called *10 Post-Processing*



location now in the *Basic Panel*. These are:

- **Adobe Color:** designed to improve the look and rendering of warm tones, improve the transition between certain colour ranges, and slightly increase the starting contrast of your photos. As the new default, it was designed to work with the widest range of photos.
- **Adobe Monochrome:** Tuned to be "a great starting point" for any black & white photo. Results in better tonal separation and contrast than Adobe Standard converted to B&W.
- **Adobe Landscape:** Produces more vibrant skies and foliage tones.
- **Adobe Neutral:** Provides a starting point with very low contrast. Adobe claims this one is most useful "for photos where you want the most control, or that have very difficult tonal ranges."
- **Adobe Portrait:** Provides "more control and better reproduction of skin tones." This means less contrast and saturation applied to skin tones throughout the photo, so you have more control over how those tones turn out.
- **Adobe Vivid:** A "punchy, saturated starting point."

For more on this and the other innovations, go to the Adobe Blog at:

<https://theblog.adobe.com/april-lightroom-adobe-camera-raw-releases-new-profiles>

There is more information at

<http://mattk.com/digging-deeper-questions-new-lightroom-profiles/>



## The Best April Fools' Day Photos

A workshop on the Moon? Any takers? Photographers too like April Fools' Day jokes. Some of the best can be seen at:

<https://petapixel.com/2018/04/02/the-best-photography-april-fools-jokes-of-2018>

## *Different Views 4*

Now open and running until August 10<sup>th</sup> next, this exhibition by the *Canberra Photographic Society* celebrates its continuing contribution to the Canberra community since its foundation in 1945. *Different Views 4*, like previous exhibitions in the series, will feature photographic interpretations of the region and will reflect the Festival theme of 'My Culture, My Story'. The Exhibition is being staged at the Telstra Tower, 100 Black Mountain Drive, Acton – Opening hours 9.00am – 5.00pm. Entry is *Free*.



## Sunset Photos

There has been a lot of sunset photos around lately, especially on the ABC's weather segment. The problem usually encountered with sunset (or sunrise if you get up early enough) is that when you point the camera at the sky and get an exposure reading, ...*The meter in*

*our camera will see all the light from the sun and expose for that value while letting everything else in the scene go dark. To fix it, we **meter for the sky with the sun out of the frame**, then recompose to include it. In effect, this increases the exposure value and more properly exposes the sky.* To see more, go to <https://www.picturecorrect.com/tips/how-to-get-stunning-colors-in-your-sunset-photography/>

## What is "Scanography"?



[Megan Kennedy](#) is

a photographer and writer based in Canberra who sometimes posts interesting articles on the on-line resource dPS or *Digital Photography School*. One of her latest is about *Scanography* which amounts to using a flat-bed scanner to take photographs. In some ways, the results remind you of those pressed flowers and other

objects so popular in Victorian and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century times. For a detailed DIY Scanography,

<https://digital-photography-school.com/using-scanography-to-create-images-of-plants/>

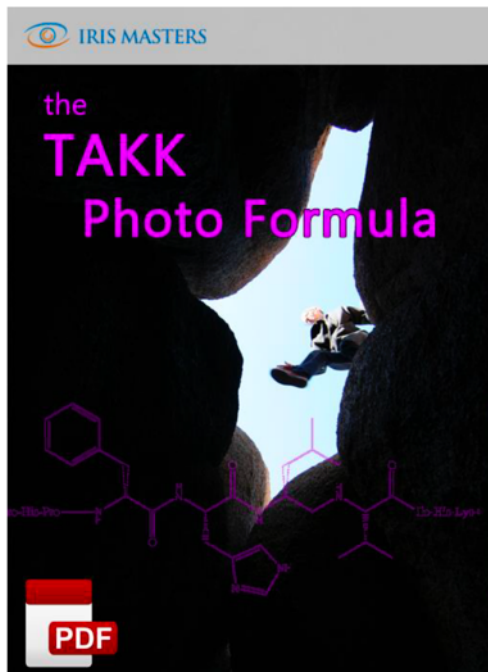
## ON1 Photo RAW 2018.1 Special

This program which many believe is an excellent alternative to Adobe *Lightroom*, is currently available at a discounted price of \$69.99 if you order from this page:

[https://www.on1.com/promo/0418-photo2018/?utm\\_campaign=DPS Newsletter 4-18&utm\\_source=dps&utm\\_medium=dps\\_newsletter\\_buy-top](https://www.on1.com/promo/0418-photo2018/?utm_campaign=DPS_Newsletter_4-18&utm_source=dps&utm_medium=dps_newsletter_buy-top)

If you haven't yet bought *Lightroom* or don't like being tied to Adobe's subscription system, ON1 Raw would be a good alternative. It has the

advantage over many other photo processing programs in that it has been written in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: many older programs have become cumbersome because they have had to be backwards-compatible with 20<sup>th</sup> Century code. A 30-day free trial is available on the same page.



## Free Guide to Composition

The *TAKK Photo Formula* is a free downloadable guide to composition which is well written in what is very much plain speech and straight-shooting style. It comes in .pdf format, 33 pages long. There are a myriad of tips, guides and other helpful posts online about composition but this looks like one of the best. To start the download, go to <http://phototechniques.info/> and insert your email address but you can always unsubscribe from later mail-outs. The page which opens contains a trial lesson – worth reading but you don't have to subscribe.

## Is the End Nigh for the dSLR?

After interviewing industry leaders at the CP+ show in Yokohama, Barney Britton of *DPRReview* reported that almost all executives seemed to agree that: *full-frame mirrorless will become the norm, and it will happen pretty soon. Kenji Tanaka of Sony even put a date on it, saying that in his opinion, Canon and Nikon would join Sony in the full-frame mirrorless space within a year. Executives from Sigma and Tamron were similarly confident, and even Go Tokura of Canon dropped a couple of fairly heavy hints that the move to mirrorless is imminent.*

## Selfie, anyone?

America is full of wondrous things but now there is a pop-up museum in L.A. devoted to the "Selfie". Does this signify the ubiquitous self-image is now the new black on our cultural scene deserving of its own museum? In defence of the selfie, the Museum says: *Over a million selfies are uploaded to social media every day. Whether you think they're the most amazing thing ever or the low point of human culture, selfies have a firmly-cemented place*



*in our modern society, but also have roots going back to the most ancient and primal aspects of our species. That seems worthy of a museum, no?*

*DIY Photography explains that visitors can explore the origin and history of the selfie through art, history, technology, and culture. If you decide to pay a visit, you'll see works of some selfie artists, the world's longest selfie stick, and a throne made of selfie sticks. Of course, you can also take some selfies in the process while enjoying the museum's interactive installations.*

**Bob Hay**  
For U3A Camera Club