



THE IRIS

Founded in 1953 - Dedicated to the art and fun of photography!



On the Web: www.nybzps.org • E-mail: PhotoSociety@nybzps.org

Volume 55 Issue 5

Our 55th Year!

March 2009

Charles G. Hogg was wrong!

Another winter snow, just when we (and groundhog Charles G. Hogg), thought Spring was not far behind. Well, Spring has to come...eventually. Be ready for it. Hicks Nurseries has the most wonderful tulips, in every color imaginable. The crocus will peek through the snow sooner than you think, and the daffodils are not far behind. Clean those lenses and get ready for perfect "shooting weather."

Here are the scores through February. (Note: Total may include make-ups.)

DIGITAL - B&W	Feb	Total
Anastasia Tompkins*	19.0	106.0
Dennis DiBrizzi	16.0	104.0
Inese Moore	14.5	100.5
Harvey Augenbraun	15.5	100.0
Martin Lewis	16.0	97.5
Teena Miller	16.0	97.5
Mel Wilner	16.5	97.0
Michael Brummet	14.5	90.0
Todd Berman	13.5	83.5
Rudy Finelli	14.0	75.0
Linda Koebner	15.5	71.0
Madge Haynes	---	71.0
Veronica Saunders	6.5	50.0
Stephen Berger	---	46.0
Raymond Flood	16.0	29.5
Bob Schwartz	---	16.5
Kristina Thorstenson	---	16.0
Lynne West	---	7.5

*Image of the Month: "Shades by the Pool"

DIGITAL - A	Feb	Total
Veronica Saunders*	17.5	105.5
Teena Miller	16.0	101.5
Martin Lewis	17.5	99.5
Andrea Nelson	16.0	99.0
Erwin Krasnow	13.0	93.5
Dolores Roddy	13.0	74.0
Augie Schiavone	---	41.0
Frank Price	16.0	31.5
Fred Fanelli	14.0	14.0

*Image of the Month: "Pink Flower"

DIGITAL - AA	Feb	Total
Anastasia Tompkins	18.0	110.5
Annabelle Washington	17.5	105.0
Bob Schwartz	15.5	104.0
Harvey Augenbraun*	17.5	103.5
Linda Tommasulo	15.0	102.0
Har Er Huang	14.5	100.0
Suzanne Carter	13.5	97.0

*Image of the Month: "Underside"

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DIGITAL - B	Feb	Total
Inese Moore	17.0	103.5
Mel Wilner	17.0	101.0
Michael Brummet	16.0	96.5
Raymond Flood	15.0	96.5
Rudy Finelli	12.5	94.0
Linda Koebner	15.0	85.0
Todd Berman	14.0	84.0
Lynne West*	19.0	83.5
Madge Haynes	---	82.0
Stephen Berger	---	45.5
AnneMarie LaScala	---	45.0
Kristina Thorstenson	---	16.0
John Martino	---	7.5

*Image of the Month: "Two Sides"

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LAST Call for Themes

The Photographer's Eye

THIS MONTH:

March 7th - Competition #7

Theme: "Puddles" - Judge: Andrew Kurchey

March 21st - Elinor Stecker-Orel

"There Ain't No Tin in Tintypes"

February Scores - Continued

DIGITAL THEME	Feb	Total
Harvey Augenbraun*	18.5	104.0
Inese Moore	16.5	100.0
Anastasia Tompkins	17.0	99.0
Raymond Flood	15.5	97.0
Linda Tommasulo	16.0	97.0
Teena Miller	15.0	96.5
Andrea Nelson	14.5	92.5
Har Er Huang	14.5	92.0
Michael Brummet	16.0	85.5
Linda Koebner	14.0	77.0
Madge Haynes	---	65.5
Annabelle Washington	17.0	64.5
Rudy Finelli	7.5	63.0
Mel Wilner	14.0	57.5
Todd Berman	14.0	56.5
Veronica Saunders	14.5	53.5
Stephen Berger	---	50.0
Bob Schwartz	15.5	49.5
AnnMarie LaScala	---	40.5
Lynne West	16.0	35.5
Suzanne Carter	---	32.5
Kristina Thorstenson	---	16.5
Ana Quinones	---	14.0
Christopher Capucci	---	14.0

*Image of the Month: "Mating Insects"

SLIDES	Feb	Total
Myron Gersh	16.5	87.0
Robert Potter	16.0	80.0
Suzanne Carter	---	51.0
Frank Price	16.5	32.0
Martin Lewis	---	15.5

(No Slide of the Month)



Theme - Insects
"Mating Insects" ©Harvey Augenbraun

LAST CALL FOR THEMES

'09/'10 SEASON

See the February issue of *The Iris* for details.

Please e-mail your recommended themes to Harvey Augenbraun before our March 7th Meeting*:

MrScience9@aol.com

***Or bring them - legibly in writing - to the March 7th meeting.**

A few words about our March 21st Presentation...

Do you know what part these played in the history of photography?

Hens - Mousetraps - Asphalt - Table Salt
Ether - A Broken Thermometer

If you do, you can stay home on March 21st, but you will miss a lot of other interesting information. Otherwise, be sure to come to hear Elinor Stecker-Orel's fascinating illustrated talk, "There Ain't No Tin in Tintypes," as she traces the early history of photography. The story starts in the year 1000--yes, that long ago--and will take us to the end of the 19th century. You'll relive the remarkable discoveries and later see actual examples of tintypes, daguerreotypes, and other early photographs.



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FEBRUARY DIGITAL WINNERS

Judge: Phil Echo



Black & White: "Shades by the Pool"
©Anastasia Tompkins



A: "Pink Flower"
©Veronica Saunders



B: "Two Sides"
©Lynne West



AA: "Underside"
©Harvey Augenbraun

THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S EYE...Stop and "Shoot" the Roses!

I recently received an e-mail detailing the following true story...

A man sat at a metro station in Washington DC and started to play the violin; it was a cold January morning. He played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time, since it was rush hour, it was calculated that thousands of people went through the station, most of them on their way to work.

Three minutes went by and a middle aged man noticed there was musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds and then hurried up to meet his schedule.

A minute later, the violinist received his first dollar tip: a woman threw the money in the till and without stopping continued to walk.

A few minutes later, someone leaned against the wall to listen to him, but the man looked at his watch and started to walk again. Clearly he was late for work.

The one who paid the most attention was a 3 year old boy. His mother tagged him along, hurried but the kid stopped to look at the violinist. Finally the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk turning his head all the time. This action was repeated by several other children. All the parents, without exception, forced them to move on.

In the 45 minutes the musician played, only six people stopped and stayed for a while. About 20 gave him money but continued to walk their normal pace. He collected \$32. When he finished playing and silence took over, no one noticed it. No one applauded, nor was there any recognition.

No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the best musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written with a violin worth \$3.5 million.

Two days before his playing in the subway, Joshua Bell sold out at a theater in Boston and the seats averaged \$100.

This is a real story. Joshua Bell playing incognito in the metro station was organized by the Washington Post as part of an social experiment about perception, taste and priorities of people. The outlines

were: in a commonplace environment at an inappropriate hour: Do we perceive beauty? Do we stop to appreciate it? Do we recognize the talent in an unexpected context?

One of the possible conclusions from this experience could be:

If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world playing the best music ever written, how many other things are we missing?

It got me thinking about "the photographer's eye," and how, as trained photographers, we hopefully DO stop to appreciate the beauty or the interesting or the unique. If we're lucky, we have our camera in tow. But, even if we don't our brains still "click" on those images and they are captured, even if not on film or digital media.

On one trip to New York City aboard the Metro North from Croton-Harmon Station, I saw photo after photo...Two swans leisurely swimming in the Hudson. Then two brightly-colored kyackers in perfect position side-by-side. And even two egrets on the shore. Years back, on the same train going home from the City I saw one of the most beautiful sunsets ever. Did I capture these images...yes, I did! They're in my mind and hopefully will remain there for many years to come.

Having a "macro eye" has even greater benefits. You tend to look for the small things in life... a colored leaf on the ground with water droplets from a fresh rain...a small orange insect making it's way down a bright green stem. On a trip to Yellowstone last summer, it was I who spotted the tiny weasel sitting up proudly in the grass, while everyone was photographing the bison.

Yes, sometimes I grab the camera and catch my little dog, Muffin, resting with her head on her fuzzy toy. But even if I don't have the camera in tow, I stop and marvel at the wonder of it all. I hope (with *your* photographer's eye) that you do, too.



"Muffin" ©Linda A. Tommasulo

The New York Botanical/Zoological Photographic Society invites photography enthusiasts of ALL LEVELS to join us at our bimonthly meetings (Saturdays at 9:30 AM), Sept. thru June, at Fordham Prep, room 243/244 (on the campus of Fordham University, Bronx, NY). Check the web site (www.nybzps.org) for program details, field trips and more!

Photos/articles/comments/suggestions for future editions of The Iris are always welcome.

E-mail text and photos (approx. size 4"x 6" at 200 dpi min.):

iriseditor@verizon.net