

inFocus

Newsletter of the Westchester Photographic Society

May 2023



INSIDE:
Coming Up
Competition Corner
Competitions



Updates

On April 3, Joe Pollock informed us of his decision to resign from the board. We thank him for his 19 years of service to WPS as a board member and wish him well. During his tenure Joe put significant effort into numerous club activities, including being in charge of our mentoring program, our relationship with our former "home", Westchester Community College, the shooting program at WCC, and organizing the annual dinner.

On April 28, at our Annual Meeting we elected our new board. Due to vacancies on the board and no contested positions, the current board and two new nominees, Linda Austrian and Leon Zelazny, were elected by acclamation. We thank Linda and Leon for volunteering and welcome them to the board.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome some new members to WPS. Our recent joiners are Eric Albert, Steve Kitchen, Carol Rogers, Mark Russakoff, and Pam Tole. Welcome to all of you, and apologies if I missed anyone. I hope to see you all at our meetings and other activities. Please give a shout and say hello and introduce yourselves.

As I mentioned in announcements, if anyone has ideas for topics for the mentoring program, please get in touch with me. We periodically meet at 6:45 p.m. on some Fridays before the main meetings (watch for announcements in the usual places). Topics can be anything photography related: gear, exposure, technique, post-processing, etc. Additionally, if you want one-on-one mentoring privately, let me know and I'll try to find a volunteer to help.

And finally, cherry blossoms were at their peak recently. I hope some of you managed to get out there and see them and capture their beauty in your photographs. Please consider sharing them here or online (Instagram/Facebook).



Till next time, may you always see beauty in your viewfinder.

Fuat Baran, *President*

COVER PHOTO

LIAM ON THE MOUND

By Joe Pollock

This is a photo of my grandson Liam. He is the captain and a first baseman and pitcher on the freshman team at Yorktown High School. He also plays for a travel/ tournament team called the Taconic Rangers. Jeanne and I try to go to as many games as possible. He is a great kid and has a shot at getting into a good college.



inFocus

Ron Carran, Editor
Dick Budnik, Web Edition

WPS Board of Directors

Dick Budnik, *Chairman of the Board, WebMaster*
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Fuat Baran, *President, Social Media, Publicity*
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Arnold Breisblatt, *Exhibits*
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Competitions
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Competition Catalog
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Silvie Epperly
Judge Coordinator
Dennis Thornton
Hospitality
Silvie Epperly
Jane Gordon, Julie Van Benthuyzen

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Tom Streppone, Joe Ferreira, Fuat Baran, Gregory White
Competition Scores Reporting
Mark Friedman, Ken Salstrom
Equipment, Projectionist
Jonathan Kaplan
Award Certificates
Ron Carran
Field Trips
Jackie Ross

Committees

Publicity
Fuat Baran
Social Media
Fuat Baran, Kenny Salstrom
Hospitality Coordinators
Silvie Epperly
Competition Evaluation
Dick Budnik, Lois Barker

newsletter: infocus@wpsphoto.org
www.wpsphoto.org

Westchester Photographic Society
Meets 12 months a year, on Friday evenings at 7:30 pm (excepting school holidays). **Meetings are virtual now until further notice. Start time is 7:30 pm.**



Member of



FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

May

- 5 Silvie Epperly & Arnold Breisblatt, "Preparing Images for Exhibition"
- 12 Competition 6A
- 19 Dawn Wilson, "Nature Photography on the Road—a Year in an RV"
- 26 No Meeting: Memorial Day

June

- 2 Brooke Shaden
- 9 Competition 6B (Theme: Still Life)
- 16 Members Process Same Image in Color and B&W
- 23 EOY Competition
- 30 How I Did It

July

- 7 Caleb Hoover, "Urban Wildlife"
- 14 Members Critique
- 21 Members Showcases
- 28 Kenny Salzman

August

- 4 Members Process Stock Photo
- 11 YouTube Videos
- 18 How I Did It
- 25 Matthew Christopher, "Abandon America"

September

- 1 No Meeting: Labor Day
- 8 Chris McGinnis, "The Little Things"
- 15 TBD
- 22 Competition 1A
- 29 Dennis Thornton

October

- 6 Competition 1B (Theme: TBD)
- 13 TBD
- 20 Members Critiques
- 27 Competition 2A

Check the WPS website (wpsphoto.org) for recent changes.

Contact Information

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome and should be addressed as follows: If concerning the WPS Newsletter, In Focus, address comments to the editor at infocus@wpsphoto.org. If concerning our website, address comments to our webmaster, Dick Budnik, at webmaster@wpsphoto.org. All other comments should be addressed to our President.

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COMING UP



Silvie Epperly & Arnold Breisblatt on May 5

Preparing Images for Exhibition

On our presentation, we will show all the details involved in preparing photos for framing including matting, glazing, and fitting. In addition, we will demonstrate short cuts on retouching, sizing, ordering photos for printing and ways to save money by reusing mats and frames.



Dawn Wilson on May 19

Nature Photography on the Road—A Year in an RV

Dawn Wilson is a professional and award-winning nature photographer and travel writer who specializes in photographing wildlife and visiting places of the Rocky Mountains and Alaska. She has more than 600 bylines to her credit, has been identified as a Top Ten Female Nature Photographer to Watch, served as president of the North American Nature Photography Association (NAN-PA), and is the co-host of The Nature Photographer Podcast. Her written and photographic work has appeared in many national and regional publications, including MotorHome, Outdoor Photographer, National Geographic calendars, Colorado Life, Colorado Outdoors, Wyoming Wildlife, and many more.

In September 2015, Dawn Wilson sold her home, downsized her stuff, packed up her pets and hit the road in an RV on a solo adventure to photograph a long list of places and animals. When she left, she was unsure of how long the adventure would last, estimating six months. It turned into a 15-month journey that took her to all corners of the U.S., including a summer in Alaska, capturing more than 100,000 images and making some unexpected changes in her life. Join her for a presentation talking about what led to the decision to make such a change, what she saw and wrote about, and tips for doing your own road adventure.

A Baseball Story



My grandson Liam has a love of baseball that started when his parents signed him up for Little League. He would play catch with them after supper and soon developed a strong throwing arm. Liam played on a team of boys that were a year older than him and soon became a starting pitcher and a good first baseman. He had to improve his hitting so they found an instructor that taught the basics. Liam kept getting better in all parts of his game and made the freshman team while still in 8th grade. When school closed for the summer, Liam tried out and made a team named the Taconic Rangers. This club plays in tournaments only and has a reputation as being an elite team that takes only 14 players out of 75 that tried out for the team. He started 2 games in 2 tournaments and won both games via shut outs. This season the freshmen are 3 and 1 and Liam has 2 wins and is the only player to get a hit in every game. I am so proud and happy for his hard work and dedication to baseball. Not bad for a kid who is taking advanced classes in math and science and has a 96% average in the classroom. (See cover picture)

Joe Pollock, Proud Grandpa

AREA MUSEUMS/GALLERIES

Metropolitan Museum
www.metmuseum.org
 Berenice Abbott's
 New York Album, 1929
 Through Sept 4

Museum of Modern Art
www.moma.org
 Archives

International Center for Photography
www.icp.org
 Many Exhibits
 Continuing

Fotografiska, NY
<https://www.blind-magazine.com/events/hip-hop-conscious-unconscious-at-fotografiska-new-york/>
 Many Exhibits

New York Photography Diary
<https://ny-photography-diary.com/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/>
 Hip-Hop Conscious, Unconscious

Edward Hopper House
<https://www.edwardhopperhouse.org>
 Kibbitz & Nosh: New York City's
 Vanishing Cafeterias
 Through June 25

WPS GROUP EXHIBITS

**Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center
 Northern Westchester Hospital**
 What Can Grow—What Can Fly
 April 4-September 26

WPS FIELD TRIPS

<https://www.wpsphoto.org/members-field-trips>

**More Photo Opportunities
 in the Field Trip area.**

**Stay tuned for more
 information on these
 upcoming trips!**

[Presby Memorial Iris Garden
 Montclair, NJ](#)

[Stonecrop Garden, Carmel](#)

[Wave Hill, Bronx](#)

[NYBG, Bronx](#)

[Rockefeller State Preserve
 Pleasantville](#)

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

Please log on to websites
 to see the entire schedules.
 Many events are available online.
 Also see last page.

Hunts
<https://edu.huntsphoto.com>

B&H
<http://www.bhphotovideo.com/find/EventSpace.jsp>

Adorama
<http://www.adorama.com/alc/events>

SPECIAL INCENTIVES

A MEMBERS-ONLY DEAL!

**Susan Magnano has offered special
 pricing on many of her workshops.**

**If you are a WPS member,
 click [HERE](#).**

PHOTO EXHIBITS

Jackie Ross has an exhibit at Who's Cooking
 14 Front Street, Croton Falls, NY for the month of May.

It's a fabulous little food place where you can get lunches and dinners to go or eat there! Stop by and have a cup of coffee. I would love for you to see my Birds!

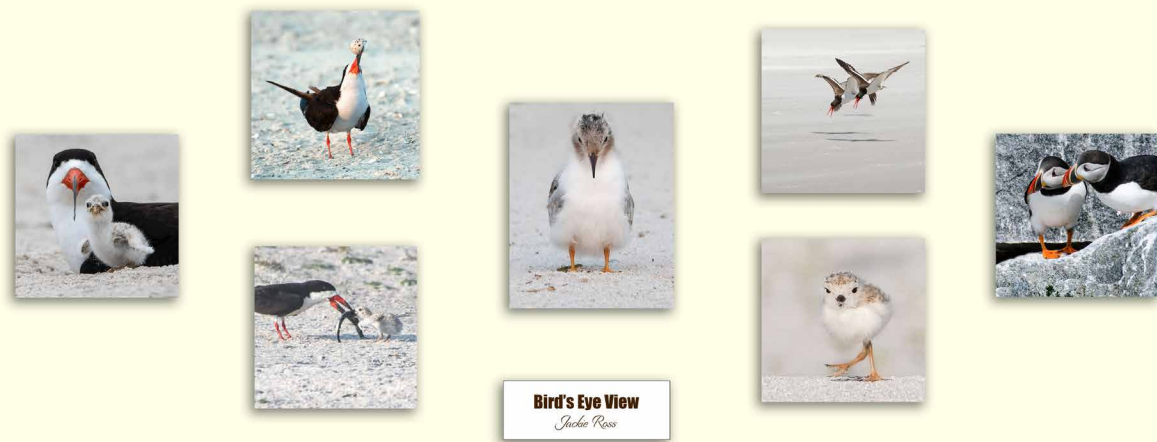


Exhibit in Harrison

Artists who are interested in exhibiting at the Harrison Public Library, Bruce Avenue, Harrison, NY for approximately one month during 2024 are invited to submit samples of their artwork for review by a Juried Art Committee sponsored by the Harrison Council for the Arts.

Twelve artists will be awarded one person shows by our jury, with three alternate artists chosen as well, should unexpected circumstances prevent artists from exhibiting according to schedule. Group shows (2, 3 or 4 persons) will also be considered provided these artists register and submit work together. Please note for group shows, all entrants must be chosen.

If you are interested in competing for one of these shows, please bring samples to the Community Room, Harrison Public Library, 2 Bruce Avenue, Harrison, NY on Friday, May 12, 2023 between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. All artists must pick up their samples on Saturday, May 13, 2023 between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. See harrisonpl.org/art

The NWH Cancer Center is pleased to offer an exhibition by the Westchester Photographic Society titled:

What Can Grow – What Can Fly

April 4 – September 26, 2023



What Can Grow - refers to an image that shows a plant, flower, tree, fruit, vegetables or landscapes.

What Can Fly - can refer to a photographer's image of a bird or insect in flight, nesting or on the ground.

Northern Westchester Hospital Cancer Center, 400 Main St, Mt Kisco, NY 10549
 Telephone (914) 666-1200

Please call in advance for admittance and exhibit hours.

By Dennis Thornton



Theme Assignments 2023-24

As the 2022-23 competition year draws to a close, it is time to start thinking about the future. Specifically, what Theme Assignments are chosen for the upcoming season.

Theme Assignments are meant to be interesting, fun, a bit of a challenge and an opportunity for each of us to expand our repertoire of shooting subject material.

As in previous years, I have tried to choose themes that meet certain criteria. TAs are grouped into the following categories: “topical,” “photographic techniques” and “conceptual.” They are not completely discrete categories. Second, some of the TAs are meant to be easy and can be done at home, while a few require more purposeful image taking. Last, examples of/ideas for the chosen themes can be found on Google/YouTube.

To give everyone as much lead time as possible, the basic information about the TAs is being provided. The descriptions and schedule order will be provided later.

TOPICAL/Common Subjects:

- “Stairs/Stairways”: They go up and they go down.
- “Necropolis” *City of the Dead*: Any subject matter is acceptable. Visit, but avoid becoming a permanent resident.

PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUES/ARTISTIC STYLE

- “ICM” *Intentional Camera Movement*: Use planned camera movement to convey emotion, action, or impact.
- “Backlit”: Images creatively lit from behind. Can include silhouettes.

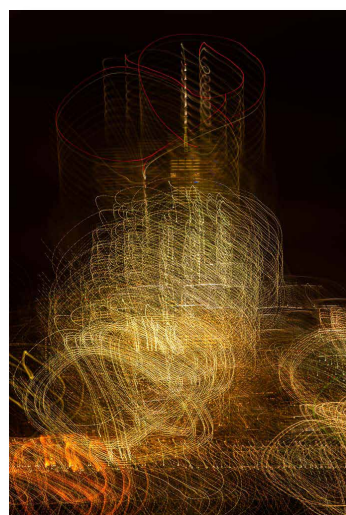
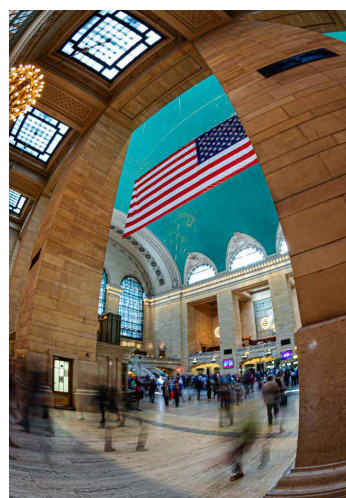
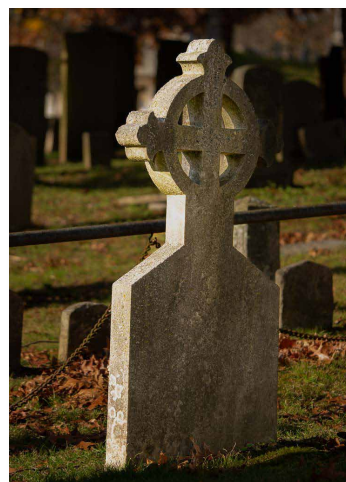
CONCEPTUAL/CHALLENGES:

- “Past Their Prime—Organic ONLY”: Flora or fauna that has seen better days but still has appeal. Think “wabi-sabi.” NO manmade objects, junk cars or abandoned buildings.
- “Frame it”: Compose your photo so your main subject is framed by other elements of the scene.

No one knows or is expected to know all the specifics of the Competition Guidelines. If you have a question, then expect that others are likely to have the same or similar question. Ask the question for yourself and as a favor for others.

Send questions to me: dennist@wpsphoto.org.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Theme Assignment competitions are a hybrid, being both stand alone and cumulative. You can participate in any single or selection of TAs and receive an award for First Place. Or you can participate in all six TAs and compete for the high point scores, just like the other competition categories. Any type/style of image may be entered into a TA. You are also allowed to use any TA-submitted image one time, in any of the other competition categories—providing it meets the criteria for the selected category.



Julie Van Benthuysen, First
Pink Perfection



Carl Zucker, Second
Day is Done



Carl Zucker, Third
Big Mistake



Carl Zucker, HM
Jane

DIGITAL COLOR B

DIGITAL COLOR A



Jackie Ross, First
Stork with Branch

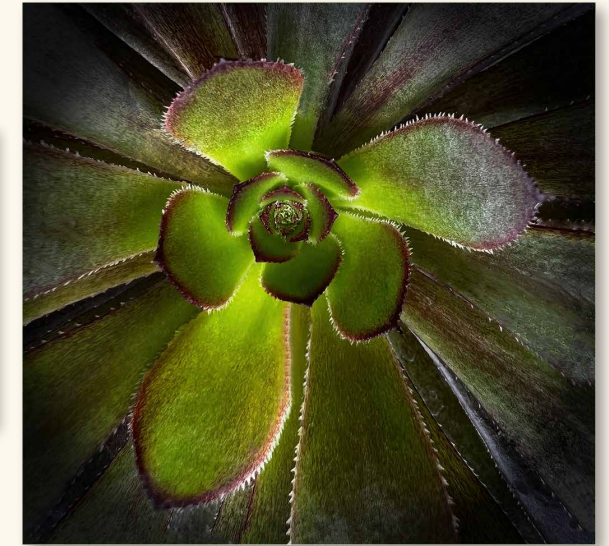


Jackie Ross, Second
Rodeo—I Got This One

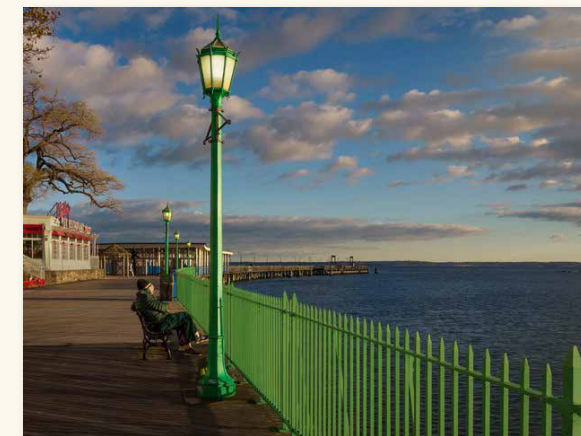
DIGITAL COLOR A



Betty Leung, Second
Sunset on the Lake



Arnold Breisblatt, Third
Glowing Cactus



Ron Carran, HM
Sittin' by the Sound

DIGITAL COLOR SALON

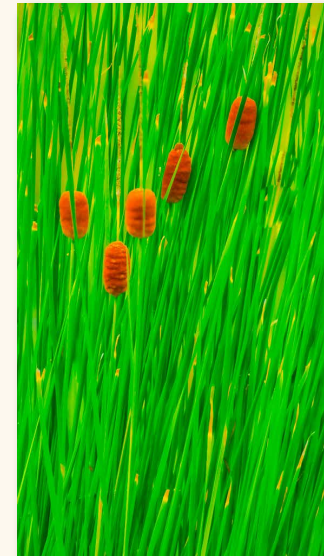
DIGITAL COLOR SALON



Dennis Thornton, First
Bird on the Wing



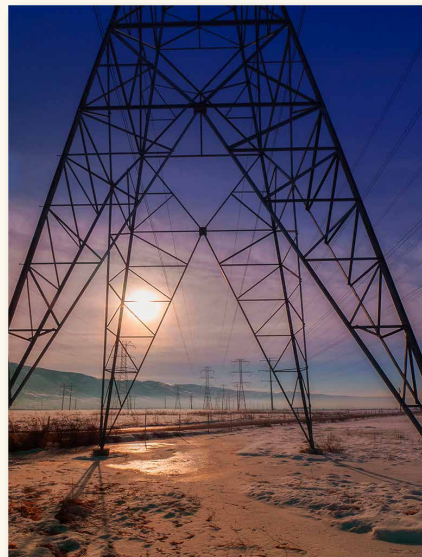
Carlotta Grenier, First
Hopping to It



Richard Micklish, Third
Cat's Tail



Dennis Thornton, Third
Riders of the Storm



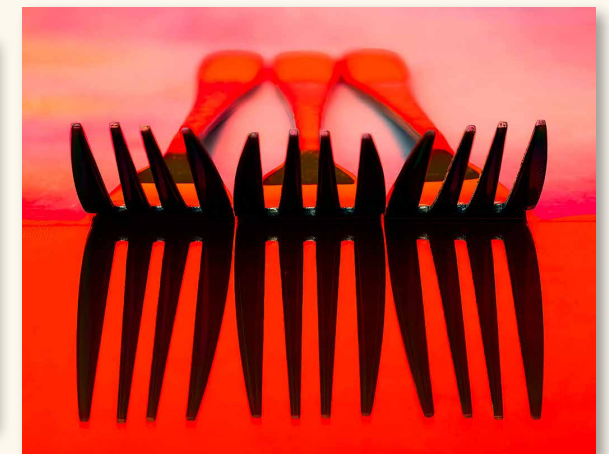
Anastasia Tompkins, First
Utah Snazz



Linda Austrian, Second
Blue Lolly



Richard Micklish, Third
Waiting for Breakfast



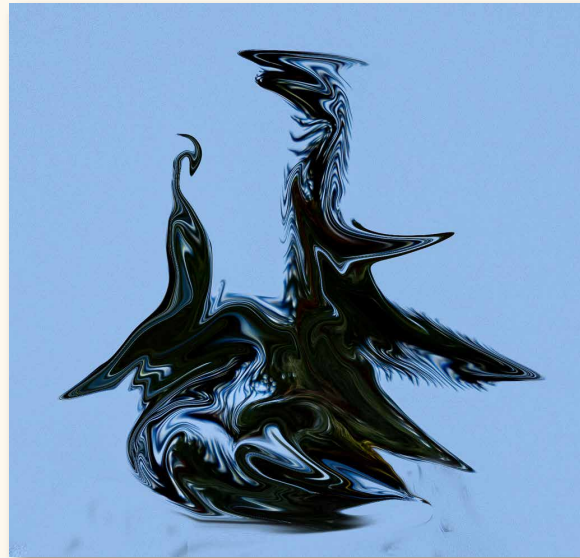
Richard Micklish, HM
The Three

DIGITAL OPEN MIND

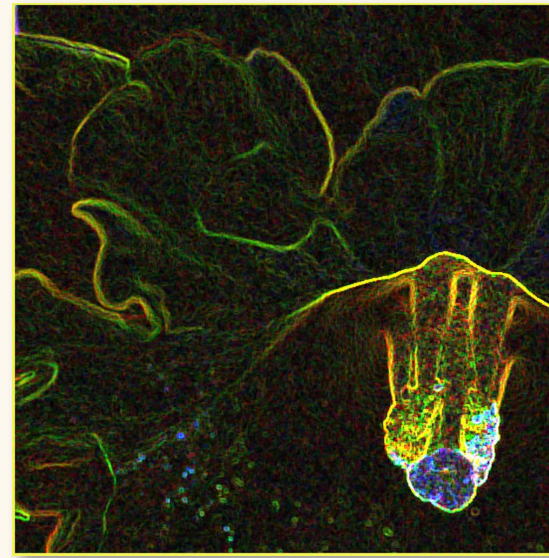
DIGITAL OPEN MIND



Barbara Pollack, First
Bird in Snowy Bush



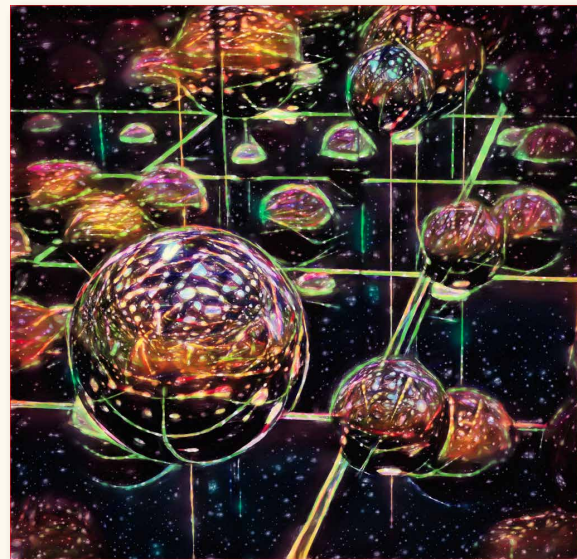
Julie Serenson, First
Let's Talk



Julie Van Benthuysen, Third
Floral Phosphorescence



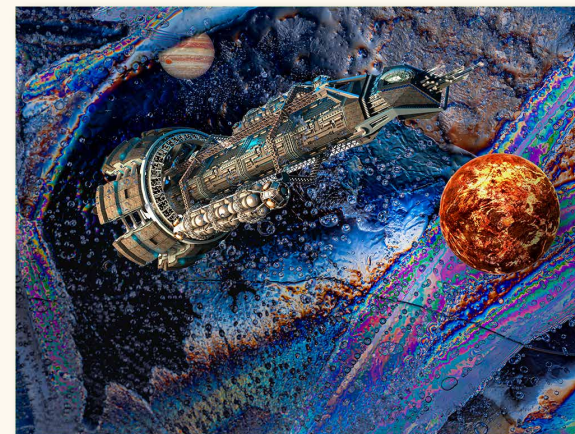
Julie Serenson, Third
Punk Iris



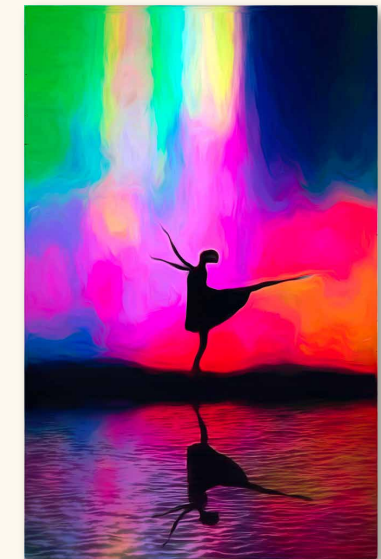
Arnold Breisblatt, First
Spheres by Starlight



Barbara Pollack, Second
Rusty Yellow Square Wheel



Dennis Thornton, Third
Spaceship with Planets

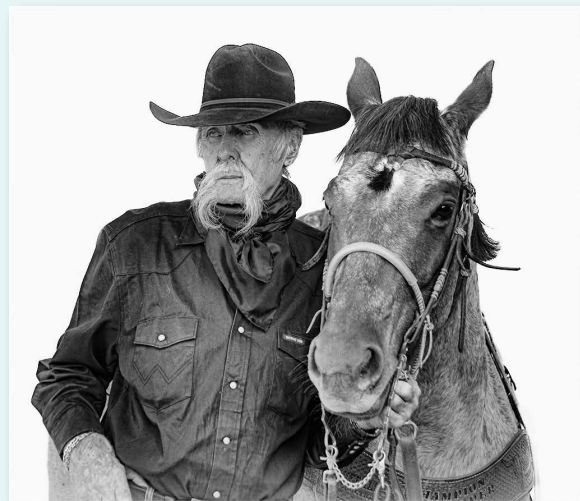


Anastasia Tompkins, HM
Ballerina Reflection

DIGITAL BLACK & WHITE



Dennis Thornton, First
Working Hands



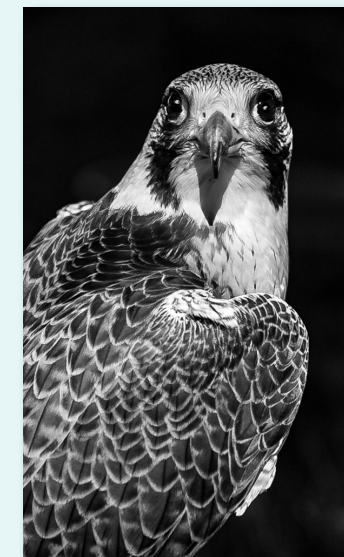
Barbara Kapetanakes, Second
Rycke and Wren in B&W



Ron Carran, Third
A Pair



Anastasia Tompkins, Third
Night at the Louvre



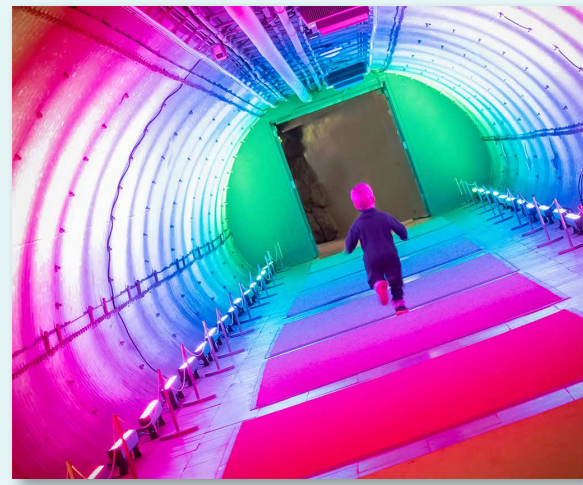
Jackie Ross, HM
Peregrine Falcon

THEME: DUTCH ANGLE

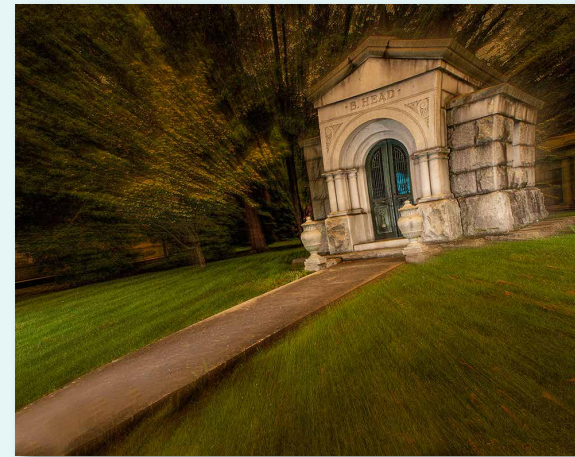
THEME: DUTCH ANGLE



Jackie Ross, First
Flying Biker



Linda Austrian, Second
Help Me Get Thru



Barbara Kapetanakes, Third
Spooky



Linda Austrian, HM
Empire State Tipsy



Dennis Thornton, Second
Up, Up and Away



Roger Chenault, Second
Wipeout



Carl Zucker, HM
Flight 93 Memorial

inFocus

The Newsletter of the
Westchester Photographic Society
Ron Carran, editor
P.O. Box 405, Ossining, NY 10562

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