

SECOND LOOK NEWSLETTER

Issue. 3 November 2011



Editorial

Voting in our annual competition, Bristol A Second Look 2011, will have finished by the time you read this newsletter. The public of Bristol will have had the chance to cast a vote for one of the sixteen shortlisted photos at one of the seven polling booths around town or online.

Now the votes will be counted and, soon, a winner will be announced. After that, at a time and place to be announced, there will be an awards get together to celebrate the winner and runners up. Full results in next month's newsletter.

In the meantime, if you're quick, there's another competition to enter, organised by Westonbirt arboretum, for photos taken there this autumn.

Second Look's TalkPhoto series continues and several interesting exhibitions open. If you know of any forthcoming photography exhibitions locally, I would be pleased to hear of them.

Stephen

Editor: Stephen Mason
Designer: Alec Jackson



48°47'17.03"N
103°31'31.53"E – Alexander Beckett

November TalkPhoto

From Simple Plastic to the Light Fantastic

Whether you want to create atmospheric artworks using plastic 'toy' cameras or shoot stunning state-of-the-art images using every possible kind of lighting technology – there's something for every photographer to discover at the next TalkPhoto evening in Bristol.

Speakers at November's TalkPhoto event are the award-winning fine art photographer Michael Reeves and the renowned nationally-published travel, portrait and lifestyle photographer Alexander Beckett.

Thursday November 10th at 7pm.
Admission £3 (£2 Second Look members)
Hamilton House, 80 Stokes Croft, Bristol
(opposite Jamaica St)



Alexander Beckett: Adventures with a Flash Gun

Examining work ranging from weddings to advertising and travel, Alexander Beckett will explore the way light can be used to transform a photograph from ordinary to extraordinary. In his talk 'Adventures with a Flash Gun', Alex will demonstrate how he breaks the rules, including the limitations of the airlines' 20kg baggage allowance, to create some truly stunning images using everything from huge lighting softboxes to tiny torches - in locations ranging from Mongolia to Maidenhead.

To find out more about Alex's work and also the lighting workshops he runs visit www.alexanderbeckett.com or www.alexbeckett.co.uk/blog

(above) 48°47'17.03"N
103°31'31.53"E – Alexander Beckett



Michael Reeves: Toy Story?

Michael Reeves uses the characteristic soft-focus and vignetting of the Holga camera – often described as a 'toy' camera - to emphasise sadness, beauty or nostalgia in his photographs. A recurring theme in his Holga work is the 'found' still life, most notably in his series 'Fragments'. He also searches out places we often associate with childhood, such as the seaside and funfairs. In other Holga work, he explores the more extreme possibilities of the camera - experimenting, for instance, with hand-held long exposures.

In his talk Michael will discuss the background to the 'toy camera' phenomenon and give advice on how to avoid the pitfalls of using a Holga camera.

www.michaelreevesphotography.com

(above) Country Lane – Michael Reeves



Last month's TalkPhoto

Simon Caplan took these two photos of last month's speakers. This is how he describes them: They are both done in a kind of (almost) pastiche of their own style.

Luke Archer as Lord Luke Archer with his heritage camera in black and white and Max McClure in a 'non place' reminiscent of the spaces he photographs himself – i.e. the bland environment that is one of the lecture rooms at Hamilton House.

After the two talks (and a visit to the bar), there will be a chance for attendees to share and talk about their own work or that of photographers or photographs that inspire or interest them. Details of how to participate in TalkPhoto can be found on the Second Look website at www.secondlook.org.uk

The evening will conclude with a chance to put forward any questions, make requests for help and advice, promote an event or other matters. Please submit anything to be raised in advance by e-mail to Michael Reeve at contact@michaelreevesphotography.com or hand it in at the start of the meeting.

There is a small entrance charge of £3 (£2 for Second Look members) to cover the cost of room hire and publicity. The evening starts at 7pm

The next TalkPhoto events are scheduled for October 13th, November 10th and December 8th.

Do you feel you have a solid photographic technique, a unique artistic style or an interesting philosophy? If so, do you want to be considered as a future speaker for these events? Please email a paragraph about what you want to talk about and the photograph that illustrates it best, plus your website or Flickr photostream address if you have one, to Michael Reeves at contact@michaelreevesphotography.com

(left) Lord Luke Archer – *Simon Caplan*
 (right) Max McCure – Nonplaced – *Simon Caplan*

News & Events



(above) Rosie Emerson

In Darkness Blooms

November 4th 2011 – January 8th 2012

View Art Gallery, 159-161 Hotwell Rd, Bristol BS8 4RY

The Cereus flower, also known as the Night Princess, opens only in the hours of darkness, bearing a sumptuous fragrance. 'In Darkness Blooms' features six artists that express their connection to their hidden worlds. They capture and cultivate a magical beauty that seeks enlightenment and hope from inner darkness.

One of the six artists uses photography in her work.

Rosie Emerson adopts a unique medium known as collage photography. Large-scale works are created from digital manipulation of photographs of women overlaid with jewellery and styled with paint and ink. Emerging from the shadows are striking images, meticulously planned, but oozing drama and intrigue.

www.viewartgallery.co.uk



Shooting 'Youth': Challenging perceptions of young people through photography

17th October - 11th November 2011 (closed Sat and Sun)

Knowle West Media Centre, Leinster Ave, Knowle West, Bristol BS4 1NL

"Shooting"..... "Youth"

What springs to mind when you read these words?

A violent act? Or using a camera?
A label for young people? Or your teenage years?

Shooting 'Youth' - a new exhibition by 12 young photographers will explore these different perceptions, and the impact they have, in more detail.

Shooting 'Youth' examines contemporary attitudes to 'youth' - a timely aspiration in the wake of widespread media coverage of the August riots and mixed accounts about young people's involvement in them. This exhibition encourages us all to examine our perceptions and expectations of young people and celebrates new artistic talent.

For more information visit www.kwmc.org.uk or contact Rachel on 0117 903 0444

The work in this exhibition was made during a three-week photography programme produced by Knowle West Media Centre, which was part of the Co-operative Foundation's Truth About Youth project, run in partnership with The Prince's Trust.



(above) Daniel Beltrá - *Crimson crude*

Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2011

19 November 2011 to 11 March 2012
City Museum and Art Gallery, Queens Rd
Bristol

Come and enjoy the visually stunning, thought-provoking images that provide an insight into the beauty, drama and variety of nature. This world renowned yearly touring exhibition from the Natural History Museum provides a spotlight on the rarely seen wonders of the natural world.

www.bristol.gov.uk/page/current-exhibitions-bristols-museums#jump-link-1



(above) Vanessa Winship

Hereford Photography Festival

Friday 28th October – Saturday 26th
November 2011

Various locations around Hereford

The programme for this year's Hereford Photography Festival spans the broad theme of Movement, be that political, geographical, or physical. Simon Bainbridge, editor of the British Journal of Photography curates the exhibition at Hereford Museum and Art Gallery with an impressive selection of international photographers.

There will also be new work by British photographer Jason Larkin who has been working across Herefordshire over the last year to document the changing economy through the change in use of our rural buildings.

The festival also premieres the first solo exhibition by parkour photographer Andy Day, which goes on to tour the UK following the festival. OPEN HERE, the open submission exhibition, presents the best up-and-coming photographic talent in the UK and beyond.

The festival itself moves across borders, with exhibitions and events in Wales, Shropshire, Worcestershire and Birmingham. Furthermore this year sees the first international partnership, with Krakow Photomonth.

An online programme giving all details and venues can be found at www.photofest.org



Inspired by Autumn at Westonbirt photography competition

October 1st – November 18th 2011

Whether you wander through Westonbirt photographing whatever takes your fancy, or plan your pictures around times of the day, everyone agrees the arboretum is an inspiring place to photograph in autumn.

The Inspired by Autumn at Westonbirt photography competition invites visitors to submit photographs taken during this year's autumn visits.

In return, you could win a place on a Beginners Digital Photography Course in 2012 at Westonbirt, delivered by professional photographer Graham Light, along with a signed copy of his book, *The Wonder and the Beauty of Westonbirt*. Two runners-up will win a £10 voucher to go towards one of his workshops.

Photographs will be submitted online at www.flickr.com/groups/autumn-westonbirt-competition and will be judged by Graham Light, an experienced photographer and photography workshop tutor who has taken and published many photos of Westonbirt in all seasons.

The competition will be open from 1 October to 18 November 2011.

How to enter

Entrants should visit and upload their pictures to the Inspired by Autumn at Westonbirt photography competition Flickr group www.flickr.com/groups/autumn-westonbirt-competition

For more information go to www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-8M7EJX



An introduction to photography

5 evenings 16/01/2012 to 20/02/2012, 7-9pm

Cost £45

Tutor: Lisa Furness

Do you struggle to tell your aperture from your elbow?

Does the confusing number of buttons on your camera seem overwhelming? This course will show students how to get the best out of their SLR camera. As well as finding out how the camera works, and the range of photographic techniques available, students will look at composition, lighting and move on to more creative techniques.

A fun, straightforward course that breaks down the jargon & lays out the fundamentals of photography, freeing you from the Auto setting forever.



Photographic theory and approaches

5 evenings 7/11/2011 to 5/12/2012, 7-9pm

Repeat course 27/2/2012 to 26/3/2012, 7-9pm

Cost £45

Tutor: Lisa Furness

A look at the history and development of photography from its inception to the present day. This course explores the different questions posed by the medium of photography over the years and the ways different photographers have attempted to answer them.

Looking at documentary, art, portraiture and landscape, this course will celebrate some of the most interesting and creative photographers of all time as well as asking the fundamental question: what is photography?

There will also be the opportunity for students to develop their own projects & styles.



Introduction to digital imaging / photo editing

8 evenings 24/1/2012 to 20/3/2012, 7-9pm

Cost £72

Tutor: Phil Renshaw

Do you have photographs you would like to edit (digital or developed)? This fun packed course is suitable for the beginner to digital imaging. Learn how to enhance photographs to their full potential, alter colours, crop pictures, eradicate red eye, re-size images, remove background objects or blemishes that ruin the photograph. Also learn how to create a photo montage of your prized family photos. A basic knowledge of computing is essential to get the most out of this course. (Software used will be Adobe Photoshop for PC or Mac).

Photographic Courses at Backwell School

Backwell School, Backwell, BS48 3BX

Telephone: 01275 465942 - Kathy Patterson,

www.backwellschool.net

kpatterson@backwellschool.net

“We set up Second Look in 2008 in order to promote creative photography in Bristol, to help photographers to work together and to run public events that would raise the profile of Bristol photography.”

Lisa Furness, Chair/Coordinator

Since then Second Look has gone from strength to strength. We have held exhibitions of members work, participated in the 2010 Bristol Festival of Photography and run two annual events – the Bristol A Second Look photography competition and the PhotoMarathon. This year we have inaugurated a monthly public event called TalkPhoto.

Second Look aims to:

Be an artist-led organisation representing the broad range of creative practitioners in the photographic medium.

Provide a platform for photographic practitioners to promote and develop their work.

Provide opportunities for photographic practitioners to engage in dialogue with each other and with the broader public.

Organise events, promoting and providing a showcase for photographic practice and to raise the profile of photography as a public art form in the Bristol area.

Second Look is supported by Photographique, the photographic printers processors and studio at 31 Baldwin St Bristol. www.photographique.co.uk

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Second Look membership is open to anyone interested in photography who lives in the wider Bristol area. Members meet monthly to plan future activity.

We have three activities to which we have an ongoing commitment – TalkPhoto, the Bristol A Second Look photography competition and the PhotoMarathon. Beyond those events, it is open to all members to suggest further activities and then, if approved by the membership, to organise them under the Second Look banner.

Second Look membership brings the following benefits:

Members' meetings and the opportunity to participate in group activities

Access to a dedicated Flickr group that provides an online discussion board for members to share pictures, to debate and develop their ideas.

If you are interested in finding out more about Second Look, visit our webpage at www.secondlook.org.uk

To join, e-mail us at bristolasecondlook@hotmail.co.uk (the “joining” form on the webpage is temporarily unavailable)

There is also a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Second.Look.Bristol