

An aerial photograph of a wide, sandy beach at low tide. The sand is a mix of light and dark tones, creating a textured, almost abstract pattern. Several people are scattered across the beach: two people near the top center, a couple on the right side, and a single person in the lower left foreground whose reflection is visible in a shallow pool of water. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and greys, with the white of the sand providing contrast.

CAPE CAMERA

February 2024

Official Newsletter

CAPE TOWN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Good news about Honours and AVs • Salon and BoW groups launched

CAPE CAMERA



On The Cover

Start of a new day by Jacoba van Zyl was one of the high scoring images in our February competition.

"I took this image from our hotel room window in November last year on the first morning of our holiday in Plettenberg Bay," says Jacoba.

"It was an overcast morning and the light was beautiful. I had my 24 – 70 mm lens on my camera, but actually needed a longer lens. I did not change the lens as I thought I still had a whole week to take images of people of the beach.

"Needless to say, the light was never that good again and I therefore heavily cropped into the image – something I always try to avoid.

"My settings were 1/5000 sec, f5.6, ISO 800. I normally prefer to shoot at a lower ISO, but had to push the settings to get a sharp handheld image. I applied Denoise in Lightroom.

"It once again became clear that you have to calm down and do things properly when the conditions are perfect – it will never be the same again!"

CTPS was founded in 1890. It became a founding member of the Photographic Society of South Africa in 1954 and has been affiliated to PSSA ever since.



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News from the Council



The highlight of this month was, no doubt, the social get-together after the excellent image evaluation by Tony Bramley FRPS, all the way from the UK, on zoom.

Well done to our capable Membership/Event team of Anna Engelhardt and Joyce Goldschmidt for organising the food and drinks for this social event and sending special invitations to our newer members to please come and join us.

During the forced isolation of COVID and subsequent popularity of zoom meetings, we tended to lose sight of the reason why we joined a club, instead of just being Facebook friends. The difference is the camaraderie, socialising and friendship among club members, which online chats cannot replicate.

Socialising is, after all, in our DNA: CTPS was founded in a pub 134 years ago and since then there has been a picture trail of some very memorable social occasions! During outings, weekends away or at some club evenings, CTPS members have never shied away when it comes to *kuier*.

That is why the recent socialising was such a pleasure as new and old (in years and membership!) members got to know each other better over a glass of wine or soft drink.

Part of the success of the evening is due to so many of our wonderful new members joining us. Several of them also joined us on the outing to Vergelegen and their enthusiastic participation in competitions and other activities

like the Salon Group and Body of Work group have made them *old friends*.

This month we also introduced these two groups, which offer our members challenges to keep their interest in photography on a high note.

The Salon Group is actually a re-introduction of a group that inspired CTPS salon entrants a few years ago. It will meet every last Wednesday of the month (see p6) and all members entering salons for CTPS are welcome to submit images they would like group members to comment and advise on. In the past members who followed the advice of group members suggesting changes received acceptances for images that previously failed. Please send images for discussion to nicol@sportstrader.co.za.

Kim Stevens inspired another group of members to think out of the box and dig deep to find their personal voice. They have been challenged to create a personal concept around which they would like to create a Body of Work that will be ready to be presented to the public at the PSSA national congress in Struisbaai in August 2025. Contact Kim at kim@limelightphoto.com if you are interested in joining this creative journey.

Nicol du Toit
President

Please contact CTPS on info@ctps.co.za and visit the website www.ctps.co.za.



Contact CTPS Council

President	Nicol du Toit	082 377 8285
Vice-President	Lesley Parolis	082 780 6925
Secretary	Sally-Ann Spooner	079 274 2073
Treasurer	Andre Mouton	071 892 1981
Competitions	Lesley Parolis	082 780 6925
E & D	Steff Hughes	082 356 3979
Members & events	Anna Engelhardt	082 413 2112

Outings	Andre Mouton	071 892 1981
Archives/Storage	Rudi Pothas	082 516 9215
Cape Camera	Trudi du Toit	082 572 6127
Website/Snapshot	Andre Mouton	071 892 1981
Venue	Mike de Villiers	074 113 1415
Public Relations	Trudi du Toit	082 572 6127

Off-Council workers

Weekend outings	Richard Goldschmidt
Member promotions	Jacoba van Zyl
Members & Events	Joyce Goldschmidt (assist)
Body of Work	Kim Stevens
Facebook	Kim Stevens & Steff Hughes
Investments	Richard Goldschmidt
AV Group	Ken Woods
Venue Assist	Phil Green

Editorial team

Cape Camera Editor	Trudi du Toit
Proofreader	Lesley Parolis
Competitions	Lesley Parolis
Events Photographer	Joyce Goldschmidt
Judges comments	Anna Engelhardt
Member profiles	Dave Gordon
Publisher	Andre Mouton
PS Tips	Kim Stevens
Travelogues	Brian Jones

In the News

Did you know?

A new [calendar](#) on the CTPS website provides a very handy one-stop reminder of all the important forthcoming dates for meetings and competitions.

Snapshot is our weekly newsletter to remind and alert you of forthcoming events and provide the zoom links to meetings — and most importantly, the link to the latest *Cape Camera*. I am aware that some servers block bulk emails and would like to ask you to please inform [me](#) if you do not receive the weekly *Snapshot*.

Images used for the website banner must be in a landscape, and preferably panorama, format. **Cape Camera** cover images must be in portrait format. Therefore, please keep these formats in mind if you wish your images to be published as banners or covers.

Name cards have been reintroduced for members to wear to meetings. Anna Engelhardt and Joyce Goldschmidt have redesigned the cards so that the names are more visible from a distance. Please wear these name cards to meetings as a courtesy to your fellow members who would dearly like to get to know you, or match a face to a familiar name.

Our Facebook group is open to all members who are all welcome to post images and comments ... but it is not open to non-CTPS members. We are in the process of developing a public Facebook page, visible to the public.

Travelogues and Member Profiles are urgently required for *Cape Camera*. Please contact [Dave Gordon](#) if you know of a member who should be featured. [Brian Jones](#) is prepared to interview members who've been on interesting trips, as long as they provide the travelogue images.



Tony scores high in PSSA monthly competition

Congratulations to one of our Namibian members, Tony Edmunds, for receiving a high score of 35 in the PSSA Junior Club competition in February with his image *Elephants at the Savuti Waterhole* (above).

This is the second highest score of all Western Cape images entered in this competition and the 8th highest in the country.

The senior CTPS image entered in February, *Hannah in Black* by Lesley Parolis (right), received a score of 33 out of 45. See more on the [PSSA website](#).



The judges were Chris Nel, Regional Director (RD) Central Societies, Francois Venter, RD Northern Gauteng and Bridgid Wickham, RD Kwazulu-Natal.

Register for JAP course

While the candidates on the current Judging Accreditation Program (JAP) are anxiously awaiting their accreditation results, registration for the 2024 course has opened ([see here](#)).

Registrations close on April 30th and the new course will start on 6 July. Thereafter the 12-month course will be presented nationally via Zoom on the first Saturday of the month from 9:00 to 12:30. The cost is R550 per person.

Welcome to our new members

A hearty welcome to Bob de Villiers, Ansie du Toit and Francois Retief, who joined CTPS in February, but already feel like old friends after they attended our social E&D evening. All three have been members of other clubs.

Bob was a member of the Paarl Photographic Club until 2018 and Ansie du Toit was previously a member of Hermanus Photographic Society.

Francois Retief is an experienced 6-Star photographer (at Sandton) with 470 salon acceptances. He is also a member of Ignite, Helderberg and Randburg clubs.



BoW sets a new challenge

Kim Stevens is inviting CTPS members to put on their thinking caps and accept a new challenge by working towards producing a *Body of Work* that will express their personal photographic identity and interest. Find out more about how you can become part of this journey

During the launch of this special interest group Kim Stevens explained that the vision was *to create a series of cohesive images to be curated, printed and displayed as a body of work at the PSSA Struisbaai Congress in August 2025.*

This national congress will be organised by CTPS on behalf of PSSA to commemorate our 135th anniversary. One of the tasks will be to find a suitable venue for the exhibition.

"Thoughtfully crafting a body of work is one of the best ways to develop your aesthetic and artistic vision," says Kim. She therefore urged participants to develop a concept that reflects their interests and passion and then to do research about how best to portray the vision and concept.

She suggests that keeping a notebook as a visual diary to jot down ideas as they occur to you, and making an inspiration folder to save examples, will assist you in formulating your artist statement and serve as a roadmap for your concept.

The body of work will not be limited to a set size of photographic prints. It can be presented in any format and in any medium that will express the meaningful concept developed by the author - as a book, printed on metal or glass, as a massive canvas, miniature photographs, etc.

The group will meet at 6-weekly intervals, starting 10 April 2024. Participants should aim to have their con-

cepts formulated for the next meeting and be ready to present them to the group. Prepare yourself for many changes to your initial concept as the group discusses and collaborates on the images presented.

By April 2025 all the images should be curated and chosen for exhibition — and the following three months would be devoted to the printing and the finalisation of the presentations.

Participants were referred to several authors and websites that could inspire them to develop their own creative concepts.

Kim also regularly provides links on the CTPS private Facebook group to authors who created impressive bodies of work that could be used as references.

Resources to consult

- <https://thephotographersgallery.org.uk/photography-culture>
- <https://www.lensculture.com>
- <https://aperture.org/editorial>
- <https://www.valeriejardinphotography.com/one-century> (she will be our E&D presenter in April)
- <https://www.camversation.co.uk/event-details/photography-talk-cohesive-projects-with-charlotte-bellamy>
- <https://www.marcdetollenaere.com/portfolio>



Above: 'Piazza San Marco' by Jacoba van Zyl was awarded a COM in the OTRCC Salon. It was also part of her panel that earned her APSSA Honours.

Left: 'Scattering stardust' earned Lesley Parolis a COM in the OTRCC Salon.

CTPS Salon Group launched

More than 20 CTPS members expressed interest in joining a Salon Group to promote salon entries and improve their chances of earning acceptances ... so, watch this space in future!

The CTPS Salon Group that a few years ago assisted members interested in entering salons has been revived. Following requests from members at the Strategic Meeting last year, the first meeting of a new Salon Group for members who enter salons with CTPS as their club, was held via zoom on 22 February.

At the inaugural meeting participants could indicate what they hoped to gain from the group. Much interest was expressed in how to keep track of your salon entries, acceptances and the images that had near-misses which are likely to earn acceptance in other salons.

Experienced salon entrants shared their methods: from downloading the records — scores, acceptances and awards — of all the images you entered via PhotoVault-Online (Lesley Parolis) to creating tags for all his images on PhotoVaultOnline to indicate acceptances and awards (Dieter Butow).

Nicol du Toit demonstrated how he awards a percentage in excel to indicate how far above or below the minimum acceptance score of the salon the image scored. He also uses the file to keep track of international acceptances and his path to achieve DPSSA Honours in the different categories.

Jacoba van Zyl demonstrated how she keeps track of members' national salon performances that are required for club promotions. Up to Salon rank a maximum of three acceptances per image in local salons are counted because three is the maximum acceptances are allowed per image for the Impala Trophy Log (see next page).

Members are invited to send images they would like the Salon Group to discuss to Nicol du Toit at nicol@sportstrader.co.za by Monday 25 March. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 28 March. New members are welcome and can contact Nicol to receive a zoom link.

Only the first salon acceptance of the year is counted for those aiming for Master status.

The difference between Diamond Ratings and DPSSA or EPSSA Honours as well as the Impala Trophy Log were also explained (see more on the PSSA website [here](#)).

The group decided that they would like to receive guidance on their potential salon entries in future meetings. Members are therefore requested to present images that they need advice on for discussion at meetings.



Kim Stevens with a medal she won in the VFV salon for prints. Photo Steff Hughes.

CTPS' members latest salon achievements

CTPS members received 121 acceptances, which includes 11 COMs, in the local salons whose results were announced in February, namely On the Rocks (OTRCC), Bloemfontein and Ermelo. In addition, CTPS members earned 64 acceptances, including two awards, in the Miroc international circuit.

OTRCC Salon 2024 Results

Lesley Parolis received 5 acceptances, including a COM for *Scattering Stardust* in the Open Colour category. She also gained acceptance for *The Leap, Elephant rush hour, Baobab at sunrise on Kubu Island* and *Sunrise in the Namibrand*.

Jacoba van Zyl can also count a COM for *Piazza San Marco* among her five acceptances. The other acceptances were for *Carrelet, Shoreline, Desert transformed* and *Overberg backroads*.

Richard Goldschmidt had four images accepted, namely *Bridge support and cone at night fall, Valencia Planetarium, Valencia at night* and *Arniston Cliffs*.

Anna Engelhardt received acceptances for *Venice at*

dawn, African Swamphen and *The Matterhorn of Africa*.

Nicol du Toit gained acceptances for *Anastasia and Drizella doing their best, Cheetas at the waterhole* and *Muddy jubilation*.

Trudi du Toit received acceptances for *Curious Lippi-zaner, The ugly sisters* and *Four giraffes*.

Neels Beyers received acceptances for *Wave against the wind* and *Peeping*.

Simon Mouton was awarded an acceptance for *Photobomb*.

CTPS has several members who have other primary clubs and they therefore enter salons under that club name. **Francois Roux** of Vanderbijlpark Fotografiese Vereniging, received 6 acceptances, which includes **To p8**

CTPS members' February salon results

Acceptances and awards in the Bloemfontein, OTRCC and Ermelo salons and the international Miroc salon.

Name	Acc National	COM National	Acc Miroc	Award Miroc
Neels Beyers	8		12	
Nicol du Toit	10		3	
Trudi du Toit	8		5	
Anna Engelhardt	4			
Joyce Goldschmidt	8	1		
Richard Goldschmidt	12			
Simon Mouton	3			
Karyn Parisi			16	1
Lambe Parolis	1			
Lesley Parolis	10	1		
Jacoba van Zyl	14	2		
Total	78	4	36	1
Members with other primary clubs				
Name	Acc National	COM National	Acc Miroc	Award Miroc
Theo Potgieter**	11	4		
Mariana Visser**	9		10	
Francois Roux**	23	3	18	1

CTPS members on Impala Log up to Ermelo

The current position of CTPS members on the Impala Log, plus their positions in the Western Cape Top 50.

Name	PDI points	Impala Position	WC Position
Theo Potgieter**	85	30	2
Mariana Visser**	60	48	4
Nicol du Toit	53	51	7
Lesley Parolis	42	62	10
Neels Beyers	40	64	12
Jacoba van Zyl	36	68	13
Trudi du Toit	27	77	19
Anna Engelhardt	20	84	22
Simon Mouton	14	90	28
Richard Goldschmidt	12	92	32
Joyce Goldschmidt	9	95	36
Johan van Wyk**	7	97	37
David Barnes**	5	99	46
Marianna Meyer	5	99	46
Lambe Parolis	5	99	46
Brian Jones	3	94	51

** Theo Potgieter and Mariana Visser enter salons under Tafelberg Fotografieklub; David Barnes and Johan van Wyk enter as Tygerberg members.

The Western Cape Premier Club standing after the Ermelo Salon

Region Rank	Western Cape Clubs	TOTAL Awards	No of PDI	No of Prints	Pts - PDI	Pts - Prints	TOTAL Pts
1	Tafelberg Fotografeklub	461	434	27	474	28	502
2	Cape Town Photographic Society	293	243	50	251	62	313
3	Tygerberg Photographic Society	148	148	0	152	0	152
4	Swartland Fotografeklub	120	112	8	128	5	133
5	Mosselbaai Kameraklub	87	87	0	88	0	88
6	Hermanus Photographic Society	73	73	0	80	0	80
7	Paarl Photographic Club	63	63	0	58	0	58
8	Ignite Photo Club	33	33	0	29	0	29
9	Fish Hoek Photographic Society	18	18	0	28	0	28
10	Witzenberg Photographic Society	23	21	2	21	2	23
11	Kleinmond Kiekieklub	16	16	0	18	0	18
12	Creative Camera Club	15	15	0	15	0	15
13	Gansbaai Photography Club	10	10	0	11	0	11
14	Durbanville Fotografeklub	3	3	0	3	0	3

Bloemfontein results (continued)

a COM. **Theo Potgieter** of Tafelberg Fotografeklub also received 6 acceptances, one of them a COM. **Mariana Visser**, also from Tafelberg, gained 3 acceptances.

Bloemfontein Salon 2024 Results

Jacoba van Zyl can count a COM for *Green Season* among her seven acceptances for *White wash, Swirling water, Rocky shore, Tulip, Venice lagoon* and *Tidal pools*.

Nicol du Toit received five acceptances for *Breakfast run, Cinderella dancing with her broom, Ocean View de-tail, Ocean View* and *Paaltjies en skip*.

Richard Goldschmidt was also awarded five acceptances for *Across the Bay, Valencia Planetarium, Sagrada Familia Ceiling, Bridge support and cone at night fall*

and *Walking the Dog*.

Neels Beyers received four acceptances for *Springbokke koppestamp, Dunes Sossus 9106, Walkway between buildings* and *Topaz*.

Joyce Goldschmidt received acceptances for *Fishing nets at twilight, Sunrise in Valencia 2* and *Smoke on the Water*.

Simon Mouton's images *Pretty in pink* and *Timeless beauty* were accepted in this salon.

Trudi du Toit received acceptances for *The ugly sisters* and *Cinderellas Prince*.

Anna Engelhardt's *The Matterhorn of Africa* was also accepted for this salon.

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International acceptances in the Miroc Circuit for CTPS members*

The Miroc Circuit comprised four salons in four countries, including a South African leg - Edenvale - in addition to the images judged in Serbia, Norway and Cyprus. One image therefore had four chances of receiving an acceptance. South African photographers could enter with PSSA as their club.

Karyn Parisi received a total of 16 acceptances, with *Look into my Crystal Ball* being awarded with a FIAP Mention in Cyprus and acceptance in Serbia. *Polar Bear Meal Time* was accepted in all four legs of the salon.

Neels Beyers succeeded with 12 acceptances, which included three for *Kogelbaai in Valsbaai* (in Cyprus, Serbia and Norway) as well as three acceptances for *Zebras reflected* (Serbia, Norway and South Africa).

Trudi du Toit received five acceptances, which inclu-

ded two for *Make way* (in Cyprus and South Africa).

Nicol du Toit received acceptances in three salons with the image *Eastern Buttress through the clouds*.

Two members with other primary clubs did exceptionally well.

Francois Roux of Vanderbijlpark Fotografiese Vereniging received 18 acceptances, including a DIPA Mention PDF award in Norway for *Vestrahorn beach*, which was also accepted in South Africa and Serbia. *Jakkals aas op hiena* and *breebors* received three acceptances each in Cyprus, Norway and South Africa.

Mariana Visser (Tafelberg Fotografeklub) received 10 acceptances, which included three for *Frozen* in Serbia, Norway and South Africa.

* Only acceptances in the Edenvale leg of the circuit count towards the Impala Log points.



'Green Season' by Jacoba van Zyl earned a Certificate of Merit in the Bloemfontein Salon.

CTPS Salon results (continued)

CTPS members with other primary clubs who received acceptances are:

Francois Roux (Vanderbijlpark Fotografiese Vereniging) received 8 acceptances, one of them a COM, **Mariana Visser** of Tafelberg Fotografieklub had four images accepted and **Theo Potgieter**, also from Tafelberg was awarded with two COMs for his three acceptances.

Ermelo Salon 2024 Results

Joyce Goldschmidt received five acceptances, including a COM for *Sagrada Ceiling*. Other images that were accepted are *Sea of Canola*, *Sunrise in Valencia 2*, *Fishing nets at twilight*, and *Planetarium after dark*.

Lesley Parolis also received five acceptances for *Elephant rush hour*, *Abide here a while*, *Scattering stardust*, *Hannah and Kyle* and *Maligne Lake in the Canadian Rockies*.

Richard Goldschmidt gained acceptances for *Valencia at night*, *Sagrada Familias Columns*, and *Valencia Museum and Planetarium*.

Neels Beyers succeeded with acceptances for *Kogelbaai in Valsbaai* and *Dunes Sossus 9106*.

Jacob van Zyl gained acceptances for *Teal waters* and *Gondola San Marco*.

Nicol du Toit received acceptances for *Muddy jubilation* and *Grand jete Pas de Chat*.

Trudi du Toit's *Augrabies Kloof* and *Cinderellas Prince* received acceptances.

Lambe Parolis earned an acceptance with *Bosjes Chapel Western Cape*.

The following CTPS members received acceptances under their other (primary) club name: **Francois Roux** (Vanderbijlpark Fotografiese Vereniging) received 9 acceptances, one of them a COM, **Mariana Visser** of Tafelberg Fotografieklub had two images accepted and **Theo Potgieter**, also from Tafelberg, was awarded a COM.



Congratulations to Mariana Visser, whose image 'Dancing in the Wild' was selected as the 'Judges Choice' in the Zion Photo Awards salon hosted in Sri Lanka.

Q&A about salons

What is the Impala Trophy Log?

Every salon entrant who receives an acceptance is entered on the Impala Trophy log, which shows how many points you gained with awards and acceptances after each salon. The Top 10 positions are fiercely contested, especially the Top 3 in Open, Nature and Mono, and the overall winner of the Impala Trophy. It is awarded for digital images (by far the most prestigious with about a thousand contestants), for print (which our Kim Stevens won last year) and AV, which was won by Ken Woods last year. For salon entrants further down the table the Impala Log provides an opportunity to measure their own progress against that of their peers. See more [here](#).

What is the Premier Club competition?

The points earned by members who enter for a specific club are added together for this competition, contested by clubs nationally and per region. The top club in each region during each competition year receives a certificate.

Why do salon acceptances and salon points differ?

The number of acceptances refers to all images that were accepted in a salon. Salon points are calculated as follows: acceptance =1, Certificate of Merit = 2, runner-up or club medal = 3 and the winner (PSSA Silver medal) = 4 points. Points are only awarded for the first three times that an image receives an acceptance (or award).

What is a Certificate of Merit (COM)

In local (national salons) the top 20-25% of images entered in a category are "accepted" for the exhibition. The top 10% of images entered receive a COM. The term acceptance refers to the origin of artistic salons where only a certain number of works were selected (accepted) to be exhibited. From the end of April up to 30% of the images entered will be accepted in FIAP salons.



Clive Rathband FPSSA FRPS EFIAP DPAGB and Joan Ryder Rathband FPSSA FRPS AFIAP DPAGB. Photo supplied.

Our AV makers get top results

CTPS members earned five of the seven acceptances and awards in the PSSA National AV Salon 2024 — including the winner's medal and one of two Certificates of Merit awarded to our swallow members Clive and Joan Rathband.

It was wonderful to welcome our *swallow* members Joan and Clive Rathband at our February E&D evening and social, before they returned to their other home in the UK. "We nowadays mainly make AVs," Joan remarked casually ... and don't they just!

In the recent PSSA AV Salon team Rathband not only won the PSSA Silver medal with the hauntingly beautiful *Ukuthula*, but also earned a Certificate of Merit (COM) for the touching documentary *Heartbreak*.

Two other CTPS members earned acceptances for their AVs: our AV convenor Ken Woods received two for *Sossus Dead Vlei* and *Fields of Yellow*, while *The Ghosts of Sossus-vlei* by John Arseniou was also accepted.

Why Ukuthula?

"We first heard a performance of *Ukuthula*, a Xhosa Hymn for Peace, a couple of years ago," recounts Joan. "It was on YouTube and sung by the Cape Town Youth Choir. We found it very moving and played it often."

They love taking pictures in churches, cathedrals and of other religious images, and they were inspired to use these pictures in a Photo Harmony AV with *Ukuthula* as soundtrack.

"The type of images we had allowed us to create *third images* in the

dissolve, a technique we particularly like to exploit. It is also an opportunity move the focal point of the images around the screen.

"Timing is so important to get the flow of the images synchronised with the music and a great deal of time was spent on this aspect," says Joan, who is skilled in achieving this and worked her magic so well that this sequence was awarded the winner's medal in the salon!

The making of Heartbreak

Another joint presentation by Clive and Joan, *Heartbreak*, has won several awards, in addition to the COM in the PSSA salon.

"We have been regular visitors to the Kruger National Park for many, many years and happened to be there in 2016 and 2017," explains Joan. "This was the period of the severe drought and we witnessed untold suffering and death — not a comfortable experience.

"However, as wildlife photographers, we try and record all aspects of wildlife behaviour and documented what was before us."

An AV Challenge at the Wilmslow AV Group in the UK prompted Clive to put some of these images to music.

"Following this, we thought this was a story worth

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More AV News

Rathbands AV (continued)

presenting as a full AV sequence, so we put together a script and narration. Then there was the search for the appropriate soundtrack and constructing the sequence, a process we enjoy doing," she continues.

"Heartbreak is not comfortable viewing, so it is unlikely to get a number of audience votes, but as an AV story it is generally well received."

That is an understatement: at the 2023 Royal Photographic Society International AV Festival, *Heartbreak* was awarded a FIAP Bronze Medal for the Best Nature sequence.

Following that it was selected to be shown at the Sirene Wave International Festival in Italy.

AV Makers South Africa will be showing the AVs that won acceptances and awards in this salon, as well as the work of the successful AV Honours applicants (see overleaf) on Zoom on March 16th at 10am.

Everybody is welcome. Click on this Zoom [link](#). The Meeting ID is 886 2026 3501 and Passcode: 354196.



PECC international AV Festival closes soon

The next local AV salon, the 6th Port Elizabeth Camera Club International Audio Visual Festival 2024, is closing soon — on Thursday 21 March.

Entrants may submit any number of AVs in any of the categories but the total duration may not be longer than 15 minutes and an individual entry may not be longer than 12 minutes.

There are two categories: Open and Photo Harmony. In Open the author is free to choose any subject that appeals and may use spoken commen-

tary as well as video clips and text.

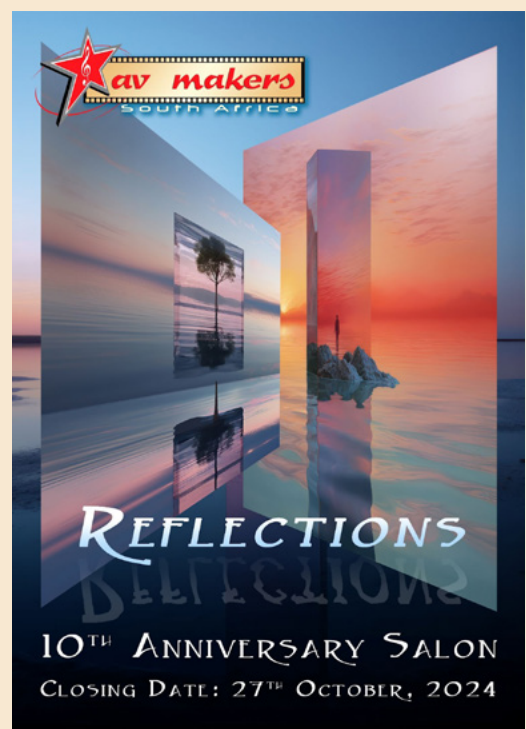
The brochure stipulates: *A Photo Harmony sequence should demonstrate skill in the production and visual progression of still photographs linked to sound. No script or commentary with a specific beginning, middle and ending are required but the images must flow well in a pleasing progression, not just in a random manner. Video clips are not allowed in Photo Harmony.*

[Click here](#) for more information.

Important AV events from near and far

The following dates and events would be of interest to all AV enthusiasts and potential enthusiasts:

- CTPS AV meetings: Ken Woods hosts the monthly zoom meetings on Tuesdays at 7pm. Everybody is welcome. Contact Ken on kenwoods@photowild.co.za.
- Challenge 321: tell your story in 3 minutes, 21 seconds. Entries close 15 March. See more [here](#).
- Jurassic Coast International AV Salon: There is a special discount for South Africans via AV Makers. Closing date 31 March and zoom show of acceptances and awards on 25 and 26 May. [Click here](#) to see more.
- 10th Anniversary AV Makers salon theme *Reflections*: Registration for this salon will open 1 October and close 27 October. The brochure describes *Reflections* as follows: "*reflections*" can evoke various thoughts and images, both literal and metaphorical. There could be many different interpretations of the term, for example to portray mirrors and images, contemplation and introspection, water and nature, memory and nostalgia, philosophical concepts, artistic expression, light and optics or symbolism. Our own Ken Woods is one of the judges. See more [here](#).





CTPS AV Honours recipients

Two CTPS members, Ken Woods, and John Arseniou, were awarded LPSSA AV Honours in the recent Honours judging session

AV makers applying for LPSSA Honours must submit two AVs to be judged by a panel of experts who take four criteria into account: communication, visuals, audio and Audio-Visual techniques.

They score each sequence out of 100, with the total divided by four to give a percentage. Two-thirds (66.6%) of the judges must pass both sequences for an LPSSA application to succeed.

According to the [PSSA website](#) an effective AV will have unity of its three parts – the conception, the visuals and the sound. Applicants are encouraged to explore the photographic medium and to use it to communicate their own personal vision incorporating feeling, senses and imagination to the viewer.

To succeed with an Honours application a sequence must take into account, and give evidence of unquestionable photographic competence of the person applying for the distinction. The technical ability to combine the images with music in an effective manner will add to the overall success of the Audio Visual.

Our AV Convenor, **Ken Woods**, submitted two AVs for the LPSSA AV honours, namely *Summertime* and *Lost*

Love. (see posters above).

He has won several awards with *Summertime* and Ken describes it as "a blend of images taken over some years in Namaqualand, combined with music that I felt captured the feeling of this area.

"Macro images allow one to see much deeper into the beauty of the flowers than just looking with one's own eyes."

For his second AV, *Lost love*, he used images that were taken at the old car museum just outside Cape Town on a CTPS club outing.

"A young couple came along as models for us," explains Ken. Some of the old cars in his AV had peeling images of a woman from the past. "The audio used in conjunction with our models gave me the idea for the concept of lost love."

John Arseniou, a CTPS member from the Eastern Cape, was inspired to make an AV of a visit to Sossusvlei (see below left). "What a wonderful experience!" he enthuses. "One cannot describe the beauty, the magnitude of the dunes and the dead trees." He obviously succeeded in getting his message across because this AV contributed to his Honours application succeeding.



AV Makers and PSSA Showcase

All AVs that succeeded with their Honours applications, plus the award winners and acceptances in the PSSA National AV Salon, will be showcased in a zoom meeting hosted by AV Makers SA.

Time: March 16, 2024 at 10:00 .

[Click here](#) for the zoom link. All welcome.

APSSA Honours for two of our members

Congratulations to Nicol du Toit and Jacoba van Zyl for being awarded APSSA in the latest Honours judging round! We feature a selection of their panels that were judged good enough to earn them Associate-ships. To see their full panels visit the PSSA website [here](#)

A selection from Jacoba's successful panel of 15 images



See more on the next pages.

Successful APSSA digital panels (continued)



A selection from Nicol's successful panel of 15 images



What are these Honours?

There are various ways in which you can receive photographic Honours from the PSSA, explains Nicol du Toit.

PSSA can award two types of Honours to members in recognition of a high standard of photographic ability. These are not qualifications, but honorary titles, and in line with the use of titles by most professional bodies (e.g. CA), they are only awarded to members.

One type is awarded for the accumulation of salon acceptances and you may apply for these Honours (DPSSA, EPSSA etc.) at any time of the year.

Another way to gain Honours is to apply by submitting a panel of photographs to the Honours Judging Panel, who gather twice a year to evaluate the submissions. Applications are made in January and July.

Salon acceptances

The type of Honour awarded (DPSSA or EPSSA) is based on the number of acceptances you achieved in South African national and international salons with PSSA patronage, as well as other international salons with patronage by one or more of:

- The Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain
- The Photographic Society of America
- The Australian Photographic Society
- FIAP

No more than half of the acceptance points may be claimed from overseas-based salons and no more than a third of the acceptance points may be from credits received for salon judging. Application may be made in only one category, either Colour, Mono or Nature and can be for PDI or print acceptances.

Before applying for Honours, you may apply for a diamond rating badge. Non-PSSA members may also apply for the 1,2 or 3 diamond rating badges (see below).

Requirements for salon Honours (only available to PSSA members).

Diamond ratings requirements

No of acceptances - PDI	No of acceptances - PDI	
15 in any one category	10 in any one category	1 Diamond rating
30 in any one category	20 in any one category	2 Diamond ratings
60 in any one category	40 in any one category	3 Diamond ratings

DPSSA: 125 digital acceptances in any one category; or 80 prints in any one category.

DPSSA(CIs): 250 digital acceptances per category. Nobody has achieved DPSSA Cluster (CIs) or higher Honours in prints.

EPSSA: 500 acceptances in any one category; or 250 in two categories.

EPSSA(CIs): 750 acceptances in one category; or 375 in any two categories; or 250 in any three categories.

EPSSA(Mille): 1000 acceptances in one category; or 500 in two categories; or 500 in any one category plus 250 in two other categories; or 375 in two categories plus 250 in the other category.

EPSSA(Mille-Premium) In addition to EPSSA(Mille) 350 acceptances more from any of the categories.

EPSSA(Mille-Platinum): In addition to EPSSA(Mille-Premium) you need 400 more acceptances from any of the categories.

Panel submissions

Application may be made in digital, prints, Audio Visual (AV) or Applied. In PDI and prints application may be made in any of the 3 categories: Colour, Mono or Nature. See [here](#).

The submitted panel is judged live by a panel of 12 Judges, who must at least have FPSSA Honours. The standard is incredibly high and it is very rare for an applicant to succeed the first time. On average, a third of the applications are accepted.

Eight of the 12 judges must pass all the images in an application for it to succeed. Images that miss passing by only one or two judges, are discussed and rescored, if necessary.

If a panel is only one or two images

short, then the whole panel is shown again, discussed and rescored. If it then only requires one image to qualify for an LPSSA or APSSA, the applicant will be invited to submit an additional image, which is voted on remotely. In the case of an FPSSA application, the applicant may miss up to two images to be invited to submit additional images.

Credits are awarded to unsuccessful applicants for individual images that were passed by 75% or more of the judges and are valid for two years from the date of first application — in other words, a maximum of four judging sessions. A credit may not be failed by a judge during the time of its validity

Licentiate ship – LPSSA: This is awarded for a high level of basic skill and competence in the submitted panel of 10 images. Everybody must start with LPSSA, unless you already have a 3 Diamond rating — 60 PDI or 40 print acceptances — in which case you may apply for APSSA.

Associateship - APSSA is awarded for a higher standard of technical skill, competence and creative ability. The panel consists of 15 images.

Fellowship – FPSSA is awarded for photographic excellence and distinguished ability, with versatility displayed in the panel of 25 images.

Master - MPSSA is the highest award which a member of PSSA may apply for. The application consists of an educational, illustrated lecture, as well as a panel of 15 to 25 mounted, top quality, exhibition prints.

Versatility (Vers) is awarded for three Honours at the same level in either panel submissions or Salon Honours — but not a combination.



E & D report back — 21 February 2024

Image evaluation **by Tony Bramley**

*This E&D evening was special for two reasons. **Tony Bramley** FRPS gave his riveting presentation on Zoom from the UK, which allowed him to demonstrate all his suggested changes on the big screen to the audience in the meeting hall. His presentation was followed by a social get-together with eats and drinks, where old and new members could get better acquainted.*

Report and images by Steffne Hughes.

We were treated to a very professional and helpful presentation by Tony Bramley during this meeting. He didn't just offer comments on the submitted images – he took them into an editing program and showed us how he would have made changes to improve the image.

His comments were spot on and every image that he worked on showed a remarkable improvement. I was fascinated by his *no holds barred* approach to cropping

and editing. It made me realise that I am often *stuck* on the original composition of an image and will make edits in post-production to improve on the original, but not change it drastically.

Tony's demonstration of how he makes cropping decisions showed me that I need to move on from looking at my images in their original composition.

He made use of dodging and burning to increase the contrast in an image and to help the viewer's eye move through the photo. He demonstrated how he uses dodging and burning with masking in Lightroom and Camera Raw so that one can selectively enhance or decrease the exposure in different areas on the image.

I was particularly taken by one of Tony's suggestions to turn the image upside down. Thinking about it, reminded me of a discussion about how your eye and brain work in tandem and that you sometimes need to give your brain a fresh look at the object by turning it upside down.



Ruth Scholtz, Kim Stevens and Walter Berndorfler socialising after the meeting.

Tony Bramley evaluation (continued)

Tony is an award-winning photographer with over 30 years' experience as a trainer. He has kindly offered that CTPS members will be able to access any of his online workshops at his 2023 prices for the remainder of this year. Contact him on tony@lightacademy.co.uk.

After the E&D discussion, we held the first social event of the year. The intention was to start off the year by getting to know each other better and to especially welcome all our new members.

The social was arranged by Anna Engelhardt and Joyce Goldschmidt, who arranged for some very appealing eats, while her husband, Richard, made sure that we were well supplied with wine and drinks.

I enjoyed chatting to people that I don't often get to interact with, and it was lovely to see so many of our new members join us for this special evening.



Jonathan Burchell (left) enjoying the wine and snacks with hosts Anna Engelhardt and Joyce Goldschmidt and Nicole Gangen, who joined CTPS at the end of last year.

Next E&D evening — 20th March 2024 Long exposure by **Steff Hughes**

E&D convenor Steffne Hughes will be the presenter at the E&D meeting in March, where she'll share some tips on successful long exposure photography.

This will give members sufficient time to put this knowledge into practice in time to create gold-winning images for the June set subject category.

Steff is an experienced presenter, who is often asked by clubs to share her photographic experience during workshops and talks. She presented the session on Abstract and Visual Art for aspirant judges on the national JAP (Judging Accreditation Program) course in 2023. In October she offered two Beginner's courses for CTPS members.



She has been a CTPS member for more than a decade and has exhibited locally and internationally.

In her day job she provides ICT training to Cape Flats youths who will go out into their communities to spread their knowledge, as part of a Whitaker Peace and Development Initiative. Prior to this she worked in ICT in various positions for more than 20 years, mostly on the customer service and training side.

She is also a qualified tour guide and hosts weekend photography tours/workshops around the Western and Northern Cape. She also assists photographers with editing some of their images.

E&D schedule for the year

Date	Topic	Presenter
March 20th	Long Exposure	Steff Hughes
April 17th	Street Photography	Valerie Jardin
May 16th	Macro	TBC
June 19th	Portraits	Kim Stevens
July 17th	Image evaluation	Members
August 21st	Tabletop/Still life	Yvette Jordaan
September 19th	Lighting	TBC
October 17th	Birds	TBC
November 21st	Image evaluation	Members
December	No E&D	

Set subject topics

Date	Set Subject
March 6th	Stairs and Stairways
April 3rd	Monochrome
May 1st	On the street, incl markets
June 5th	Long exposures, 5 sec plus
July 3rd	Macro and close up
August 7th	Human portraits, incl self
September 4th	Cold
October 2nd	Table top/still life
November 6th	Nostalgia
December 4th	Nature - Birds only

Vergelegen outing enjoyed by all

On a cloudy Sunday morning, the 17th February, fifteen CTPS members gathered at this magnificent estate outside Somerset West to enjoy, explore and photograph its spectacular gardens and historic buildings, reports ANDRE MOUTON

We kicked off our day with a meeting at the charming Vergelegen Wine Tasting Room at 8:30am. Although the morning started off a bit cloudy, the weather soon transformed, treating us to a delightful, sunny, day.

After our initial gathering, the group dispersed with maps in hand, each member heading in their own direction to explore different facets of the estate.

Members visited Rosie's Terrace Tea Room for refreshments at varying times, but the larger group converged

around late morning for a coffee and something light to eat. One of the guests to Rosie's keenly spotted a little Painted Reed Frog nestled on a magnolia tree, adding an unexpected touch of whimsy to our day.

From feedback received, it is heartening to know that everyone enjoyed the experience and being in each other's company. The presence of both new members and familiar faces adds an extra layer of joy to any gathering. Equally delightful was the reunion with members we haven't seen for a while.



Some members enjoyed a light lunch. Above from the back: Rosie Burton, Sally-Ann and Andrew Spooner, Andre Mouton, Nicol and Trudi du Toit and Pat Scott. Photo: Zizi.

Right: Andre Mouton, Melanie Black, Ruth Scholtz (standing), Vanessa and Adrian Gebers. Photo: Trudi du Toit.



Jeanette du Toit and Phil Green in action. Photo: Trudi du Toit.



Pat Scott captured Vanessa Gebers setting up a shot.



Adrian Gebers captured by Ruth Scholtz shooting his reflection.

Remember to enter the *Essence of Vergelegen* Photography Contest

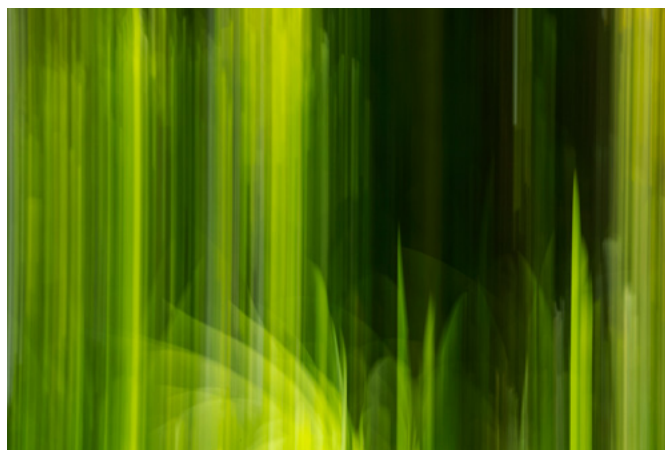
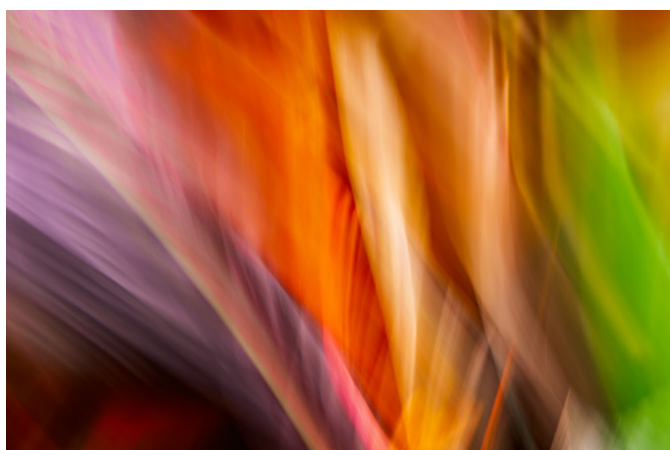
There are some great prizes, including photographic equipment sponsored by ORMS, to be won in the Vergelegen competition that closes on March 31. There are three entry classes: Camera class (taken on any camera, with or without lenses); Smart phone class (any cell phone or mobile device); and Junior class (under the age of 16 years, image taken on any device). Photographs must be taken from 25 November 2023 to end-March 2024. See more [here](#). **To p19**



Photo of the Reflection Pool by Ruth Scholtz.



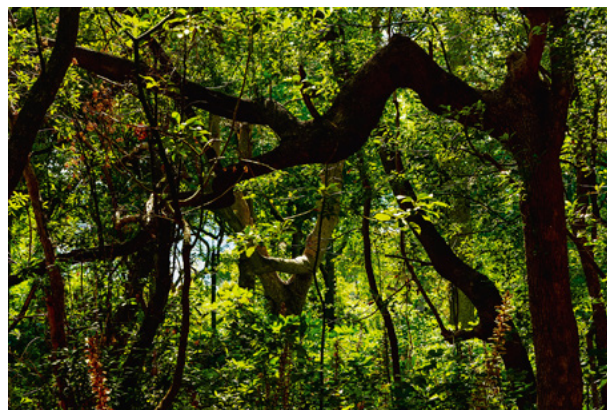
Andre Mouton captured the old ruin amongst the trees.



Images above and below right by Rosie Burton.



Left and below left: Images by Pat Scott..



This Painted Reed frog with attitude was captured by Ruth Scholtz.



Melanie Black photographed this kamikaze bee.

To p20



Ruth Scholtz photographed the upside down bug and Mel Black the Moon-flower.



This leafy lane photo is by Pat Scott.



Photo by Melanie Black.

Right: Reflections captured by Trudi du Toit.



Below: Bee in mono by Mel Black.



March outing in Greenpoint

For our March outing we'll be visiting the Green Point Park as well as the surrounding areas along the Promenade. The area provides lots of opportunity for sunsets, seascapes, street photography, reflections, long exposures, etc, says Andre Mouton.

We will meet at the foot of the Green Point Lighthouse at 4pm on 23 March.

More details will be shared via Snapshot closer to the time.

Join the Outings WhatsApp chat to receive updates and notifications, including about where and what time the group will meet for the customary meal or drinks after the outing

Contact Andre Mouton on andre@motisse.co.za if you are not yet on the Outings chat group and wish to join.

Reminder for our weekend outings

Please remember to diarise our two weekend outings this year: 5-7 July to Gannabos Quiver tree forest and 6-8 September to the Tulbagh Valley.

Richard Goldschmidt is especially keen to hear from members who wish to join the Gannabos outing. Email him on richard@goldschmidt.co.za.

Winning images from February 2024

Set subject: Minimalism

The judges for the competition were Peter Hardcastle APSSA EPSSA AFIAP, who was responsible for adjudicating the senior images and CTPS member Steff Hughes, who commented and scored the junior images. Peter is an experienced judge and photographer who has been a director of several salons for Swartland Photographic Society. Steffne is our E&D Convenor and presented introductory classes for CTPS' Beginners. She received accreditation after completing a two-year Western Cape JAP course.

Entries into the monthly PSSA Competition:

The Senior entry for February was 'Hannah in black' by JLesley Parolis, and the Junior entry was 'Elephants Savuti waterhole at dusk' by Tony Edmunds.



PSSA Senior entry and winner Print – Set (Master) Hannah in black by Lesley Parolis (26). The exposure is very good and can be seen in the true colours of the skin tone. The positioning of the ballerina and the posture works very well. The crossed hands, diagonal positioning of the ballerina and the almost triangular shape of the dress on the back of the ballerina are very attractive. The exposure of the black was handled very well, and although the entire background is black, there is just enough detail in the dress of the ballerina to anchor the image.

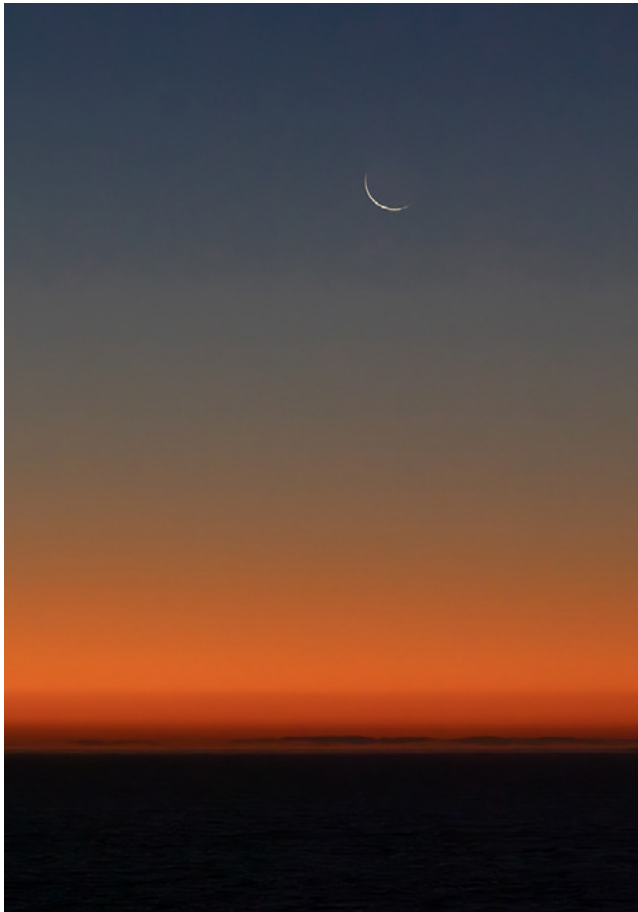


PSSA Junior entry and Winner Open (Intermediate): *Elephants Savuti waterhole at dusk* by Tony Edmunds (24). The soft and beautiful evening light in this image immediately captures the viewer. It tells the touching story of close family ties of elephants, which is helped by all of them facing in the same direction. The soft light extends to the trees and lovely sky.

*Below are the winners in the **Set Subject** category with the judges' comments.*



Winner PDI - Set (Salon): *Sunset fishermen on Lake Lochinvar* by Dieter Butow (25). Another very good composition that fits well into the set subject theme. Although the horizon is almost in the middle of the image and the sun is very close to the edge of the image, in this particular instance, it works well; and so does the tiny boat which takes up only a very small portion in the image but still adds interest, impact and balance.



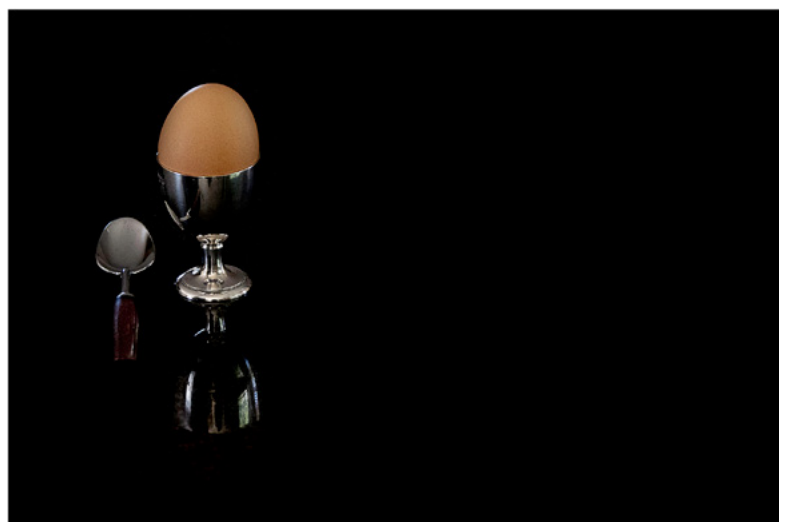
Winner PDI - Set (Advanced): *New moon* by Simon Frank Mouton (22). The image in all aspects conveys the message of minimalism, especially the thin outline of the moon. The exposure was well-handled with just enough detail on the beach. The horizon is positioned very low on the image, but works very well for the purpose of the set subject.



Winner PDI - Set (Intermediate): *Agave Stalks* by Mike Stricker (21). The three plants with their different stalk heights are perfectly positioned within the image, all grounded by the sliver valley in the lower background. Slightly less sky above, or taken at a lower angle, would have increased its appeal and given more substance to the image. So would have been a slight increase in the blacks and whites.



Winner PDI - Set (Beginner): *Whats your poison* by Rainer Clauss (23). This image has been extremely well captured considering that it is not easy to achieve this result with glass and finding the correct light source. The slight halo around the glass adds to its appeal. A perfect minimalist image.



Winner Print – Set (Advanced) *Breakfast* by Robert Maginley (25). The composition of the subject on the very left with lots of negative space on the right works very well and supports the theme of Minimalism. The reflection at the bottom is just enough to give dimension to the image.



Winner Print - Set (Intermediate) *Heaven Above* by Mike Stricker (21). This is certainly a minimalist image where the cloudy sky takes up a very large part of the image. There are enough details in the sky to keep the interest and lead the eye to the little church in the corner. However, the image lacks contrast and light variations which make it rather bland.

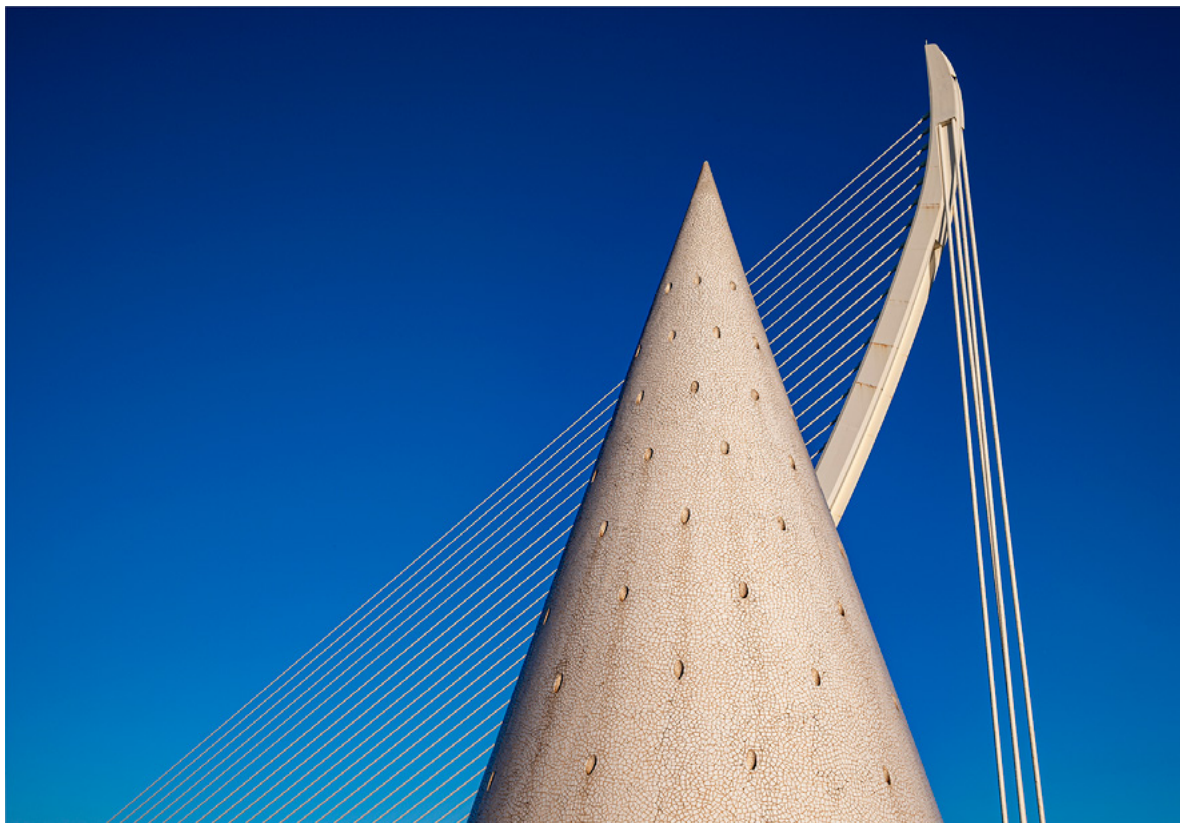
*Below are the winners in the **Open Subject** category with the judges' comments.*



Winner PDI – Open (Master): *ICM Impressionism* by Trudi du Toit (26). The ICM effect creates a soft mood to the image. The sunlight shining on the slopes of the mountain in the background adds depth and dimension to the image by separating the foreground from the background. Although the ICM effect causes movement, it is just enough to still identify the elements that were photographed.



Winner PDI – Open (Advanced) *Venice Dawn* by Ruth Scholtz (25). The exposure is well handled with strong detail in the clouds. The lead-in lines of the hand rails (from both corners to the lamp post in the centre) work well, and so does the slow shutter speed which created a tranquil mood on the water and caused a blurry effect on the gondolas. A higher shutter speed would have made the gondolas sharp and stand out more which would have been distracting.



Winner PDI – Open (Advanced) *Architectural Harmony* by Joyce Goldschmidt (25). Placing the different lines, shapes and textures into a single coloured blue background is very clever and most attractive. The single curved element in a composition of mostly diagonal lines brings balance to the image and makes it stand out.



Winner PDI – Open (Intermediate) *Ellie grass and sky* by Tony Edmunds (24). A great shot with the elephant looking straight at you. It shows a fair amount of sky and background to give the main subject the necessary space around it. I suggest cleaning up some of the white spots on the skin, which are distracting.



Winner PDI – Open (Beginner)

The Marievale Cutie by Tom Gosh (21). The bird is well placed on the left to give enough space for it to look or fly into. The direction of the light was, however, not ideal as there are no details in the blacks. This could be rectified to a certain extent in post-production.

Winner PDI – Open (Beginner)

The delicate dandelion by Rainer Clauss (21). The whites are well handled but the green foliage colour in the background is too strong and so is the prominence of the arched grass blade. Moving the position or changing the angle of the camera could have shifted the entire focus on the dandelion and improved the image.





Winner Print – Open (Master) *Rhino in the dust* by Jacoba van Zyl (25). The haziness created by the dust separates the rhino from the background and shows just enough of the environment. A more shallow depth of field would not have created the same mood. The space on the right hand side is large enough for the animal to move into it. The single tree in the middle ground brings balance to the image, and the slightly raised left leg of the rhino indicates movement.



Winner Print – Open (Advanced) *Road to Red Stone Hills* by Lea-Anne Alexander (24). The country road together with a wide angle effect leads the eye into the image and towards the hills. The various textures of the vegetation, the line of trees just before the hills and the rocky mountain range in the distance give depth to the image and the details in the dramatic sky add balance to it.



Winner Print – Open (Intermediate) *Silverleaf* by Liesl Walden (23). The light on this image and the same colour background work very well as it brings out the shadow details and complements the subject and its title.

Other high-scoring images from our
February competition
(Scores of 23 & above)



Nocturnal Visitor by David Barnes (25)



Fashion in the Street by John Alexander (24)



Sinner by David Barnes (24)



The only remains by Theo Potgieter (24)



Dress Shopping by Kim Stevens (24)



Lamppost by Kim Stevens (24)



A giant's playground by Anna Engelhardt (24)



Nude Study by John Alexander (24)



I believe I can fly by Simon Frank Mouton (24)



Minimalistic Bird Approach by Evelyn Gibson (24)



Fish River Canyon Startrails by Paramasivam Saravanakumar (24)

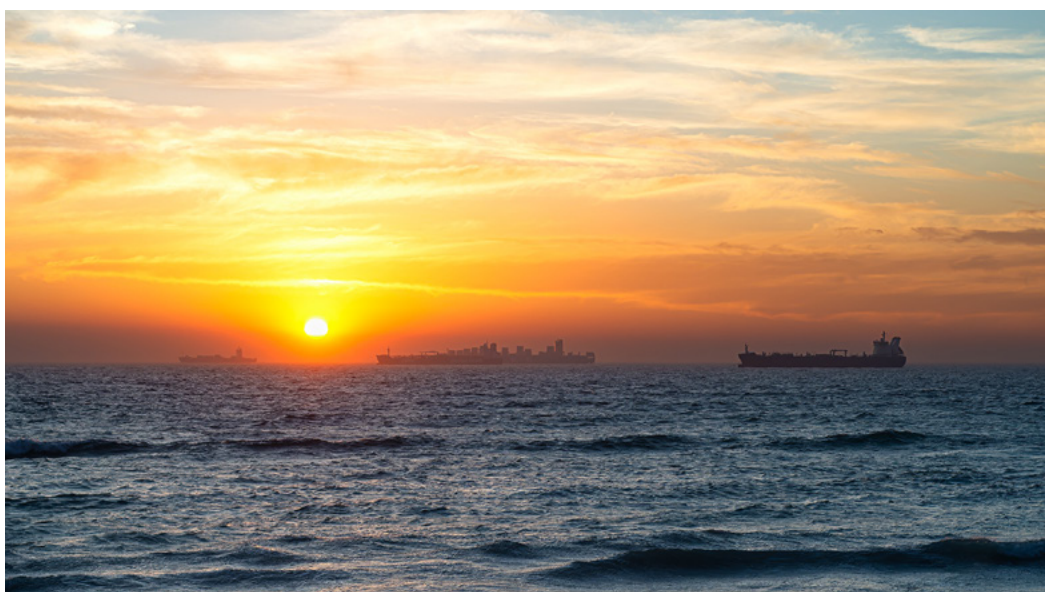


Table Bay Sunset by Haralambos Parolis (23)



Follow me through the sand by Pat Scott (24)



The rolled book by Mariana Visser (23)



Spog n bietjie by Francois Roux (23)



Old Karoo Kitchen by Lea-Anne Alexander (23)



Groot klip by Ameib by Neels Beyers (23)



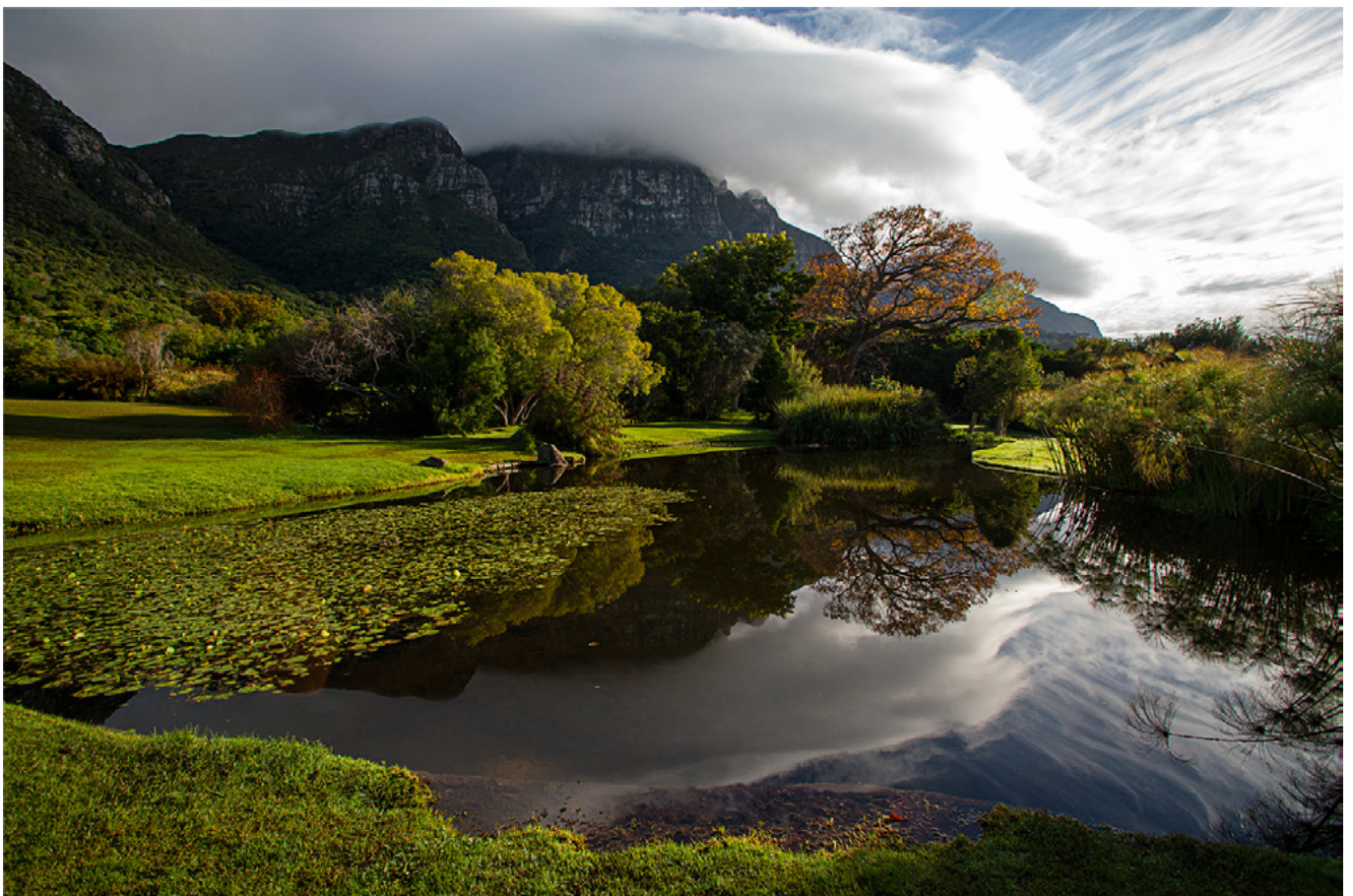
3 Generations quality Chimp time by Dieter Butow (23)



Cheeta with cubs by Nicol du Toit (23)



Autumn stroll in the Greenbelt by Richard Goldschmidt (23)



Kirstenbosch Scape by Jeanette du Toit (23)