

# CAPE CAMERA

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April 2024

Official Newsletter

**CAPE TOWN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**

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Meet Ansie our globetrotter • Fun at congresses • AI pitfalls

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**On The Cover**

**Studio Magic** by John Alexander was one of the high scoring images in our April competition with 24 points. John explains that this image was captured during a studio shoot that he arranged.

"The subject was very photogenic and hence it was not a difficult shoot to capture this beautiful model. I used three light systems and light modifiers to create a softer image than what is my usual style.

"The key light was a Godox 90 Octabox with a grid. This light was placed very close to the model, but feathered a lot to ensure soft lighting from a large surface. The fill lights were two Godox AD100s, which were placed opposite the key light to soften shadows.

"The pose I wanted was a slight inclination of her head, but still direct contact with her eyes. The background was plain white, but by feathering and directing the lights, I managed to automatically darken the backdrop.

During post-processing, I used On1 to just soften the skin and remove any obvious distractions. The camera was a Fujifilm XT2 with a 80mm Macro lens.

**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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The Cape Photographers' congress offered many unique experiences — from live judging of a print circuit to conceptual installations and workshops.

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**High scoring images entered in April**

Images that scored 24 and above.

# News from the Council



This past month just once again demonstrated how important zoom has become for conducting CTPS meetings. We were privileged to have our E&D meeting conducted by Valérie Jardin, who is based in the US (read more on p12). In February the on-line platform made it possible to enjoy the image evaluation evening with Tony Bramley from the UK.

As you can read in our welcome message to new members overleaf, two of the three members who joined during April can only attend meetings via zoom as they live in Ireland and the Free State respectively ... although Charlene Naude and her husband could be travelling anywhere in the country on their BMW motorbike, even though their home base is Bethlehem.

These members are by no means unique. Fifteen of our current members live outside South Africa - four of them are “swallows” who commute between South Africa/ Cape Town and the UK. We have three members who live in Mauritius and two in Namibia, one from Australia, one from Germany and two from Ireland. Our newest Irish member, Denis Ryan, is chairperson of the Limerick Camera Club where Ivan O’Riordan is a member. He was so intrigued when Ivan showed him the member profile we published about him in Cape Camera last month that he decided to join himself.

As a matter of fact, 18% of our members live outside the greater Cape Town municipal area and a further 5% are

from Gordons Bay, Somerset West, Stellenbosch and Strand. We have five members from Gauteng, two each from Hermanus, Montagu and Langebaan, one from the Free State, one from the Northern Cape and one from Queenstown in the Eastern Cape.

We can therefore consider ourselves a truly cosmopolitan society, which is enriched by all the different cultures represented by our diverse members.

And it is wonderful when our international members visit us, for example, Kishore who recently visited from Mauritius, Kumar from the Northern Cape who often joins outings, and our swallows Keith and Alison Bull and Joan Ryder and Clive Rathband who attend meetings when they are in Cape Town.

But, as the maths will tell you, our core strength lies in the bulk of our Cape Town members who loyally attend competition meetings, E&D talks and accompany us on outings.

As beneficial as zoom may be (also for elderly members who do not wish to travel at night) nothing can compare to the camaraderie of chatting and sharing a cup of coffee (or tea) with fellow club members. That is what binds us together as a club family.

**Nicol du Toit**  
**President**

Please contact CTPS on [info@ctps.co.za](mailto:info@ctps.co.za) and visit the website [www.ctps.co.za](http://www.ctps.co.za).



## Contact CTPS Council

|                             |                                   |              |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>President</b>            | <a href="#">Nicol du Toit</a>     | 082 377 8285 |
| <b>Vice-President</b>       | <a href="#">Lesley Parolis</a>    | 082 780 6925 |
| <b>Secretary</b>            | <a href="#">Sally-Ann Spooner</a> | 079 274 2073 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>            | <a href="#">Andre Mouton</a>      | 071 892 1981 |
| <b>Competitions</b>         | <a href="#">Lesley Parolis</a>    | 082 780 6925 |
| <b>E &amp; D</b>            | <a href="#">Steff Hughes</a>      | 082 356 3979 |
| <b>Members &amp; events</b> | <a href="#">Anna Engelhardt</a>   | 082 413 2112 |

|                         |                                  |              |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Outings</b>          | <a href="#">Andre Mouton</a>     | 071 892 1981 |
| <b>Archives/Storage</b> | <a href="#">Rudi Pothas</a>      | 082 516 9215 |
| <b>Cape Camera</b>      | <a href="#">Trudi du Toit</a>    | 082 572 6127 |
| <b>Website/Snapshot</b> | <a href="#">Andre Mouton</a>     | 071 892 1981 |
| <b>Venue</b>            | <a href="#">Mike de Villiers</a> | 074 113 1415 |
| <b>Public Relations</b> | <a href="#">Trudi du Toit</a>    | 082 572 6127 |

### Off-Council workers

|                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Weekend outings</b>      | Richard Goldschmidt        |
| <b>Member promotions</b>    | Jacoba van Zyl             |
| <b>Members &amp; Events</b> | Joyce Goldschmidt (assist) |
| <b>Body of Work</b>         | Kim Stevens                |
| <b>Facebook</b>             | Kim Stevens & Steff Hughes |
| <b>Investments</b>          | Richard Goldschmidt        |
| <b>AV Group</b>             | Ken Woods                  |
| <b>Salon Group</b>          | Nicol du Toit              |

### Editorial team

|                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Cape Camera Editor</b>  | Trudi du Toit               |
| <b>Proofreader</b>         | Lesley Parolis              |
| <b>Competitions</b>        | Lesley Parolis              |
| <b>Judges comments</b>     | Anna Engelhardt             |
| <b>Member profiles</b>     | <a href="#">Dave Gordon</a> |
| <b>Snapshot</b>            | Andre Mouton                |
| <b>PS Tips</b>             | Kim Stevens                 |
| <b>Travelogues</b>         | <a href="#">Brian Jones</a> |
| <b>Events Photographer</b> | Joyce Goldschmidt           |

# In the News



'Clash of the Titans' by Theo Potgieter of Tafelberg won the April website competition with a score of 41. He is also a CTPS member.

## CTPS members winners in PSSA April website competition

CTPS members performed exceptionally well in the PSSA April website competition, with our Evelyn Gibson's image *In the Gatsby Den* receiving the 4th highest score of all entries. The score of 38 out of 45 was the second highest in the Western Cape.

Theo Potgieter of Tafelberg Fotografiekлуб, who is also a CTPS member, was the website winner with a score of 41 for the image *Clash of the Titans*.

"I liked the image, but it was no good for wildlife and had a very busy background," explains Theo of this image he captured in the Addo Elephant Park. "Thus I added a broody background and did some creative post-processing to turn it into a dramatic scene. A big thank you to my friend and mentor, Martin Barber, who assisted me in polishing the image."

It was a good month for Theo, as his composite image *Waiting for the rain* entered by Tafelberg Fotografiekлуб as their winning entry, was the winner of the Senior Club Competition for April. It also receive a score of 41 and he also thanked his mentor Martin Barber.

Two other CTPS members who enter competitions un-

der their main clubs, also featured amongst the top performers in the website competition.

*Going to Neverland* by David Barnes of Tygerberg Photographic Society and *Balancing act* by Michele-Ann Nel of Creative Camera Club both scored 37 points, the fourth highest in the Western Cape.

The judges for the April competitions were Cynthia Uren from Southern Suburbs Camera Club, Dave Mullin from Amber Camera Club and Cobus Eksteen from Krugersdorp Camera Club.

See more on the [PSSA website](#).



**Top left:** 'In the Gatsby Den' by CTPS member Evelyn Gibson.

**Above right:** 'Ballerina Freeze' by Trudi du Toit, the CTPS senior club entry for April, scored 34 points.

**Left:** Ansie du Toit's image 'We are the Wind' was the CTPS junior club entry and received a score of 31.

**Right:** Mariana Visser was awarded a FIAP HM ribbon for the image 'Lippizaner' in the Photo Offset 2024 International circuit hosted in Georgia, Cyprus, and Turkmenistan.



# In the News

## A most hearty welcome to our new members

"I have been a dance teacher for 29 years and started sports photography about 9 years ago and immediately fell in love with it. Now it is one of my biggest passions," says our adventurous new member, **Charlene Naude** (right).



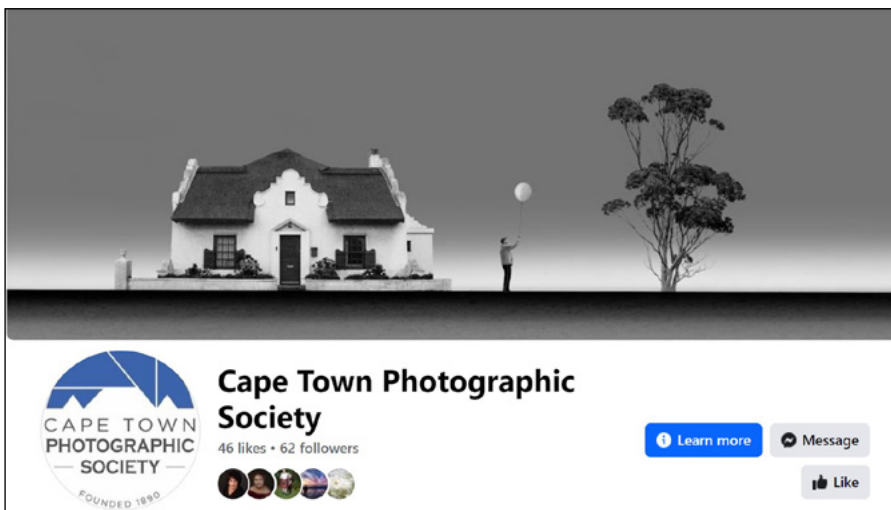
Now that their two children are adults, she and her husband love to travel through SA on their GS 1200 motorbike, seeking photo opportunities. She is also a member of SAVAS club in the Free State and was referred to CTPS by PSSA PRO Evelyn Gibson when she enquired about a club offering zoom meetings.

**Denis Ryan** was motivated to join CTPS after his fellow Limerick Camera Club member Ivan O'Riordan showed him the March issue of *Cape Camera* that featured his member profile. Denis is not only the current chairman of their club, he is also a top photographer and the Limerick club's *Photographer of the Year* in 2022. "I have been to SA a number of times and have mostly spent my time in Hermanus. It is a truly beautiful country," he says.

CTPS is the first club that **Isabella Horn** has joined and we do hope that she'll thoroughly enjoy the club experience.



"I have always had a love for photography and acquired my first camera in 2013," says our enthusiastic new member, **Deon Collison** (left). "My passion lies in capturing the motion, excitement and emotion of athletes in all forms of sport." See his website [here](#). "I also have an interest in event, portrait, landscape and street photography. I am excited to absorb insights and learn from fellow photographers at CTPS. Looking forward to my journey with CTPS!"



## Your friends are welcome to visit our Facebook page

If your friends and family would like to see more of the excellent work produced by CTPS members, they are welcome to visit our Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/CTPSociety>. This page is our *shopfront* to the public, who may comment if they wish, although only the administrators may publish posts. Our Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CapeTownPhotographicSociety>) is a private group where all CTPS members are encouraged to post and interact with CTPS members in the group.

## Did you know?

The [calendar](#) on the CTPS website provides a very handy one-stop reminder of all the important dates for outings, competitions, meetings — including meetings of interest groups like BoW and the salon group.

The CTPS [website](#) is a wonderful source of information about everything related to CTPS — from our colourful past to exciting future events and activities. Make sure you consult it to stay up to date with competition [set subjects](#), results, outings, etc. You can also read past issues of [Cape Camera](#) on the website that won the PSSA annual competition three years in a row.

*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*. We are 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 redesigned by Anna Engelhardt and Joyce Goldschmidt and reintroduced for members to wear to meetings. Please wear them 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.

We need **Travelogues and Member Profiles** 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.

# Salon News

CTPS members have been performing very well in recent salons, earning 12 COMs ... with the Goldschmidts contributing a magnificent 6 COMs. Four of them were awarded to Joyce!



'Sunset fishermen on Lake Lochinvar' and 'Red ripe aroma' earned Dieter Butow COMs in the Boksburg salon.

CTPS earned 40 Impala points with member acceptances and COMs (two points each) in the Boksburg salon.

## Boksburg salon

**Neels Beyers** earned 4 acceptances: two in colour, one in monochrome and one in photo travel and street.

**Dieter Butow** was awarded **COMs** for *Sunset fishermen on Lake Lochinvar* and for *Red ripe aroma*, both in the



Lesley Parolis earned a COM with 'The Milky way in the Cederberg 2'.

## CTPS members on the PDI Impala Trophy log

| Name                | PDI points | Impala Pos | WC Pos | CTPS Pos |
|---------------------|------------|------------|--------|----------|
| Nicol du Toit       | 58         | 64         | 7      | 1        |
| Lesley Parolis      | 52         | 69         | 9      | 2        |
| Neels Beyers        | 49         | 72         | 10     | 3        |
| Jacoba van Zyl      | 44         | 76         | 14     | 4        |
| Trudi du Toit       | 32         | 88         | 18     | 5        |
| Anna Engelhardt     | 25         | 95         | 21     | 6        |
| Joyce Goldschmidt   | 24         | 96         | 24     | 7        |
| Richard Goldschmidt | 22         | 98         | 26     | 8        |
| Simon Mouton        | 17         | 103        | 29     | 9        |
| Karyn Parisi        | 14         | 106        | 31     | 10       |
| Lambe Parolis       | 8          | 112        | 39     | 11       |
| Dieter Butow        | 6          | 114        | 44     | 12       |
| Marianna Meyer      | 5          | 115        | 50     | 13       |
| Brian Jones         | 3          | 117        | 60     | 14       |
| Jeanette du Toit    | 2          | 118        | 65     | 15       |
| Jonathan Burchell   | 2          | 118        | 65     | 15       |

## CTPS members with other clubs on Impala log

| Name            | Club      | PDI points | Impala Pos | WC Pos |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|------------|--------|
| Francois Roux   | Vdb Park  | 123        | 24         | xx     |
| Theo Potgieter  | Tafelberg | 87         | 40         | 4      |
| Mariana Visser  | Tafelberg | 69         | 54         | 5      |
| Johan van Wyk   | Tygerberg | 10         | 110        | 36     |
| David Barnes    | Tygerberg | 5          | 115        | 50     |
| Michele-Ann Nel | CCC       | 2          | 118        | 65     |

photo travel and street category. He received a further acceptance in photo travel and street and an acceptance in macro.

**Rainer Clauss** received two acceptances in macro.

**Mike de Villiers** earned an acceptance in monochrome.

**Heiko Denker** received an acceptance in colour.

**Nicol du Toit** gained two acceptances in colour.

**Anna Engelhardt** was awarded an acceptance in monochrome.

**Joyce Goldschmidt** received **COMs** for *Sagrada Ceiling* and *Architectural Harmony*, both in colour. She received three additional acceptances in monochrome and two in photo travel and street.

**Richard Goldschmidt** received five acceptances: two in colour, one in monochrome and two in photo travel and street.

**Simon Mouton** received an acceptance in monochrome and one in photo travel and street.

**Lesley Parolis** received a **COM** for *The Milky way in the Cederberg 2* in colour. She also gained four more acceptances in nature, human portraits and two in monochrome.

**Jacoba van Zyl** received three acceptances — one each in colour, macro and human portraits. **To p7**



Above: 'Sagrada Ceiling' earned a COM for Joyce Goldschmidt and Richard Goldschmidt earned a COM with 'Valencia Museum and Planetarium' (below).



Above: 'Architectural Harmony' earned two COMs for Joyce Goldschmidt.

Below: Jacoba van Zyl earned a COM with 'Erongo Mountains'.



## More salon news (from p6)

### Brandpunt salon

CTPS members earned 29 Impala Points with acceptances and awards in this salon.

**Neels Beyers** received two acceptances — one each in monochrome and PJ and sport.

**Nicol du Toit** earned five acceptances — three in scapes and one in PJ and sport.

**Trudi du Toit** received two acceptances in colour and one in monochrome.

**Anna Engelhardt** earned three acceptances. Two in open colour, one in scapes.

**Joyce Goldschmidt** received a **COM** for *Planetarium after dark* in open colour, plus two acceptances in scapes.

**Richard Goldschmidt** was awarded a **COM** for *Valencia Museum and Planetarium* in scapes and an acceptance in open colour.

**Lambe Parolis** received two acceptances in open colour and one in scapes.

**Lesley Parolis** earned five acceptances — two in open colour, one each in monochrome, scapes and portraits.

**Jacoba van Zyl's** *Erongo Mountains* earned a **COM** in Scapes and she also received an acceptance in scapes.

### Swartland International Salon

Images entered in this salon earned CTPS members 58 points because each acceptance

and COM counts double in an international salon..

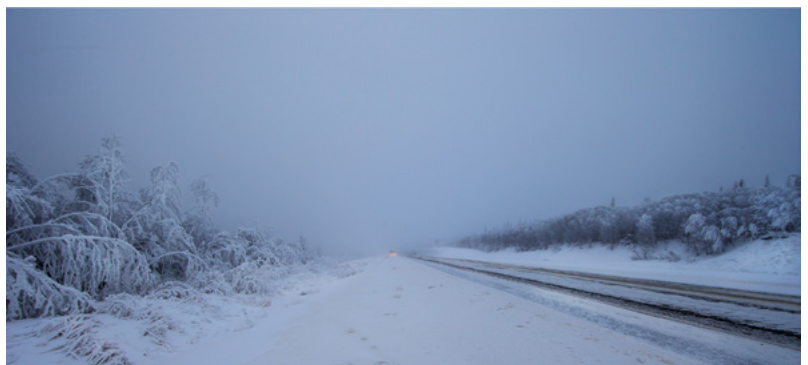
**Anna Engelhardt** earned five acceptances: one in scapes and two each in nature and open colour.

**Joyce Goldschmidt** earned a second **COM** for *Architectural Harmony* in colour. Three more of her images were accepted, two in open colour and one in scapes.

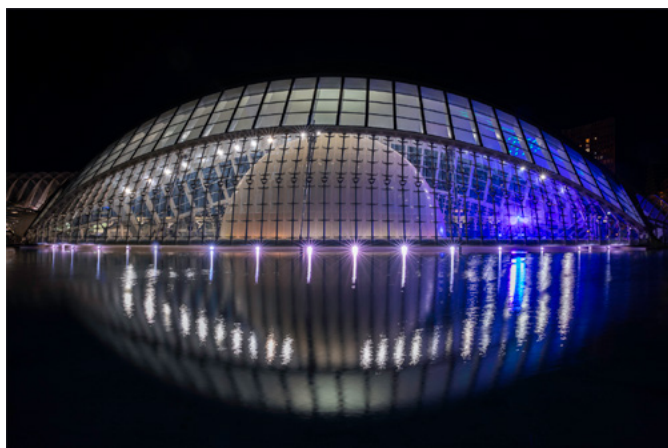
**Karyn Parisi** received a **COM** for *Alaskan Travels* in scapes, plus an impressive seven more acceptances: three in the people category, two scapes, one each in photo travel and monochrome.

**Richard Goldschmidt's** image *Architecture by Calatrava* earned a **COM** in scapes. He earned an additional acceptance in scapes, plus two in open colour and two in monochrome.

**Simon Mouton** received a **COM** for *Spitzkoppe at sunset* in scapes (below) and an acceptance in monochrome.



'Alaskan Travels' by Karyn Parisi.



'Planetarium after dark' earned a COM for Joyce Goldschmidt.  
Above right: "Architecture by Calatrava" by Richard Goldschmidt.



'Spitzkoppe at Sunset' earned a COM for Simon Mouton.

| Name             | Club                  | Print points | Impala POS | WC Pos |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------|--------|
| Kim Stevens      | CTPS                  | 26           | 1          | 1      |
| Gonnie Myburgh   | National Photographic | 25           | 2          | xx     |
| Anna Engelhardt  | CTPS                  | 12           | 3          | 2      |
| Lambe Parolis    | CTPS                  | 9            | 4          | 3      |
| Lesley Parolis   | CTPS                  | 9            | 4          | 3      |
| Mariana Visser   | Tafelberg             | 9            | 4          | 3      |
| Phillip de Lange | Tafelberg             | 9            | 4          | 3      |
| Nicol du Toit    | CTPS                  | 6            | 5          | 7      |

## Kim leads in prints

Western Cape clubs are driving print salon acceptances — with CTPS members leading the pack. Currently, 16 of the 19 participants on the Impala Print table are members of Western Cape clubs, and half of the Top 10 are from CTPS.

Our Kim Stevens is still the log leader ... with 1 point! (See table above). Other CTPS members doing well are Anna Engelhardt at #3 with 12 points, Lesley and Lambe Parolis both at #4 with 9 points and Nicol du Toit at #5 with 6 points.

The number of acceptances and the points may differ: the points allocated will be lower where one image received more than three acceptances, in which case no points are awarded for the 4th, 5th etc. acceptance. Acceptance points will be more than the number when images received medals (4 or 3 points) or COMS (2 points). There is one further salon with prints this year, namely, the Tafelberg salon that closes on 15 June. See more on the PSSA website [here](#).

The 62 points that CTPS earned with print acceptances, gave our club points a welcome boost in the annual Premier Award competition between clubs. We do, however, trail Tafelberg Fotografieklub by about 200 points. We also earned 3 points with AV acceptances.

| WC Club    | PDI points | Print/AV points | Total | WC Pos | Impala Pos |
|------------|------------|-----------------|-------|--------|------------|
| Tafelberg  | 563        | 28              | 591   | 1      | 8          |
| CTPS       | 334        | 65              | 399   | 2      | 19         |
| Tygerberg  | 181        |                 | 181   | 3      | 33         |
| Swartland  | 170        | 5               | 175   | 4      | 35         |
| Hermanus   | 90         |                 | 90    | 5      | 43         |
| Paarl      | 58         |                 | 58    | 6      | 50         |
| Ignite     | 38         |                 | 38    | 7      | 59         |
| Fish Hoek  | 29         |                 | 29    | 8      | 61         |
| Kleinmond  | 26         | 2               | 28    | 9      | 65         |
| Witzenberg | 22         | 2               | 24    | 10     | 66         |
| Gansbaai   | 20         |                 | 20    | 11     | 71         |
| CCC        | 15         |                 | 15    | 12     | 73         |

### Join the salon group!

The salon group was resurrected to assist all members who enter salons with CTPS as their primary club — and there is no further qualification needed to join, whether you are a salon veteran or newbie. The group meets every fourth Wednesday via zoom. All members are invited to submit images to receive feedback and suggestions for improvement from the group. Contact Nicol du Toit on [nicol@sportstrader.co.za](mailto:nicol@sportstrader.co.za) to join or submit images to discuss.



# AV News



## Superb achievements by CTPS AV makers

CTPS AV makers received two medals, a COM and two acceptances in the Port Elizabeth Camera Club (PECC) International AV salon. These are wonderful achievements in the light of the stiff international competition.

A total of 133 entries were received – 109 of them in Open and 24 in Photo Harmony – with 26% of the entries from the UK, 20% from Australia and 19% from South Africa. Other entrants came from the Netherlands, France, Italy, Ireland, Belgium, Slovakia and one from Canada.

CTPS AV convenor Ken Woods was among the winners: he received a FIAP Gold Medal in the Photo Harmony category for the AV *Harmony in Pink*. He describes it as

depicting the “harmony of light and shades of colour in a macro view of the flower.”

His AV *Field of Yellow* described as “harmony of light and colour in the canola fields of the Overberg” earned an acceptance in this category.

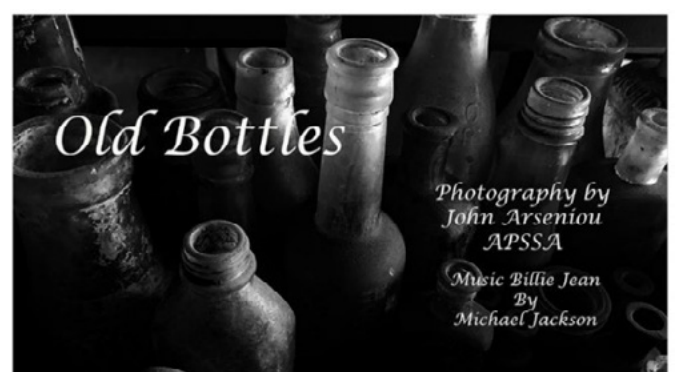
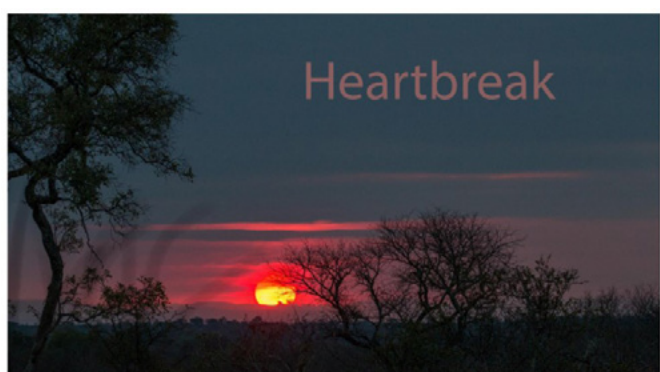
AV boffins and CTPS members Joan and Clive Rathband were again rewarded for their great work: they were awarded the PSSA Bronze medal for their hauntingly beautiful rendition of images accompanying the African hymn *Ukuthula*.

They also received a COM in the Open category for *Heartbreak*, inspired by a visit to the Kruger National Park during the drought. They say “The global influence of El Nino caused a severe and prolonged drought in the South African Lowveld region. It brought about extreme suffering and death to the wildlife in the Kruger National Park.”

“Old Bottles” earned CTPS member John Arseniou an acceptance in Photo Harmony. “I saw these old bottles in a museum and could not resist the temptation to photograph them,” he says.

The salon’s results will be shown via zoom on Saturday 11 May 2024 at 11:00.

If you are interested in AV-making or want to join Ken Woods' AV group, contact him on [av@ctps.co.za](mailto:av@ctps.co.za). Also see more on the CTPS website [here](#).



*ANSIE ZONDAGH DU TOIT describes herself with the following words: 'mother, wife (widow now), ouma, photographer and traveller, former air hostess, teacher, trainer, and writer of training manuals for big companies in subjects I knew nothing about'. She is an intrepid traveller who has slept in 56 countries and enjoyed unique experiences in many exotic destinations. DAVE GORDON asked her to share some of her adventures with Cape Camera.*

*Photos provided by Ansie du Toit.*

*Right: Ansie du Toit with 'two gorgeous Pakistani girls' at a wedding in Pakistan she attended with 1 400 guests.*



## Ansie du Toit An intrepid globetrotter

Travelling, (as much as I can afford) and doing so on the cheap, is something I love. However, as old age advances, I must nowadays ask for a clean bed and my own bathroom. At the last count, I have slept in 56 countries. Of these Japan (where I visited 3 times) and India (visited 6 times) are my favourites.

In December I went with my son and his two children, aged 6 and 10, to Sri Lanka, India and... Pakistan! The latter was for a wedding of a client of his, attended by 1400 guests over two days. This must count as one of my most interesting travelling experiences ever.

Because it is so different from anywhere else, Japan is

also a favourite. The people are very friendly and helpful, even if they do not understand English. I travelled alone and one day got on the wrong train. I still don't know where I went, because reading Japanese is difficult.

But then, I once stood on a pavement in Tokyo, swearing aloud in Afrikaans at Google maps, when a voice said next to me, "Kan ek jou dalk help?"

India is a point and shoot country. The women are so photogenic, with their colourful and gorgeous clothing, especially in Rajasthan. And I am constantly amazed at the traffic. But, everything is changing fast, with big highways being built, and fewer cam-

**Continued p11**



*The colourful dresses of the Indian women are beautiful.  
Left: Ansie being draped in a sari.*

## Ansie du Toit's photographic journey

Joining CTPS earlier this year because I want to learn more, seems like the best move ever. I was astounded at the avalanche of information I received, and truly surprised by the friendliness of the members.

Having been a member of other clubs over the years, I have never experienced this level of engagement!

My first analogue camera was acquired in the late 1990's. I started a dark room and loved the developing process. However, my husband, being in computers, bought me a digital 4 MP Nikon.

I was Nicole Palmers' first workshop student with a computer and digital camera, a big jump for both of us.

I am a workshop junkie, and I've done quite a few courses overseas too, I love the boost in creativity I get from it. The year I spent at Ruth Prowse School of Art was great.

I would love to attend a school in Santa Fé, USA, as the whole town revolves around art and photography.

Last year I exchanged my Canon 5D Mark 4 for a Canon mirrorless, R6, which just suits me better.

My photography used to include a lot of macro, but ICM and multiple exposure images have taken over as my preferred genre. I seldom shoot a straight photo. Looking at photos on Instagram is a favourite pastime of mine.

I like to create soft, dreamy photos that create an impression of an idea or feeling, often with movement. I hear the voices saying a good photograph should be pin sharp, etc. But abstract is a lot of fun. As Forest Gump said, you never know what you gonna get!

See more of Ansie's work on Instagram at @ansiezond-aghduitoit.



*A multiple exposure of a buildings in Paris.*

els and donkeys, etc. on the roads.

I always ask for the same driver and have been to his house for a meal a few times. If any of you want to go to India, talk to me, because I also make use a wonderful man with a travel agency there. He manages to find all my lost property and missing friends.

I spent a lot of time in Vietnam, preferring Vietnam to Thailand. One of my sons took me on a 6-hour drive in Vietnam on his small scooter. But that is a story on its own. Luang Prabang in Laos with all the Buddhist monasteries and the feeding of the monks every morning at 6

o'clock is a photographer's dream. They are cutting out the trees growing over the ruins of Angkor Wat, so go quickly!

I visited Iceland with a South African company. We were a small group from all over the world, and the tour was fantastic. I would like to go to Morocco and Madagascar with them.

Dress warmly in Iceland. I bought an orange puffer jacket in Reykjavik, and looked like a stuffed *Oros man* while there. Because the sunset and sunrise are always in the middle of the night, you stay outside **Continued p12**



*Left: 'The thinker' was sent to an exhibition in Johannesburg by Hermanus Photographic Society.*

*Above: A quirky sign Ansie captured.*

*E & D report back — 17 April 2024*

# Street photography by Valérie Jardin

*report by Steffne Hughes*

Luang Prabang in Laos with all the Buddhist monasteries and the feeding of the monks every morning at 6 o'clock is a photographer's dream.



*The Oros Man in Reykjavik.*

## Ansie du Toit from p12)

for long hours, and it is COLD!

This reminds me of a January in Harbin (China) to see the ice statues and castles. I lasted just a few minutes in our hotel's ice bar — it was literally freezing outside.

Those Russians who walk around in floor length fur coats are very sensible. Armenia and Georgia were also very interesting.

Where next for me? So many places, so little time. The bucket list never seems to get shorter.

If I can get rid of Putin, a dream trip will be the Trans-Siberian express. If you ride on the train to the border at Vladivostok, and cross over on the train, the rail width changes. The train is lifted up and the wheels exchanged to fit on the correct gauge. How great is that? One can then ride down through Mongolia, another place on my bucket list.

I'm sure that many of us who watched Valérie's talk will have been left inspired and just raring to run out into the streets, shooting from the hip!

A Fujifilm Ambassador, Valérie has a lively personality and lots of photographic experience. She shoots with a fixed 23mm lens Fujifilm camera and has finessed the art of shooting from the hip, knowing just how close she needs to be to get what she's looking for.

Valérie sticks to the pure definition of street photography – "capturing candid images that represent the human condition in all its complexity and beauty". She believes that telling a story with an image is what it is all about. Her images all have a strong narrative. They are evocative, artistic, and capture the definitive moment.

A strong theme in her talk was that the image isn't just taken in the moment. It takes place in the mind of the photographer just before the shutter is pressed. Each image represents a concept seen and captured immediately.

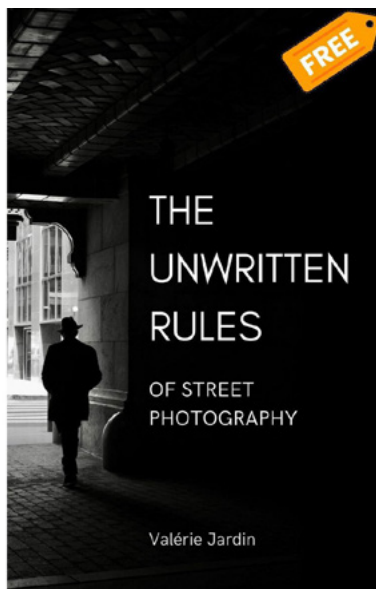
Valerie doesn't believe that street photography should include a posed figure. She would far rather capture a street portrait showing life as it happens. A candid moment that tells a story. If the subject notices her and is happy to have their photograph taken, then it becomes a natural street portrait.

Valérie described some of the different methods of street photography and I particularly liked the reference to hunting and fishing. Hunting takes place when the photographer walks around and takes images as they occur – hunting for a subject. Fishing is when the photographer finds a good location and hangs around waiting for the subject to walk into the scene.

Valérie hosts photography workshops and street tours around the world. See her website for details of all her upcoming courses ([click here](#)).

Valérie made two of her eBooks available to CTPS members free of charge ([click](#) and scroll down to the titles):

- *The Unwritten Rules of Street Photography*
- *10 Tips To Boost Your Creativity*



*Next E&D 15th May*  
**Macro Photography**  
*with Melanie Cornelius*



Fine art commercial photographer Melanie Bentley Cornelius will be familiar to many CTPS members who remember her macro and close up judging sessions at the club, or were on a club outing she joined.

She has been capturing images since the age of 16 after she developed a love for photography while attending the Hugo Naude Art School in Worcester, where she grew up.

In 2015 Melanie left the corporate world, where she worked in human resources and finance for 14 years, to pursue a full-time commercial and fine art photography career.

Melanie has won African Photo's *Photographer of the Year 2011* award, published and exhibited locally and internationally, and is an official photography trainer for Canon South Africa.

She has also worked with many companies and establishments, capturing food, products and social media content, along with many other photography projects.

Melanie also shares her creative knowledge with others through her tutoring programs and interactive online photography group, where she motivates and inspires others to develop and have fun with their craft.

You can see Melanie's work on her website [www.melaniec.co.za](http://www.melaniec.co.za).



## Record number of Honours applicants

Five CTPS members have joined the current Honours group formed a few years ago to assist Western Cape members who want to submit panels. The group is guided by CTPS members Kim Stevens and Evelyn Gibson.

The current group has 18 members from clubs across the Western Cape working on submission of panels for the Honours Judging session that closes on 1 July this year. This is a record high number for the region.

The following judging session closes on 25 January. Please read [here](#) about the rules and regulations if you are considering submitting a panel or contact Nicol du Toit if you want to join the next Honours group.

After the closing date a panel of top judges, each with a minimum of FPSSA, meet for three days to evaluate the submitted panels. Each image is carefully scrutinised by the twelve (sometimes fewer) panel members, who discuss each image when they disagree whether it should be passed, or not. The presentation of the whole panel is also considered.

The standard is very high and usually only about a third of the submitted panels succeed in a judging session. A member of the judging panel is appointed to give feedback to each unsuccessful candidate about why some images were not passed.

The applicant may use the credits received (when at least 75% of the judges passed an image) for two years when resubmitting a panel with new images to replace those that were not passed previously.

Please note, the deadlines are only for submissions of panels, you can apply for the Honours awarded for the number of salon acceptances you achieved (DPSSA etc.) any time you are ready. See more [here](#).

Applicants who succeed in obtaining these honorary titles bestowed by PSSA may apply to [membership@pssa.co.za](mailto:membership@pssa.co.za) for an Honours e-badge. They can use these on personal websites, letterheads, accreditation applications etc. as long as they remain a full member of PSSA.

These titles are not *qualifications*, but indications that PSSA considers the holder worthy of Licentiate, Associate, Fellow, etc. *membership*, hence the limitation of the use of these titles to members.



Group leaders Kim Stevens and Evelyn Gibson (right)



Enjoying refreshments at the Farm Café are (from left) Rudi Pothas, Lesley Parolis, her sister Gail Salter, Lambe Parolis and Mike de Villiers.

Photo by Andre Mouton.

## *April club outing to Spier Wine Estate*

# Diverse photo opportunities

### *Report by Andre Mouton*

On the crisp morning of April 21, a group of eager CTPS members — Mike De Villiers, Rudi Pothas, Lesley and Lambe Parolis, accompanied by Lesley's sister Gail Salter, Robert Maginley, Irma Mackenzie, Sally-Ann Spooner, Melanie and Sean Neetling and myself — gathered to explore the Spier Wine Estate.

Despite the setback of the recent closure of the *Eagle Encounters*, our outing to Spier was full of photographic opportunities and enjoyable moments.

Upon arrival, the group quickly ventured out into the sprawling grounds of the estate to explore the beautifully restored buildings, landscapes, capturing the bird life around the dams, and looking for some street photography opportunities around the picnic area.

We capped off our outing with a leisurely brunch at the



Farm Café for freshly brewed coffee and delights from the Deli before heading home.



Sally-Ann Spooner watching the African Harrier Hawk. Captured by Lesley Parolis.



Top: Sally-Ann Spooner and Irma Mackenzie captured by Andre Mouton while enjoying a leisurely brunch.

Above: Lambe Parolis in action photographed by Andre Mouton.

# Nature photographed by members at Spier



*Malachite Kingfisher by Sally-Ann Spooner.*



*The yellow-billed kite was captured by Lesley Parolis (above left) and by Sally-Ann Spooner (right).*

*Left: 'Autumn is here' Lesley Parolis captioned this beautiful scene.*



*Right: 'Busy bees' photographed on water lilies by Lesley Parolis.*



*Below left: Pied Kingfisher on a perch ... and there it goes! (below right) by Sally-Ann Spooner.*





Kyle Goetch



Charlaine Gerber



Francois Oosthuizen

# Training, fun and photo-ops!

*The PSSA congress in Parys in October this year offers photographers many of the things they wished for in the recent survey PSSA conducted to determine what photographers expect from the association.*

Training through workshops and lectures by experts are high on the wish lists of many club members who responded to the PSSA survey currently in progress – and where better to have this wish granted than at a congress?

As you'll see on the program of the 2024 PSSA National Congress in Parys (Free State) [here](#), this congress offers four days and three nights of training on a variety of topics.

Between 1 to 4 October you can learn how to take high quality cell phone photos, how to shoot models and edit your model images, master astro and landscape photography (with a practical outing and editing

session), produce head turning composites, plus talks and workshops on creating and editing great conceptual photographs. There are also two evening workshops on Lightroom and Photoshop for beginners.

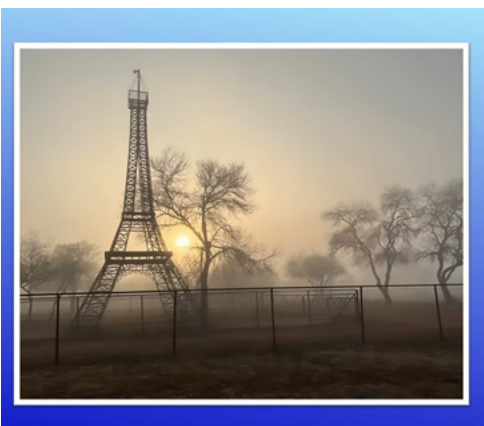
That is apart from all the usual congress opportunities like early morning and late afternoon photo opportunities, catching up with PSSA developments at the AGM and finding out who the annual competition winners were, culminating in the highlight of all congresses: the Honours Banquet, where the year's successful Honours achievers receive their awards and the Impala Trophy winners are announced.

Remember that the World Heritage Vredefort Dome is close and the town boasts with its own version of the Eiffel Tower, offering unique photo opportunities.

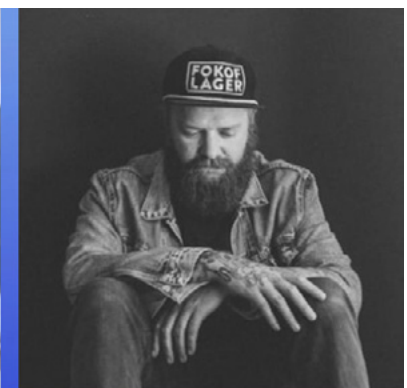
And it does not need repeating that in between all this you'll be making new friends and socialising with old friends, because all the delegates share your passion for photography.

The presenters are well-known experts in their fields:

- Astro guru **Kyle Goetch** from the Western Cape, will be known to many of you for his popular astro and landscape photography talks and workshops.
- **Charlaine Gerber's** **To p17**



Roger Lee



Andre Badenhorst



# PSSA's birthday gift for members

*PSSA is celebrating its 70th birthday this year with a country-wide exhibition of the work by top photographers — you'll receive more news about that soon. In the meantime, members and prospective members can celebrate with at least a 20% discount on membership fees, more if you're early or a pensioner.*

It pays to be early, whether you're a bird, PSSA member or pensioner. If you join PSSA as a new member, or renew your membership, before the 30th of June 2024 you will receive a discount of 10% - 20% if you're a pensioner (65 years or older) – on the new membership fees that have *already* been reduced by 20%!

In other words, a pensioner who renews membership before the *Early Bird* deadline can save R96 and pay R384 instead of R480 ..that is R32 per month!. A couple renewing joint membership can save R112 and pay R448 instead of R560 – that is R224 per member, or R18.50 per month. New members pay an additional once-off entrance fee of R180 (individual) or R300 (joint) to cover admin costs. See all the different membership options [here](#).

Why this unexpected pasella? Well,



the board has been discussing membership fees for quite some time and decided that costs should be shared more equitably, based on the principle of a lower general membership fee, but paying more for the services rendered by the PSSA. These would,

for example, be for individual services like Honours judging, metal badges or receiving a printed e-Image.

From next year, the printed Honours Image will only be sent to the successful Honours applicants. Any member wishing to receive a printed magazine will be charged at the cost of the magazine and courier fees. The honours magazine will be made available on the website in the same way the e-Image is currently published.

To further compensate for the lower overall fees, clubs that receive PSSA patronage to host a salon will have to pay PSSA a small portion of the salon entry fee paid by non-members – this should have always been paid to PSSA but this practice had fallen away. When the new Impala year starts in July this year, entry costs for PSSA members will be R9 per image and for non-PSSA members R14 per image.

Several respondents to the PSSA Survey mentioned that they are proud to belong to a club that is affiliated to PSSA, because they consider it as a badge of approval that the club is well run. Yet, club affiliation fees have not been increased for nearly 10 years.

When considering club fees, the board decided to apply the same principle of paying for usage. For example, clubs with many members who use PhotoVault Online for salon or club competition entries, will pay more than a club with only a few members. The club affiliation fees for next year will be:

- Up to 19 members: R300
- 20 to 49 members: R500
- 50 plus members: R750.

## PSSA congress continued from p16

composites need no introduction to those who follow the salon medal winners. She was, after all, an Impala Top 10 contestant for several years and *Photographer of the Year* at several clubs. She offers training under the Pia Lux name.

- Vereeniging Photographic Society member **Francois Oosthuizen** was awarded APSSA for his specialist portraiture panel, a genre he has been focusing on over the past few years by offering workshops and doing professional model shoots.

- Former Helderberg Photographic chairperson **Roger Lee** APSSA developed a fascination with smartphone

photography (especially when travelling) and after retiring, he has been running photographic courses.

- Fujifilm and Godox SA ambassador **Andre Badenhorst** has won many awards with the fascinating concepts he creates and photographs.

Therefore: have you booked your place at the PSSA 2024 Congress in Parys (Free State) yet?

The Early bird discount closes at the end of July – thereafter you'll pay 15% more. Please have a look at all the different registration options here – from full registration for PSSA and non-PSSA members, non-photographers and day visitors, etc.

# More PSSA News



## Kim's *Curious Cub* chosen for FIAP Biennial

Our Kim Stevens' image *Curious Cub* is among the 30 top wildlife images from 24 photographers selected to be submitted as part of the PSSA entry into the 22nd Nature Biennial to be held in Germany. Participation is open only to photographic associations/federations that are FIAP members and the Biennial will be judged in July 2024.

FIAP stipulates that a "collection (entry) has to be coherent in inspiration and conception as well as for the realisation and presentation. A title for the collection is mandatory. The works must not have been sent to any previous FIAP Biennials."

## Members to verify their numbers

PhotovaultOnline (PVO) owner Johann van der Walt and PSSA webmaster Melanie Loubser have been working hard behind the scenes to integrate the various databases to ensure that the same member information is displayed.

The latest change is a new feature in PVO. From May 19th it will automatically check if you are an active PSSA member in the [Member Zone](#). That will ensure that you automatically receive the member discount when entering all salons.

To enter salons in future, PSSA members will need to authenticate their member numbers **once** in PVO after 19 May 2024. Once authenticated, *you won't have to do it again*, unless your membership lapses.

To authenticate your number you will need your PSSA member number (M-number) and your [Member Zone](#) password. [Download](#) the procedure, which will be active on PVO from 19 May 2024.

Contact [Johann van der Walt](#) if you get stuck with the authentication.

## CTPS exhibition in e-IMAGE

The latest PSSA online newsletter, e-IMAGE, focuses on news from the different regions — and the exhibition CTPS hosted on behalf of the clubs in the region at Groot Constantia Wine Estate, features as part of the Western Cape contribution.

In a second article, the history of the Western Cape Photographic Forum (WCPF) is recounted. CTPS' Nicol du Toit played a pivotal role in the founding of this forum, where the 17 clubs in the region can share their concerns and achievements during quarterly meetings.

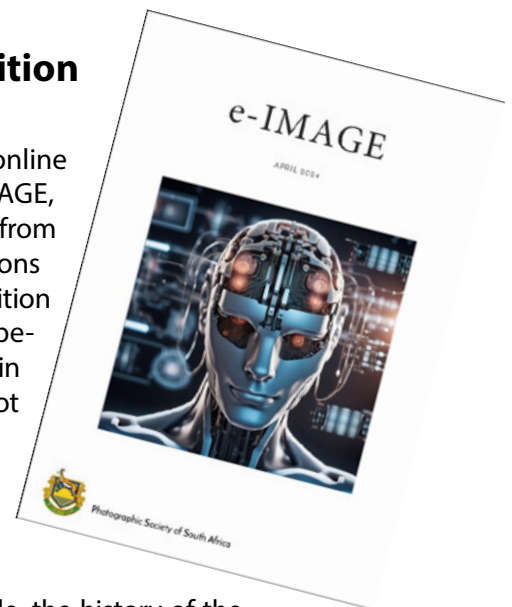
He also served as the first chairperson of the forum, which was founded, among other objectives, to organise the annual Interclub competition in the region.

The current WCPF Exco, however, received permission from clubs to replace the annual competition with an exhibition, hosted by the club that would have hosted the Interclub awards evening that year.

CTPS was supposed to be the designated Interclub awards host in 2023, but became the pioneer of the exhibition option. We showcased prints from 16 of the adult and four of the school clubs in the region during the prime holiday season — November 2023 to end January 2024 — at one of the Western Cape's most popular tourist spots.

Everybody — PSSA members and non-members — can read the current e-IMAGE newsletter on the [website](#). Older issues are only available in the Member Zone.

Please also read more about CTPS' history and achievements on the Club News page [here](#) on the PSSA website.



## Salon just for juniors and scholars

We would like to encourage all our Junior members — ranked Beginner or Intermediate — to enter the PSSA's 25th Up and Coming Salon for all junior members of an affiliated PSSA Club, whether or not they are PSSA members. What's more, entry is free. Read more [here](#).

"The main purpose of this competition is to create an opportunity for club members and scholars, who do not yet feel ready for national salons, to compete in a national competition with their peers," says PSSA. The competition includes a separate section for scholars up to the age of 19.

Salons offers an excellent opportunity to get a *second opinion* on your images and to see how your image compares against those entered by your peers.

Entries close on June 8th.



CTPS member Dave Gordon, Friso Woudstra from Kleinmond, Nicol du Toit and Neels Beyers (far right) from CTPS in conversation with lecturer Koot Marais (second from right).

Photo: Trudi du Toit.

## Spotting AI ... which tools are legal?

**With the rapid development of post-processing programmes that can transform a captured image into something completely different, the topic of AI causes concern for some club photographers and judges. This was discussed at the recent Cape Photographers Congress in Calitzdorp and also in the latest PSSA newsletter, e-IMAGE, reports Trudi du Toit**

During his talk *Wildlife Photography: the Road to Now and Beyond*, at the recent Cape Photographers' Congress in Calitzdorp, PSSA Honours Judge Koot Marais showed delegates three images of a lion at sunset. He asked the audience to indicate their preferences and there was about an equal split between preferences for the three images. Then Koot dropped a bombshell: the first two images were created by a text prompt in an AI program – the third was captured by Koot himself.

When Koot pointed them out, we could see small mistakes in the AI images, which were overlooked at first glance. But, it was clear to everybody present that AI technology has advanced so far that it is becoming increasingly difficult to detect.

There are programs being developed specifically to detect AI with various levels of success — even by the creators of ChatGBT, who shelved their first attempt because it was inaccurate.

As you can read in the interesting article on p35 in the latest e-Image on the PSSA website [here](#), the Canadian Photographic Association (CAPA) has developed a program that can detect the use of AI by verifying the Metadata of an image. They also follow the same path as PSSA by requesting RAW files of, or the jpegs taken before or after, award winning images — or if there is a suspicion that AI had been used in any image entered.

FIAP — the worldwide umbrella body covering 94 photographic associations — requests that all salons held with their patronage should specify in their brochures: *all parts of the image have to be photographed by the author who is holding the copyright to the works submitted.*

*Offenders will be sanctioned for life."*

PSSA has three levels of transgression with progressively more severe sanctions for salon entrants who use AI or break any salon rules. See more [here](#).

The use of apps known for generating AI features (e.g. Midjourney, Open AI, Adobe Firefly etc.) is easy to detect when looking at the Metadata. But, to add to the woes of judges and authors, post-processing programs like Photoshop have also developed AI features that unsuspecting photographers may use without realising that they are transgressing the rules.

The CAPA article in *e-Image* warns that Photoshop 2024 incorporates the advanced Firefly (AI) algorithm, which you automatically trigger when you use the lasso tool with the Generative Fill tool — whether you fill an area with a text prompt or pixels from a similar area in your image, the Metadata will indicate that it is a *Generated Image*.

So, what is permitted?

In a category where manipulation is permitted, the use of the following Photoshop tools is legal (i.e. not AI): Spot Healing Brush, Remove Tool, Healing Brush Tool, Patch Tool, Content Aware Move Tool, Red Eye Tool, the Clone Stamp and Pattern Stamp Tool. Content Aware Fill is allowed provided that pixels from the image is used.

The reason is that they all use pixels that are already in your image and do not add pixels and items that have to be generated artificially from another source (e.g. Photoshop Sky Replacement, although using your own sky from another image is permitted).

**To p20**



The judges seated in the front row are (from left) Nicol du Toit, Friso Woudstra and Dave Gordon from the Western Cape, Trix Jonker, Adri van Oudheusden and Luana Laubscher (hidden) from the Eastern Cape and Martin Kellerman, Willem Oets and Roger Young judging for the Garden Route. Lesley Parolis, WC salon administrator, is seated in the second row, third from left.

## Unique experience of print circuit judging

### The Cape Photographers Print Circuit Salon was judged in front of an audience at congress

The Cape Photographers salon that closed recently was unique in various respects: it was for prints only, it was a circuit judged by the three regions that comprise Cape Photographers and it was judged live in front of delegates to the congress that ended on the 2nd of May.

Three judges each from the Western Cape (Dave Gordon and Nicol du Toit from CTPS and Friso Woudstra from Kleinmond), the Eastern Cape (Adri van Oudheusden, Luana Loubser and Trix Jonker) and Garden Route (Martin Kellerman, Willem Oets and Roger Young) judged the prints simultaneously on a lightbox.

The three salon administrators — Lesley Parolis for the Western Cape, Roel van Oudheusden for the Eastern

Cape and Eileen Covarr for the Garden Route — captured the scores on the TOP system as in any other salon. Roel was also the main salon administrator and he called out the scores recorded by the Eastern Cape judges, which told entrants how well they performed in one leg of the circuit. It was, once again, an illustration of how the opinions of judges differ, because Roel announced that the three regions awarded the same score for only one or two images.

The bulk of the entrants will have to wait for the official results to find out if they gained acceptances or awards in the Western Cape and Garden Route sections of the circuit.



Neels Beyers admiring some of the entered prints. Right: The judging viewed from behind.



### Are you using AI? from p19

Tools that introduce elements to an image that have never been captured by the author, are using AI — unless you manually introduce another item from an image you had taken yourself.

*In-painting*, where AI generates pixels to fill a gap or replace an unwanted element, is not permissible. Nor is *out-painting*, which extends the content of an image

beyond its original dimensions to create more space around an object. Or adding snow to a scene to change it from summer to winter.

While it might feel as if AI has introduced a whole new minefield for salon entrants, the PSSA rules makes it quite simple: **Everything in the presented image must be your own work and must be photographed.** That includes every single element — no matter how small — you use in a composite image or add to a landscape.

# Fun and learning at congress

Nine CTPS members attended the Cape Photographers congress – one of the biggest groups



Lesley Parolis, Robert Maginley and Anna Engelhardt enjoying one of the generous lunches in the hall.



Lambe Parolis relaxing.



Neels Beyers (right) with Frank Smith of Tafelberg Fotografiekлуб.



Our member from Queenstown, John Arseniou also attended congress.



Martin Osner inspired delegates with his explanation of the difference between fine art and art photography. Contact him [here](#) to join in a repeat presentation on zoom on May 7th.



The mountain passes offered great photo opportunities.



Above and right: Willem Oets and his KLAK troupe (Klaarstroom Amateur Kinematograwe) wowed delegates with the huge installation filled with minute detail they built behind the curtain on stage to offer groups of ten delegates at a time the chance to practice Conceptual Photography.

Above right: Maryna Cotton explains the four 'food stations' with props she prepared for delegates to arrange for table top photography as one of the afternoon workshops.



# Winning images from April 2024

## *Set subject: Monochrome*

*The judges for the competition were club members Steffne Hughes for the Open section and Kim Stevens FPSSA, DPSSA(Vers), EFIAP for the Set Subject. Steffne is an experienced judge and photographer and is responsible for the E&D portfolio on council. She was accredited as a judge in 2019. Kim has served on the prestigious PSSA Honours Judging Panel and twice won the Impala Trophy for prints.*

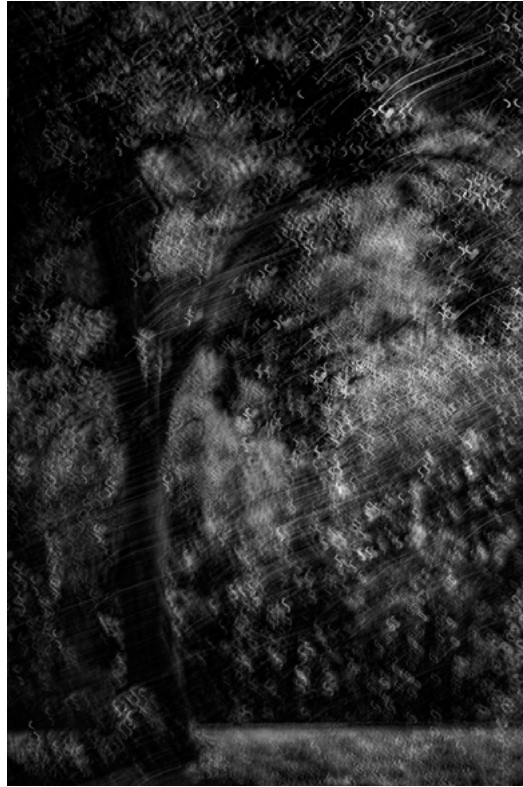
### **Entries in the monthly PSSA Competition:**

The Senior Entry for April was *Ballerina freeze* by Trudi du Toit; and the Junior Entry was *We are just wind* by Ansie du Toit.

**Promotions:** None

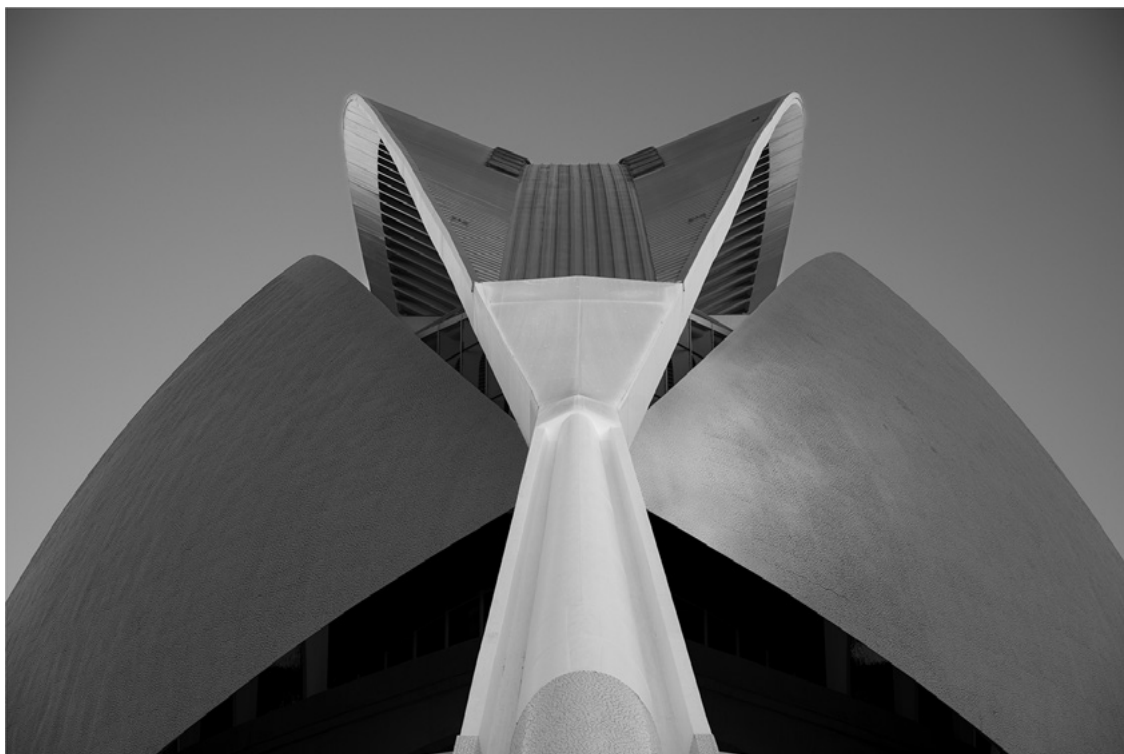


**PSSA Senior entry and winner PDI – Set (Master)** *Ballerina freeze* by Trudi Du Toit (27). This image is beautifully done, showing graceful movement with an attractive twirl above the dancer. The highlights are very well handled with good retention of detail in the whites. It also has great energy.



**PSSA Junior entry and Winner PDI Set (Beginner):** *We are just wind* by Ansie du Toit (26). This is a mesmerizing image with the movement being presumably achieved in camera. It looks like moving leaves or fireflies. It works well in black and white but would suggest toning down the highlights and bringing up the shadows slightly. .

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



**Winner PDI - Set (Advanced):** *Out of Space* by Joyce Goldschmidt (24). A great abstract image that highlights its shapes, lines and contours which were perfect for a conversion into Mono, however the blacks and whites could have been pushed even further. Also suggest cropping out the two blocks at the bottom of the centre column..



**Winner PDI - Set (Advanced):** *The Shard* by Simon Frank Mouton (24). The author paid close attention to the composition and framed it in such a way that the viewer is drawn into the image. The leading line of the railing and the river's edge on the other side form a triangle that is mirrored in the contour of the shard. Suggest bringing out a bit more details in the shadows, slightly adjust the vertical lines and place a stroke around the image.



**Winner Print - Set (Master):** *Late afternoon at Slangkop lighthouse* by Lesley Parolis (25). An excellent long shutter speed image and a great conversion into Mono. The placement of the lighthouse on the left and its lovely reflection in the water anchors the image which is further enhanced with beautiful cloud formations in the sky.





**Winner Print — Set (Salon)** *Under the Spiral Stair* by Richard Goldschmidt (25). A great image of a spiral that looks very organic with excellent retention of the details in the white. The handling of the blacks gives it great form, leading the eye all the way to the top of the image. The conversion to Mono is very well handled, perhaps a touch more contrast is needed.



**Winner Print – Set (Advanced)** *Reaching for the Sky* by Joyce Goldschmidt (24). A striking image because of the repetition of shapes and the sharp definition between light and shadows — although both could be pushed slightly to increase the graphic appearance. Suggest cropping slightly at the bottom and remove the item on one of the balconies as it detracts from the rhythm of the design.



**Winner Print – Set (Salon)** *Weatherman Pete* by David Barnes (25). A great conceptual/composite image that tells a great story. The use of the three distinct and quite separate items suggests a children's story book approach. It is very well executed - perhaps include slightly less sky and a bit more of the tree trunk.



**Winner Print – Set (Intermediate)** *Trio on the Hunt* by Melanie Black (22). A great sighting of three cheetahs walking next to each other and in synchrony. Because they are all overlapping, except for the front one, this results in a lack of distinguishable details of body forms. The image is also not very sharp, but the conversion to Mono was very well handled with excellent textures and tonal variations.

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



**Winner PDI – Open (Master)** *Catch of the Day* by Michele-Ann Nel (27). An excellent action shot with one Jackal's paw off the ground and the bird still appearing to be alive. It contains all the elements of a great wildlife image with perfect sharpness and depth of field. Suggest toning down the background slightly.



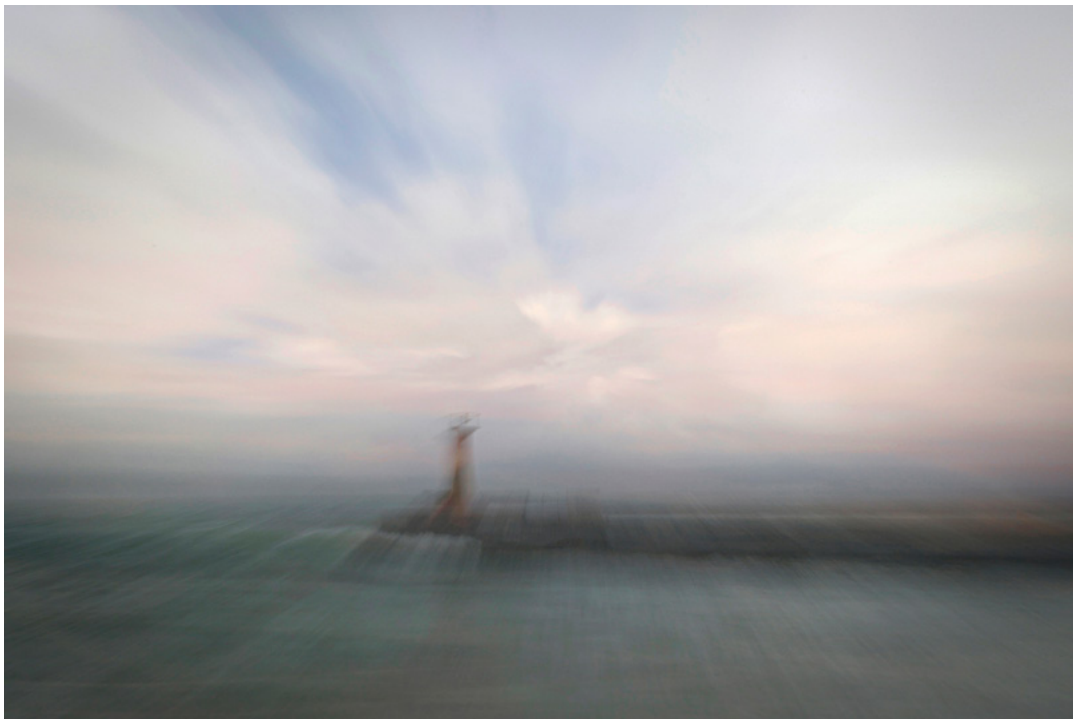
**Winner PDI – Open (Salon)** *Tulip Arrangement* by Jeanette du Toit (27). This is a beautiful example of using multiple exposure to great effect particularly in a still life form. This flower arrangement of colourful and cascading tulips in a plain glass vase is perfectly lit and very striking in its artistic simplicity. Suggest cloning out the highlights near the bottom of the vase.



**Winner PDI – Open (Salon)** ) *Valencia Church Ceiling* by Richard Goldschmidt (27). An exceptionally good image with excellent depth of field and perfect symmetry. It is pin sharp and shows off all the beautiful details in the painted ceiling. Excellently handled with no blow-out of the whites.



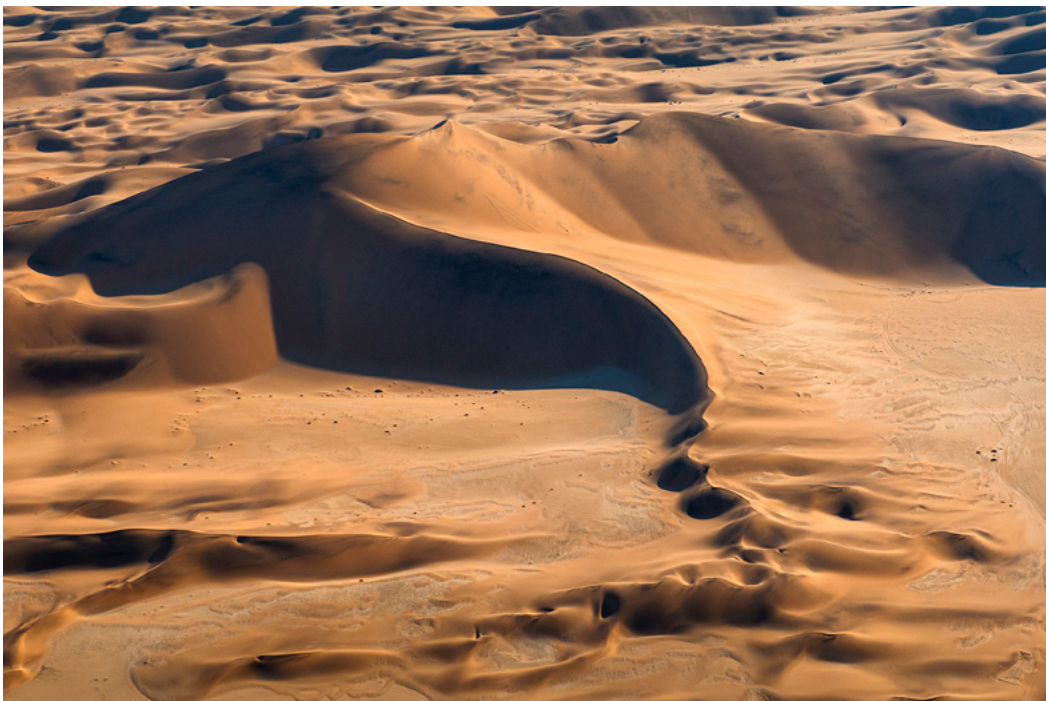
**Winner PDI – Open (Advanced).** *Slow motion* by Simon Frank Mouton (26). A lovely seascape image taken at the right time with beautiful colours in the sky that are reflected in the water. The shadows are well handled with beautiful details still coming through in the surrounding rock. The slow shutter speed has created a lovely effect in the sky and in the water channel. This together with an excellent composition, makes this an exceptional image.



**Winner PDI – Open (Intermediate)** *Sentinel* by Ansie du Toit (24). An interesting approach to using a Zoom burst. The colours are soft and muted and there is enough information in the image to let us know what the subject is. To start the Zoom burst at the sentinel instead of the clouds would have been even more effective.



**Winner PDI – Open (Beginner).** *African Darter* by Tom Gosh (26). The way the darter looks into the open space on the right is very complimentary. There are great details in the darker feathers of the bird, which is not easy to achieve. Perhaps lift some of the shadows around the eye and slightly darken the background where the dark spots in the water are slightly distracting.



**Winner Print – Open (Master).** *Namib Desert from above* by Anna Engelhardt (25). This is a luscious image with its silky-smooth dune faces interspersed with some textured sand that looks like caramel custard. The curvaceous small dunes in the foreground create a leading line all the way up to the top and the background. It is very well handled as there also still enough details in the shadows of the dunes.



**Winner Print – Open (Advanced)** *Karoo Dam at sunrise* by Lea-Anne Alexander (26). A lovely image that is peaceful with a very attractive soft pink sky and beautiful reflections in the water. The trees and vegetation around the dam are pin sharp and presenting it in a panoramic format adds to the appeal of the image.



**Winner Print – Open (Intermediate)** *New York vibes* by Ansie du Toit (24). This is certainly a vibey image due to its lights, colours and movement depicted in it. Anybody who has been to New York can 'feel' the mood. The colours and the signage are exceptionally well handled, particularly the latter which is very noticeable but not readable and therefore not distracting or intrusive.

Other high-scoring images from our  
**April competition**  
**(Scores of 24 & above)**



*Love is in the Air* by Michele-Ann Nel (26).



*Table View on a winter morning* by Francois Retief (26)



*When the family is away* by David Barnes (25)



*Lanner Falcon* by Dave Gordon (25).





*Hannah and Kyle* by Lesley Parolis (25)



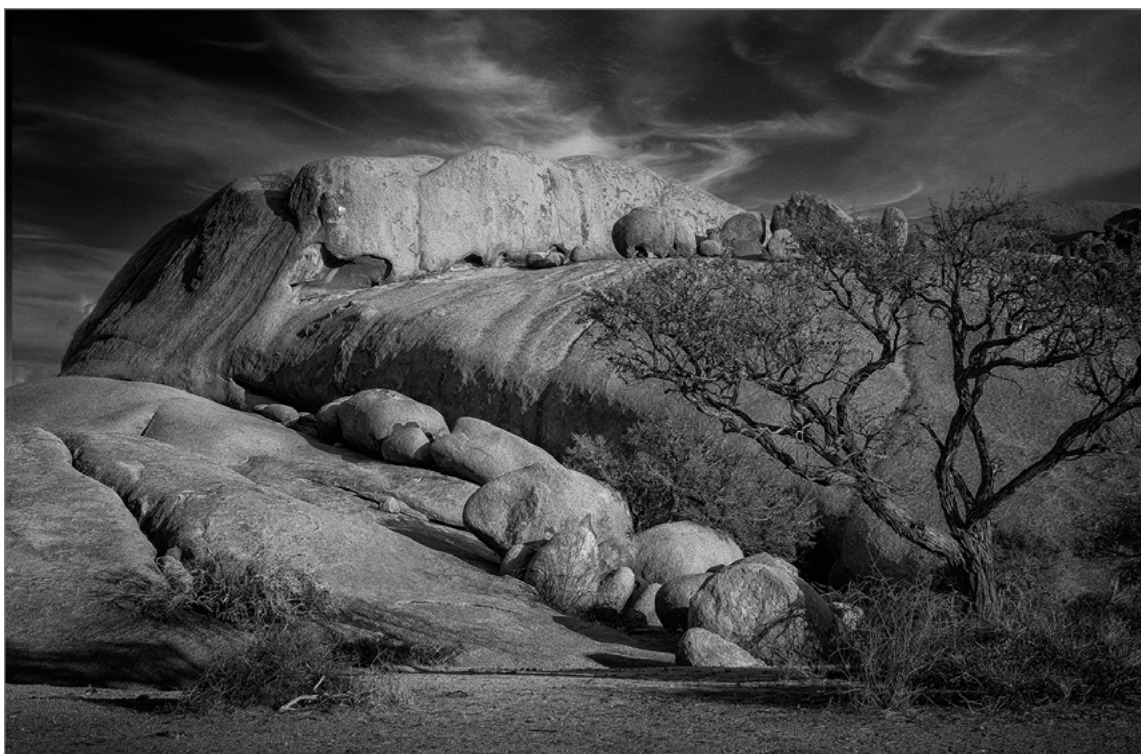
*Incoming* by Joan Ward (25).



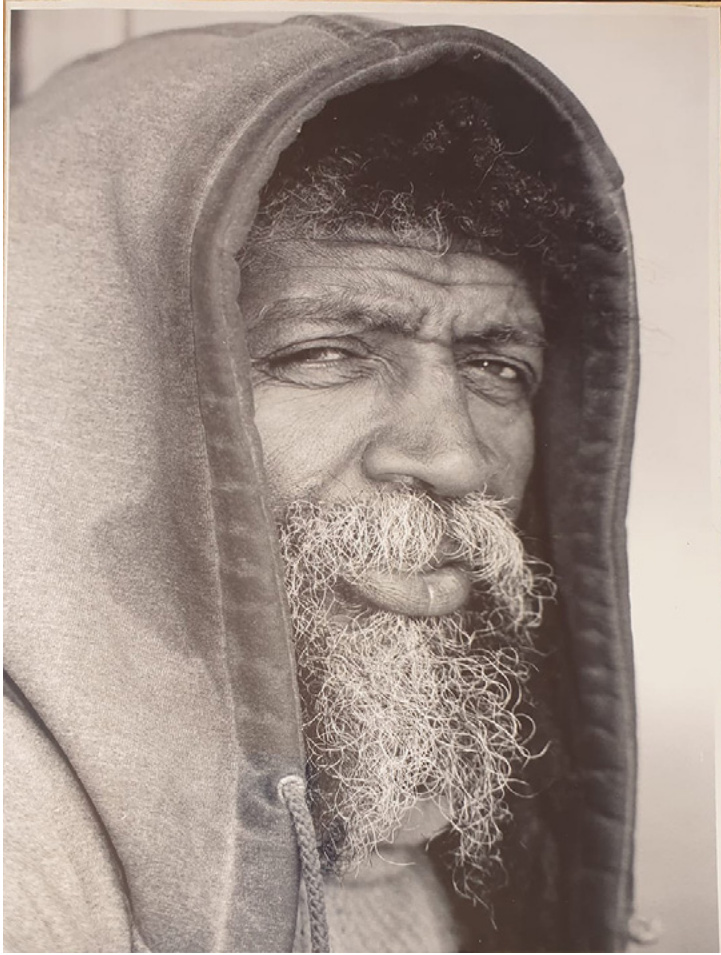
*The mighty Brandberg (Namibia) by Walter Berndorfer (24).*



*Siblings on the beach by Dieter Butow (24).*



*Spitzkoppe Conservancy by Anna Engelhardt (24).*



*Vagabond (24)* by Ian Levy

*Shadows (24)* by Andre Mouton.





*Alpine View by Lambe Parolis (24)*



*City Hotel Architectural Detail by Lambe Parolis (24)*



*Smoke Break* by Theo Potgieter (24).



*To the lighthouse* by Jacoba van Zyl (24).



*Fluttering by Joan Ward (24).*



*Up up up by Jacoba van Zyl (24)*