



TORONTO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB NEWSLETTER

Our mission is to expand photographic knowledge, creativity and skill, through education and social interaction.

MARCH 2026

THE LATEST NEWS FROM TDPC

Join us for 3 photography speakers:

- **Edwin Martinez:** Visual Design in Drone Photography.
- **Marianna Armata:** Natural and Manmade Abstracts
- **Henry Vanderspek** (In-person Event at Edithvale Community Centre), A Pilgrimage of the

- Street. Finding Meaning and Creating Art on the Streets of Toronto.
- Members' Showcase
- Macro and Architecture competitions
- Photography outings: (Japanese Spring Festival and

Parc Omega)

- O3C Inter-club Challenge
- Awards Night Social

New members joining in the second half of the season, between January 1st and March 31st pay a discounted rate of only \$50.00.

Find out more: www.tdpc.ca

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UPCOMING ONLINE SPEAKER

**Tuesday, 17 March 2026
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

Visual Design in Drone Photography

Edwin Martinez

See page 19-20 for more information about this presentation and how you can attend as a guest by purchasing a [\\$10 ticket](#).



Admission for TDPC members is free. Membership: \$50

[Join us.](#)

CLUB NEWS

TDPC CALENDAR

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

7:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m.

Competition Results Meeting

Natural Things Competition (Lance Gitter Trophy)

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

TDPC Photography Outing

Japanese Spring Festival (Hina Matsuri)

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m.

Competition Results Meeting

Photo Essay Competition (Nancy Fairley Trophy)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Entries are due by 10:00 p.m.

V.L. Richards (Macro) Competition

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

7:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Edwin Martinez - Visual Design in Drone Photography

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

7:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m.

Competition Results Meeting

Macro Competition (V.L. Richards Trophy)

SAVE THE DATE

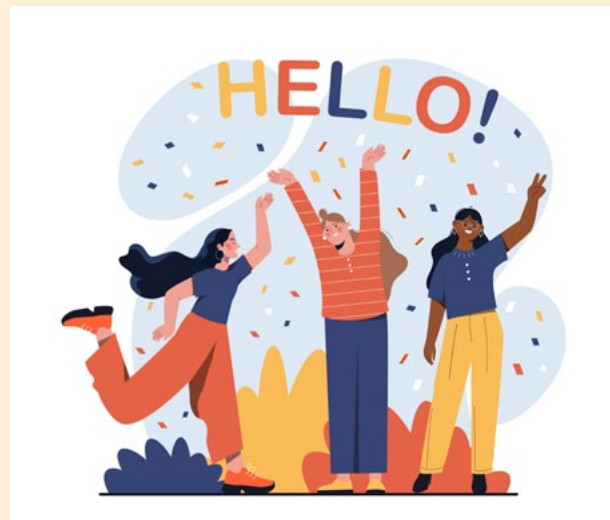
TDPC ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

April 21, 2026

Watch your inbox for the notification to all club members.

LET'S WELCOME OUR
NEW MEMBER!

HELEN CHAN



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION TO UPCOMING TDPC COMPETITION

Wednesday, March 11

V.L. Richards (Macro) Competition

Entries are due by 10:00 PM.

For the purposes of this competition we are defining macro as “close-up” photography where the subject appears much larger than in real-life. True Macro is defined as being 1:1 magnification or larger. This means that a 35 mm wide subject should fill the width of a 35 mm full-frame sensor. For the purpose of this competition we will accept 1/2 life size or larger. This can be achieved by many lenses and requires less specialized equipment than true macro.

You can use the link below to read the [competition rules](#) and login with your username and password to submit your entries.

Future competition: Architecture

KEEP TDPC STRONG CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The TDPC is solely run by volunteers, and your club needs your help. The people in many of the positions have served for a long time and some are nearing the end of their term. We are asking members like you, to step up to keep the club running.

Currently several individuals are really needed to serve on the Board of Directors. This role does not carry a specific portfolio or major workload. It primarily involves:

- Attending one Zoom board meeting per month during the club year
- Participating in discussions and sharing ideas
- Helping shape decisions that support our competitions, outings, programs, and overall member experience.



TDPC thrives because members step forward. The board’s role is collaborative, supportive, and focused on ensuring the club continues to grow and evolve in ways that reflect our community. If you have enjoyed your time with TDPC and would like to contribute in a meaningful way, we would love to hear from you.

Also, we require individuals to assist with organizing outings, serving on the programming committee or organizing workshops. Many of these activities, as well as being on the Board involve perhaps about 15 hours a year. The tasks become lighter as they are spread amongst members.

If you are interested in helping your club for next season, or need additional information, please reach out to directors@tdpc.ca

Thank you for helping to support the TDPC.

Officers

Robert Rutkay, President
 Robert Robson, Vice President
 Kamini Steinberg, Secretary
 Susan MacLean, Treasurer
 Max Wynter, Past President

Directors at Large

Ann Alimi
 Lidia Brandes
 Hanson Cheng
 Manny Goncalves
 Margaret Hall
 Boris Snirch

2025-2026 DIVISIONAL COMPETITION RESULTS

The results of the above competition were announced at the club meeting held on February 3, 2026. The results of these Photographer's Choice competitions were based on the highest single score for the participant.

Russell Gee Trophy (Novice Division)

The Trophy Winner of the Russell Gee (Novice Division) was **Boris Snirch** for: The Aftermath. The Runner-Up of the Russell Gee was **Boris Snirch**. Honourable Mentions were given to **Sandra Nixon (2)**, **Manny Goncalves**, **Boris Snirch**, **Jennifer Alexis (2)**, and **George Steiner**.



The Aftermath, Boris Snirch

Continued on the next page.

Harry Cartner Trophy (Intermediate Division)

The Trophy Winner of the Harry Cartner (Intermediate Division) was **Marlene Duhig** for: Pallas's Long-tongued Bat. The Runner-Up of the Harry Cartner was **Marlene Duhig**. Honourable Mentions were given to **Sanlin Wang, Jessica Li, Steve Saviolidis (2), Marlene Duhig, and Vera Gillman**.



Pallas's Long-tongued Bat, Marlene Duhig

Continued on the next page.

Stuart Freedman Trophy (Advanced Division)

The Trophy Winner of the Stuart Freedman (Advanced Division) was **Larry Durst** for: With Dawn Comes the Winds of Change. Runner-Ups of the Stuart Freedman were **Roger Correia** and **Lance Gitter**. Honourable Mentions were given to **Larry Durst (2)**, **Robert Rutkay (2)**, **Arjuna Somaskandan**, **Roger Correia**, **Rachel Schneiderman (2)**, **Katalin (Kat) Lovasi**, **Lance Gitter (2)**, **Lidia Brandes (3)**, **Hanson Cheng**, **Leon Blum**, **Tony Scopazzi**, **Patricia Zuest**, and **Robert Robson**.



With Dawn Comes the Winds of Change, Larry Durst

Thank you to all participants!

Check out all the winning images that placed in this competition in the following galleries under [Russell Gee](#), [Harry Cartner](#), and [Stuart Freedman](#). Members can review all the images, scores and comments. To access, you must first log on to the TDPC website.

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE MONTH

Check out this photographer for inspiration. Photographer of the month recommended by Robert Robson.

Steven Wilkes

Website: <https://stephenwilkes.com/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/stephenwilkes>

TDPC OUTING TO THE JAPANESE SPRING FESTIVAL (HINA MATSURI)



Images by Theresa Moore

WHERE?

Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC), 6 Sakura Way, Toronto M3C 1Z5

WHEN?

Sunday March 8, 2026 starting at 11 a.m.

WHAT?

Dance and Music Performances, Martial Arts Demonstrations, Doll Making, Flower Arranging, Art Exhibition, Food & Market Vendors. See also: <https://jccc.on.ca/event/2026/03/hina-matsuri-2026>

TICKETS?

Available online [here](#) or at the door (card only): \$10 + HST for Adults; \$5 + HST for Seniors (65+).

ARRIVAL DETAILS

This will be an informal 'come and go as you wish' outing with opportunities to gather to enjoy a delicious meal together. However, free on-site parking is limited during such events,

so arrival just prior to the 11 a.m. start is recommended. There may be an outdoor line-up, so dress accordingly.

PAID OFF-SITE PARKING OPTIONS

- Aga Khan Museum at 77 Wynford Dr.
- Canpark & PS Parking (Gervais Dr.)
- 1 Medical Place 20 Wynford Dr.

Arrival by TTC:

Line 5 Eglinton East to Don Valley, take the 100A Flemingdon Park bus, get off at Wynford Dr. at Garamond Crt. and walk to the JCCC.

OUTING ORGANIZER: Theresa Moore (for event day texts only: 416-493-3201)

Reminder: After the event, please send your best photos to Margaret Hall by March 21st for the April newsletter at newsletter@tdpc.ca

GETTING STARTED WITH CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY: EXPLORING ALTERED REALITIES

BY ROGER CORREIA
WEBMASTER, TDPC

If you've ever looked at an image and wondered, "How on earth did they do that?"—you've taken your first step into the world of altered reality photography. This genre blends imagination with technique, allowing photographers to move beyond documenting the world and instead reshaping it.

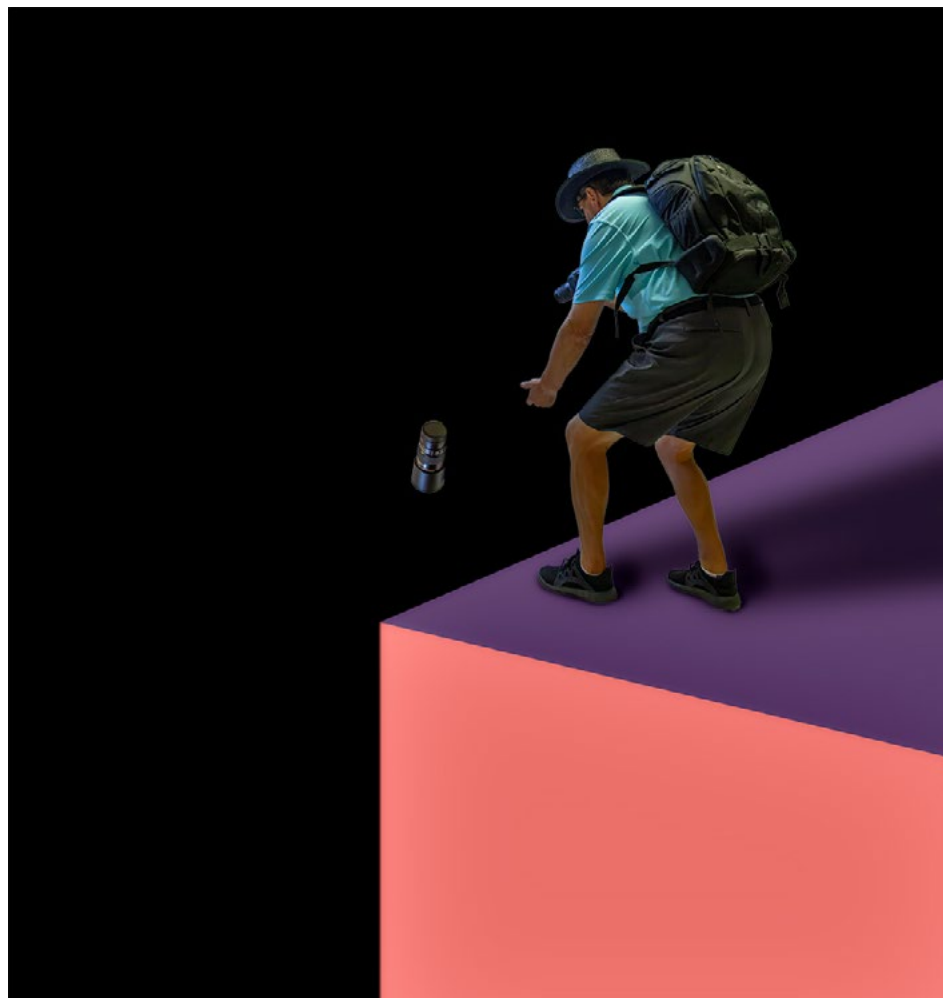
The good news is that you don't need advanced gear or years of editing experience to get started. What you do need is curiosity, a willingness to experiment, and a few simple techniques to open the door.

1. Start With Strong Source Images. Altered reality begins with real photos. Look for:

- Clean compositions with clear subjects
- Good lighting and sharp focus
- Simple backgrounds that are easy to blend or replace

Think of these as your "building blocks" for later creativity.

2. Explore Layering and Compositing. Most altered reality images rely on combining multiple photos.



Roger Correia

Programs like Photoshop, Affinity Photo, or even mobile apps such as Snapseed and Pixlr allow you to:

- Stack images using layers
- Mask out unwanted areas
- Blend textures, skies, or objects

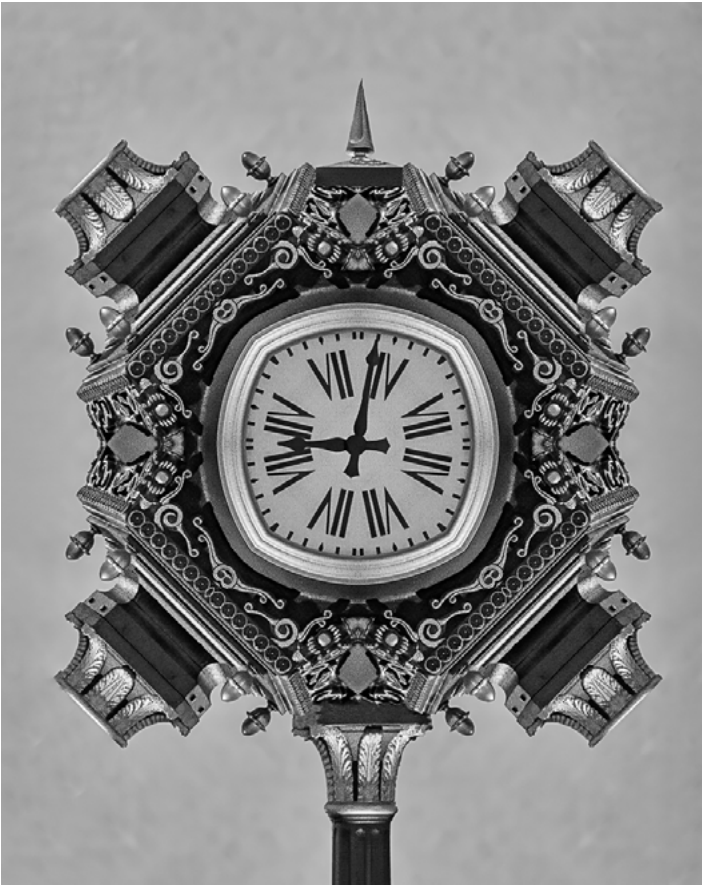
3. Play With Perspective and Scale. Creative photography often bends the rules of reality:

- Make a tiny object appear enormous
- Place a person inside a teacup
- Tilt horizons or distort angles

Forced perspective shots can be done entirely in-camera with no editing at all.

4. Add Texture for Mood. Textures—like clouds, fabric, rust, or water—can transform an ordinary photo into something

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Roger Correia



Luba Citrin

atmospheric. Blend modes such as Overlay, Soft Light, or Multiply create subtle effects without overwhelming the subject.

5. Experiment With Color and Light. Color grading is one of the easiest ways to shift an image into the surreal:

- Cool tones for dreamlike scenes
- Warm tones for fantasy or nostalgia
- Split toning for dramatic contrast

Light leaks, glows, and vignettes can also add a sense of magic.

6. Let Playfulness Lead the Way. The most important ingredient is a sense of play. Creative photography isn't about perfection—it's about exploration. Try ideas that feel strange or whimsical. Break rules. See what happens.

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Luba Citrin

Altered reality photography gives you permission to imagine first and photograph second. Whether you're blending two images or building entire worlds from scratch, the process is rewarding, surprising, and endlessly fun.

Give it a try — you may discover a whole new way to express your creativity.

More information:

Roger Correia Photography: rogercorreia.com

Luba Citrin Photography: <https://www.lubacitrin.com>

FROM KATALIN (KAT) LOVASI

Annual Auto Show

Some tips on creative vision without the use of generative AI

By Katalin (Kat) Lovasi

Man's so-called pursuit and 'The Need for Speed' over the many generations has matured along with technology and hand in hand with glittery shining objects.

I haven't been to an Auto show since I don't know when. So when a friend asked me to join them, with peaked interest as to the kind of damage I could do creatively from my end, I jumped at this opportunity.

Too many shining bright lights, harsh reflections and oh so many people always make it all the more challenging. Taking all these factors under considerations, I took with me an ND filter for my lens to lessen the glares and went on my merry way.

Apart from photography, I must certainly state that this show did not disappoint. The designs in creativity and the push to modernize comfort levels while addressing safety and speed from the highly-compact designs in luxury and the newest colors in steel – all so ever impressive.

That being said (from a non-car person's perspectives), let us begin with a little travel back to the past.

'Who You Gonna Call' – eliminating people and a rope enclosure around this car and then adding a path blur around the car.



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The 'Lego Pink Cadillac' is an actual working car with a motor that runs like any other car. It has been constructed from 418,000 Lego bricks and having taken over 4,000 hours to construct. With retro-inspired white wall tires and steering wheel along with a Lego key that starts the engine. The car can seat up to five persons.

When presented with difficult lighting with so many people and objects in the way, we create material easier on the eye to view. 'All that is Shiny and Bright' - with a lens zoom.



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'A Racing Moment' – in a show room with a background already there. (An elimination of one opened car door ajar and with people surrounding), I took this with an ICM movement of the camera, already envisioning how I wanted to see this.

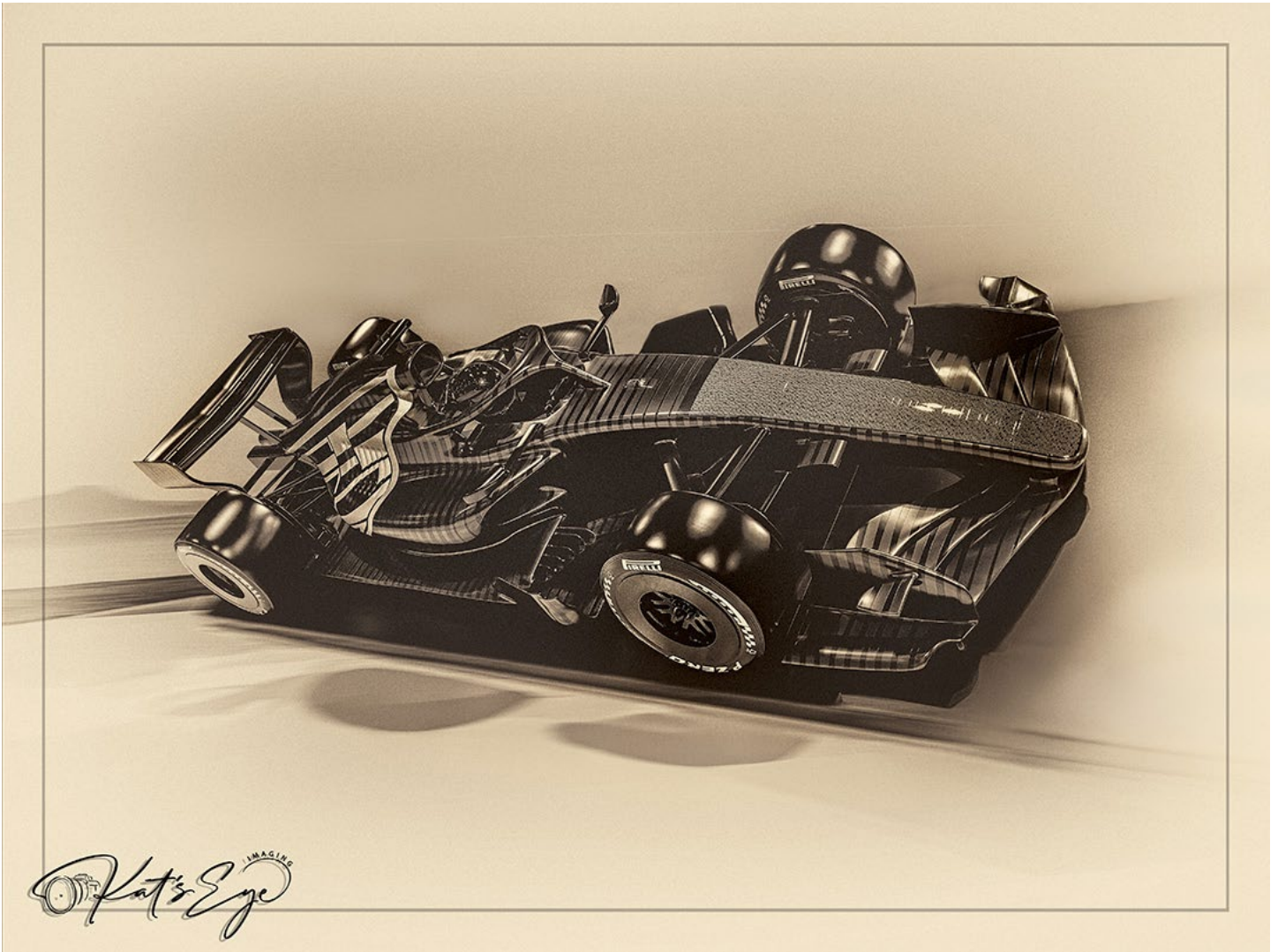


The Sporty Porsche' – had to do a lot of eliminating around this display as it was way too busy and the glaring lights surrounding it almost demanded that it would be best seen toned down into a Black and White.



'A Formula 1 Racer' – eliminated people and some of the clutter of the background then changed from colour to Black and White.

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In the 'Cadillac Formula 1 Racing Team' collection was this car, placed on a slightly angled stage. Along with creating a muted background, I eliminated distractions one at a time, changed it into a vintage feel and added a path blur, leaving some of the shadows below the car.

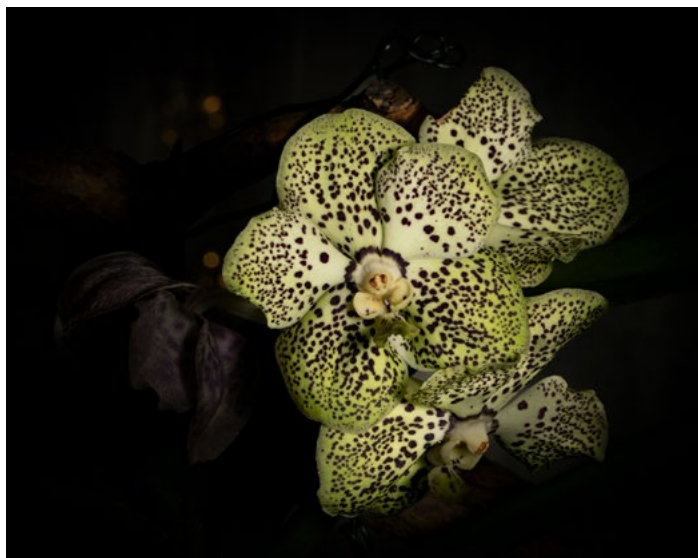
All done in Photoshop, with NO AI generative fills anywhere. Just a process of elimination and then creating actions for the backgrounds through 'blur' options and of course black and white options using Nik software.

Follow Kat Lovasi on Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/kat_lovasi/

SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

Robert Rutkay



Follow Robert Rutkay on Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/robertrutkay>

SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

Susan MacLean



Follow Susan MacLean on Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/susanmaclean173>

ONTARIO COUNCIL OF CAMERA CLUBS



THE O3C OPEN CHALLENGE COMPETITION

The O3C hosts an annual Open Challenge Competition. The competition will be open to all members of O3C Clubs. There are 11 categories including an annual Theme Topic.

CATEGORIES

There are 11 different categories available as follows:

There will not be a Print Category this year.

There are 5 separate nature categories with substantially relaxed compositional/technical rules but the key is the image must fit the category. Hand of Man is permitted. This includes:

- Nature Birds
- Nature Animals
- Nature Botany
- Nature General
- Nature Scapes (Landscapes, Cityscapes, Seascapes and Skyscapes including astronomy)

There are 5 pictorial categories comprising of:

- People in Action (intended for sports photography with people substantially visible in the image)
- People
- Architecture
- Pictorial
- Creative Vision

The annual themed category for 2026 is "Street Photography."

Details about the various categories and explicit rules can be found on the O3C website ([here](#)) explaining what imagery is appropriate within each category and explains further limitations and exclusions. Awards, medals and certificates will be presented in these categories to individuals and clubs.

The deadline for TDPC Member submission of digital images for the OCCC Open Challenge Competition is **Tuesday April 28th, 2026 at 10:00 p.m.** For detailed instructions, login to the Members' area of the website and view the **2026 OCCC Open Challenge Competition Information** under Image Uploads, Competitions, O3C Interclub Challenge Competition.



Canadian Association For Photographic Art l'Association canadienne d'art photographique



Good news! Conference registration is open to all!

February 3, 2026

If you're not yet registered, we invite you to come experience how our shared love of photography can connect, inspire, and equip us to share our nation's stories at the [Canadian Photography Conference 2026!](#)

Join us July 13-16, 2026, in **Calgary, Alberta** - a city framed by the breathtaking foothills and Rocky Mountains - where the **Foothills Camera Club** and the **Canadian Association for Photographic Art** are hosting an unforgettable gathering of creativity, artistry, and community.

Why Attend in Person?

There's nothing quite like being there. Connect face-to-face with fellow photographers, experience sponsor exhibitions, and feel the energy of live sessions as some of Canada's most inspiring photographic voices share their stories. Calgary's vibrant culture and natural beauty will make this conference not just an event, but an experience you'll carry with you long after.

Meet and mingle with photographers from across the country

- Explore Calgary's local arts scene and breathtaking landscapes
- Be part of the conversations, workshops, and celebrations as they unfold
- Experience a diverse and dynamic part of the Canadian landscape with excursions to a variety of locations unique to the Canadian West

Access special in-person Basic Training for New Judges Course - July 17 & 18

Spaces are limited, so don't delay! [Register today](#) for an unforgettable photographic experience.

Best,

Terry Tinkess
Canadian Association for Photographic Art

ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY SPEAKER

Visual Design in Drone Photography with Edwin Martinez



Tuesday, 17 March 2026
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Presentation

Dynamics of Drone Photography:
Seeing things in a different
perspective.

BIO

When delving into the epitome of nature photography, the name that immediately surfaces is Edwin Martinez. With local renown and an expanding global presence, Edwin has garnered acclaim for his otherworldly landscape and nature images, showcasing the art of nature photography at its finest.

Transitioning from a background in Nursing and corporate endeavors, Edwin unearthed his true passion in nature photography. Infused with an unwavering commitment to



Edwin Martinez

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excellence, this dedication remains his trademark, whether he's capturing images for clients, leading photography tours in captivating locations like Iceland, Norway, Canada, the American West, Patagonia and beyond, or imparting wisdom in workshops with Wide Horizon Photo Adventure.

Edwin's mastery hasn't gone unnoticed by industry brands, which actively support his projects. Acknowledged for his expertise and influence, he's been enlisted to field test and contribute to the launch of several cutting-edge photography gear. His captivating works have graced the pages of both local and international publications and websites, each image speaking a language that captivates attention and leaves an enduring imprint of excellence.

In addition to his photographic prowess, Edwin co-manages Wide Horizon Photo Adventure, a premier photography adventure tour company catering to Filipinos with exotic destinations such as the Canadian Rockies, Patagonia, Dolomites, and more. As a sought-after speaker, instructor, and photographer for high-profile companies, Edwin stands as an inspiration for the current generation of photographers, with eager anticipation surrounding each unveiling of his next photographic odyssey.

Related Projects:

- Canon Brand Ambassador – 2010 to Present
- Guide to the Philippines – Photographer and contributor
- Canon Asia Snapshot – Featured Photographer and contributor
- 2021 DENR North Luzon Migratory Bird Census – Photographer
- Anchor Properties Philippines – Photographer
- DOT Boracay 24/7 project – Time-lapse and astrophotography

All images by Edwin Martinez

More information:

Introductory video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvZrbGv4ENc>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EdwinMartinezPhotography/>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/edwinmartinez>

500px <https://500px.com/p/edwinmartinez>

Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/edwinmartinezphotography>

Tickets

Members of TDPC receive free access to all speaker events. This is scheduled as an online Zoom meeting. Guests are welcome and can purchase a \$10 ticket.

BOOK THIS EVENT.

<https://tdpc.ca/events/speaker-edwin-martinez-visual-design-in-drone-photography/>

Nature Ethics Corner

(curated by Theresa Moore)

Lingering near wildlife may have hidden harmful effects

Take your photos then leave quietly. Stay only a minute or two to avoid disturbing the animal.



Used with Permission:
[Toronto Field Naturalists \(TFN\)](https://www.facebook.com/mytdpc)

The Hidden Dangers of Lingering

We can observe for, and avoid, any changes in an animal's behavior that are caused by our presence. However, lingering can be perceived as predation risk and may have harmful effects which are hidden from us, including:

- Elevated stress hormones, breathing and pulse rates (wasting energy)
- Delayed or interrupted hunting, foraging, nesting, or rest
- Longer exposure to predators and the elements
- Premature fledging
- Longer intervals between eating/feeding
- Reduced number and weight of offspring (Zanette et al., Songbird Study)

Unless you are very far away or in a blind, avoid lingering for more than a minute or two around wildlife. Take your photo(s) & leave quietly.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM: [@tdpc_pics](https://www.instagram.com/tdpc_pics)

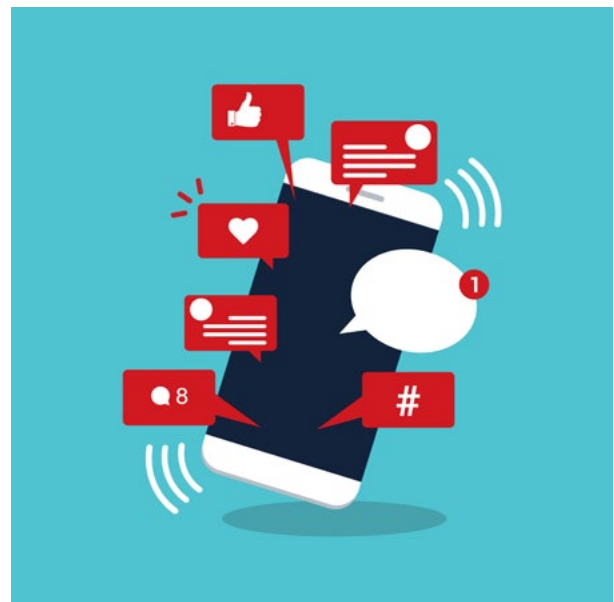
Be sure to tag us in your posts @tdpc_pics and #tdpc_pics.

FACEBOOK PAGE:

Toronto Digital Photography Club
<https://www.facebook.com/mytdpc>

FACEBOOK GROUP:

Private Members Only
 TDPC Image & Information Sharing
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/264695007282756>



TORONTO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB



ABOUT US

The Toronto Digital Photography Club (formerly the Toronto Guild for Photographic Art) was originally established in 1947 as the Toronto Guild for Colour Photography. It is one of Canada's premier camera clubs with a rich history and one of the oldest camera clubs in Toronto.

The club is home to many talented and successful photographers, both amateur and professional. Regardless of your skill level, membership in our club offers many opportunities to improve your photography, meet people with a common interest in various genres of photography, share ideas and participate in fun and friendly photography outings.

Guests are always welcome. So if you are thinking of joining the club, check out the calendar on our website for an upcoming event of interest and contact us.

We would be happy to have you join us. You will be glad you did.

WEBSITE: tdpc.ca

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/mytdpc>

INSTAGRAM: [@tdpc_pics](https://www.instagram.com/tdpc_pics)

A proud member of the [Canadian Association for Photographic Art](#) (CAPA) and the [Ontario Council of Camera Clubs](#) (OCCC).



JOIN US

If you know someone who may be interested in joining a camera club, please pass on this newsletter and encourage them to join us.

TDPC offers the following membership options:

New Individual Membership (\$95.00/year)

New Joint Membership with spouse, son/daughter, etc. (\$170.00/year)

New Associate Membership (must live outside the GTA and subject to Board approval annually). Join as an Individual member, then apply to president@tdpc.ca for Associate status, and if approved, a refund of \$25.00 will be issued.

Note: New members joining in the second half of the season, between January 1st and March 31st pay a discounted rate of only \$50.00.

To join our club, you may send us your payment either via an eTransfer or a Cheque. Complete your registration online [here](#) to set up an account on our website and gain access to all the resources we have available.

MEMBER TESTIMONIAL



FIVE STAR RATING!

Joining the Toronto Digital Photo Club has introduced me to a vibrant photographic community which provides both inspiration and collegiality. Monthly talks by renowned national and international photographers, frequent outings to explore diverse landscapes as well as regular competitions, give both novice and experienced photographers the opportunity to bring their skills to new levels.

I have particularly enjoyed the special interest and evaluation groups which offer individual feedback with more in-depth instruction and discussion on specified topics. These group meetings have enhanced not only my skills but also my creativity.

I would strongly recommend joining the TDPC for any photographer seeking a dynamic hub for inspiration and growth.

JEFF BERGER - MEMBER FOR 5 YEARS