BRENT MAIL presents...

PHOTO BOOTCAMP MAGAZINE

ISSUE 29 | AUGUST 2020

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SEASONAL VIBES



Photographer: LAURA GRIFFITHS

Country: **SOUTH AFRICA**

f/5.0 1/2400sec ISO400 | 55mm

Taken on the trip of a lifetime a few years back. My husband promised it is never to be repeated although 4 days after returning home I asked if we could go straight back (to no avail of course). Nothing prepares one for the indescribable beauty, peace and lack of human interference in this place. Crab-Eater Seals floating on ice in Antarctica.

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DRILL INSTRUCTOR'S MEMO

WELCOME TO ISSUE 29 OF PHOTO BOOTCAMP MAGAZINE!

No matter where you are in the world, the seasons affect how we see things around us and how we feel about them. This month we'll explore how to photograph images that capture the seasonal vibes of where we are.

We'll discuss what it means to create an image that shows seasonal vibes. Then we'll talk about how we can use lighting, perspective and our camera settings to get those emotions and feelings to come across in our photos.

The BootCamp members will show us their seasonal vibe images from across the globe.



SEASONAL VIBES

SEASONAL VIBES

"Live each season as it passes; breath the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influences of each." ~Henry David Thoreau

SEASONAL VIBES



You know you've seen those photographs that make you want to be somewhere. That amazing sunset or beach, the drink with an umbrella in it with incredibly blue water in the background. Maybe you love winter and photos of skiers coming down the slopes give you that exhilarating feeling of being there or remembering your last ski trip.

Those are seasonal vibe photographs. They evoke a feeling or emotion of time and/or place. You get a real sense of the weather, the atmosphere of the scene and it draws you in. Maybe it even makes you want to go there or return to somewhere you've been at a certain time of year.

SEASONAL VIBES

Why photographing seasonal mood is important

In our own photography, it's important to record these vibes. It allows us to look back through our photos and recall our travels, the people we were with, the sights, sounds and smells that are prevalent during specific times of the year.

We'll have these memories and images for years to come. Keepsakes of a feeling from that place we can look back on and share with others. Remembering sitting in front of a campfire, dipping our toes in the water or feeling the cool winter air in our faces as we head down the slopes. The photos we create that show these seasonal vibes bring it all back and help us relive those moments.



How to photograph Seasonal Vibes

One of the easiest ways to create photos that show seasonal vibes is to think about a positive emotion that represents summer or winter for you. Sitting with a steaming cup of hot chocolate and a good book comes to mind for winter. What makes you happy during the summer or winter. Think about how to show that feeling in your photo.

Consider how you will photograph the emotion of those moments. What lens will you use to best create that feeling? What perspective helps to show that emotion and get your viewer to feel it too? Think about your lighting, the point of interest and what you will do so that the image conveys exactly what you were experiencing. If you need some inspiration check out the Seasonal Vibes Pinterest Board.

MEMBERS IMAGES









f/20 1/6sec | 35mm

For my final submission I have chosen this sunrise at Raby Bay from 2018. The softness and the color appeals to me.

Lovely minimalist image, Keri. Nicely composed and gorgeous colours. Also love the silhouettes. Well done.



Photographer: **TESSA BLEWCHAMP** Country: **UNITED KINGDOM**

Canon 5D MkIV

f/10 1/100sec ISO400 | 105mm

Nothing says summer like an Aperol spritz! Just a shame I can't get to Italy to drink one. I tried several shots, both indoors and outside and eventually ended up with the glass on a fence post. I probably took technically better shots, but liked this version with the sunburst.

Feedback: **PETER BRODY**

Country: **USA**

Tessa, I like the many different colors of orange you created, including the starburst. Very refreshing on a hot summer's day!!

Photographer: **BRUCE PATTERSON**

Country: **USA**

f/5.0 1/640sec ISO1000 | 105mm

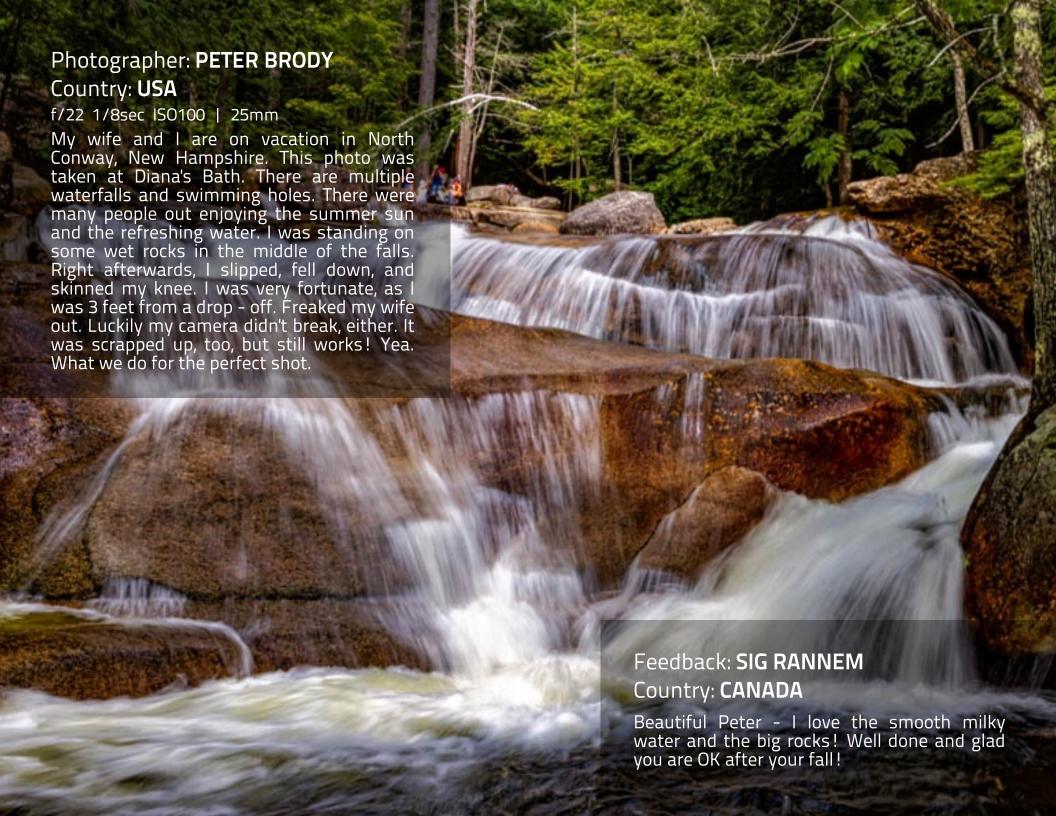
Even though my neighborhood is essentially empty, I still have the flowers of mine and my neighbors to use as subjects. This is my "Back Porch Orchid". It is a heavily cropped photo and I opted for a Medium Heavy vignette just because I liked it that way and did not have the time to play around in Photoshop.

Feedback: **KERRIE CLARKE**Country: **AUSTRALIA**

I like that you've filled the frame with this beautiful Orchid. Love the softness and colours of the petals, and your choice of vignette. Well done, Bruce.













Photographer: **AMBER PALLAS-BRUNT**

Country: **USA**

f/5.0 1/500sec ISO320 | 155mm

Since I've captured a bee doing it's thing, I thought I'd capture a butterfly at work as well. I decided to use a different lens (just to play), my 55-300mm. The garden is alive with pollinators!

Feedback: **LAIMA RATAJCZAK**Country: **AUSTRALIA**

A beautiful image Amber well captured, loves the texture and colour but that hole in the petal is very distracting and I'm sure you could remove it quite easily.



IIIATURED ARIST

IMAGE

Photographer: **RICHARD HUTSON**

Country: **USA**

f/9.0 1/200sec ISO100 | 70mm

Seasonal vibes are nuanced here in San Francisco but the 'Fourth of July' brings out the flag not so subtle flying against our white house.



GETTING TO KNOW OUR FEATURED ARTIST:

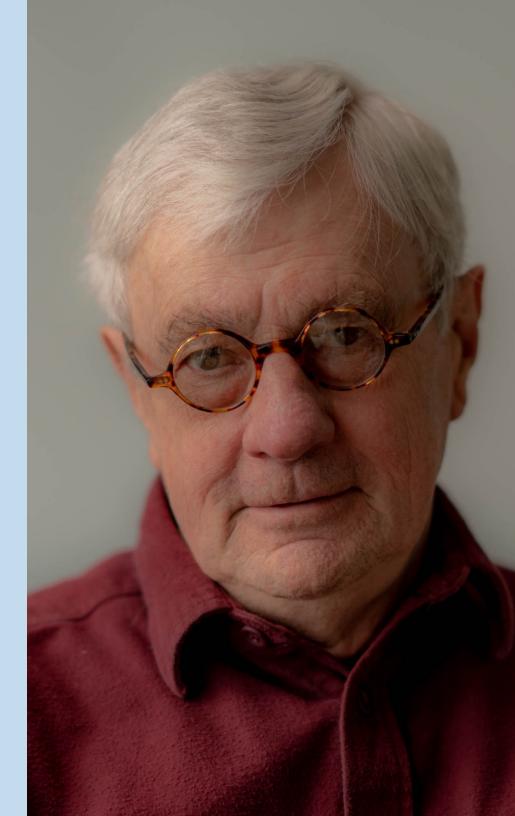
RICHARD HUTSON | USA

Brent: How did you get started in photography? What was your inspiration?

Richard: I have always been fascinated by photographs and taking pictures since early childhood in the 1940's using my mother's Kodak Brownie. When I was a 20-year-old airman stationed in Japan in 1960 I bought my first 35mm Minolta camera. Being in an exotic foreign county inspired me to try capturing it all on film.

Brent: What is it you hope to express to your audience with your photography? What is your strategy for accomplishing that goal?

Richard: Until joining Boot Camp my only audience were the people in the photographs with whom I shared the photos. What I hoped to capture was a memorable situation and the momentary expression on their faces. Since most people are terrible models the shots have to be taken surreptitiously, usually with a telephoto lens. If the photos were taken at a party, they would be used to create an album for the host and hostess. Individual photos are also used on greeting cards for various occasions. Otherwise the photos were just meant to preserve memories of beautiful places for my own enjoyment. Boot Camp has provided a much wider audience for me to present my work, and I hope to express an artistic view of the subject. I take pleasure in various genres, but I'm now tending toward minimalist images. Perhaps someday I will show some of my photos at a local artist exhibit.





Richard's favorite inspirational quote:

"The road of excess leads to the palace of wisdom ... you never know what is enough until you know what's more than enough."

- William Blake, Proverbs of Hell

FEATURED RICHARD HUTSON ARTIST USA

Brent: If you could travel anywhere in the world specifically to take pictures, where would you go? Why?

Richard: Although I enjoyed visiting many beautiful places around the world in my younger days, the one place on earth that calls to me specifically to take photos is Death Valley. The austere desert landscape juxtaposed with majestic snow-caped mountains in the distance is awe inspiring and presents endless opportunities for creativity.

Brent: What inspires and motivates you to continue taking pictures?

Richard: I've been a member of Boot Camp since its beginning and seeing the excellent work by other members inspires me to become a better photographer. I'm also trying to build a portfolio of my best photos.

Brent: What is the most challenging photo you've ever taken and how did you overcome those challenges?

Richard: One of the most challenging photos that I've taken is 'Robert's Tree'. It's reassembled every year during the holiday season in the center of the narrow room that spans the width of our house connecting the main rooms in the original house to the garden with a wall of glass and redwood. Photographing the tree is a bit tricky because there are several distractions; lamps on both ends of the sofa and vintage poster on the wall behind the tree. I had to remove the lamps and position the camera to hide the large poster. It's also challenging to capture the tree top to bottom and get all of the ornaments reasonably in focus and evenly exposed without special lighting. Another problem is correcting the vertical distortion of the walls of the narrow room. I took the shot with my Sony a7riv and 24 mm prime lens in portrait position on a tripod with settings; 4.0 sec, at f/16, ISO 100. Actually, it took several shots to get one that I could use. All of the post processing was done in Lightroom. The first adjustment was to correct the vertical distortions using the Transform tool; then it required minor cropping and brushing to remove highlights and even out exposure.

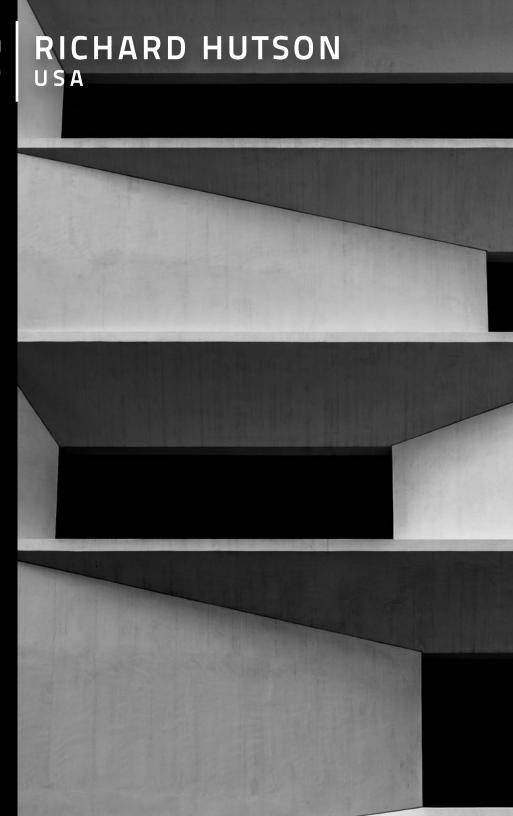
FEATURED ARTIST

Brent: Tell us about the image (the featured image): What was the inspiration behind it? What was your process to get it? How did you do the post processing?

Richard: The most typical seasonal vibe in San Francisco's summer is fog rolling into the bay from the Pacific Ocean. However, this year it was untypically sunny last month, so, I thought what could be more seasonal than the 4th of July with the flag flying against our white house? It's difficult to get a good shot of the front of our house because of the street tree and rose bush obstructions. So, I went up to the corner about 100 feet away and 20 feet higher. I stood in the middle of the street to get the shot using my Sony 70-300 mm lens at 70 mm, 1/200 sec at f/9.0, ISO 100, and following my favorite quote, I overshot what I wanted in the final image to be sure I captured what I needed. Then in Lightroom I selected the desired image by cropping the original and adjusted for highlights and overall exposure. I completed the processing in Photoshop removing the tips of some tree branches that were obstructing the flag and cleaned up a couple of distractions on the larger pediment over the door.

Brent: How do you educate yourself to improve your photography skills?

Richard: I have no formal education per se, but I have watched numerous tutorials on line and subscribe to a few photography blogs. I study photographs taken by others and mentally verbalize what it is that I like and what I don't like about the image. And of course, Boot Camp has been and continues to be an important educational experience. I'm also a member of Johny Spenser's 3 Colors Master Class that's focused on composition and post processing skills.



MEMBERS IMAGES







Photographer: RACHEL GILMOUR

Country: AUSTRALIA

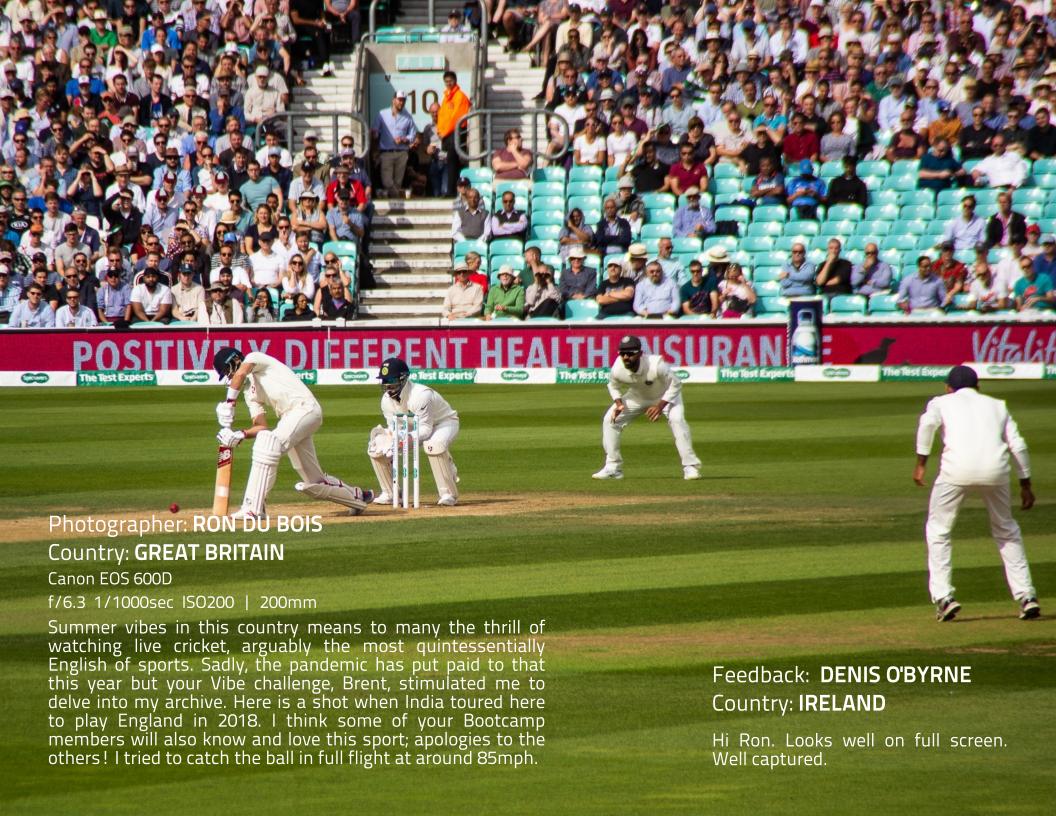
f/2 1/1600sec ISO100 | 32mm

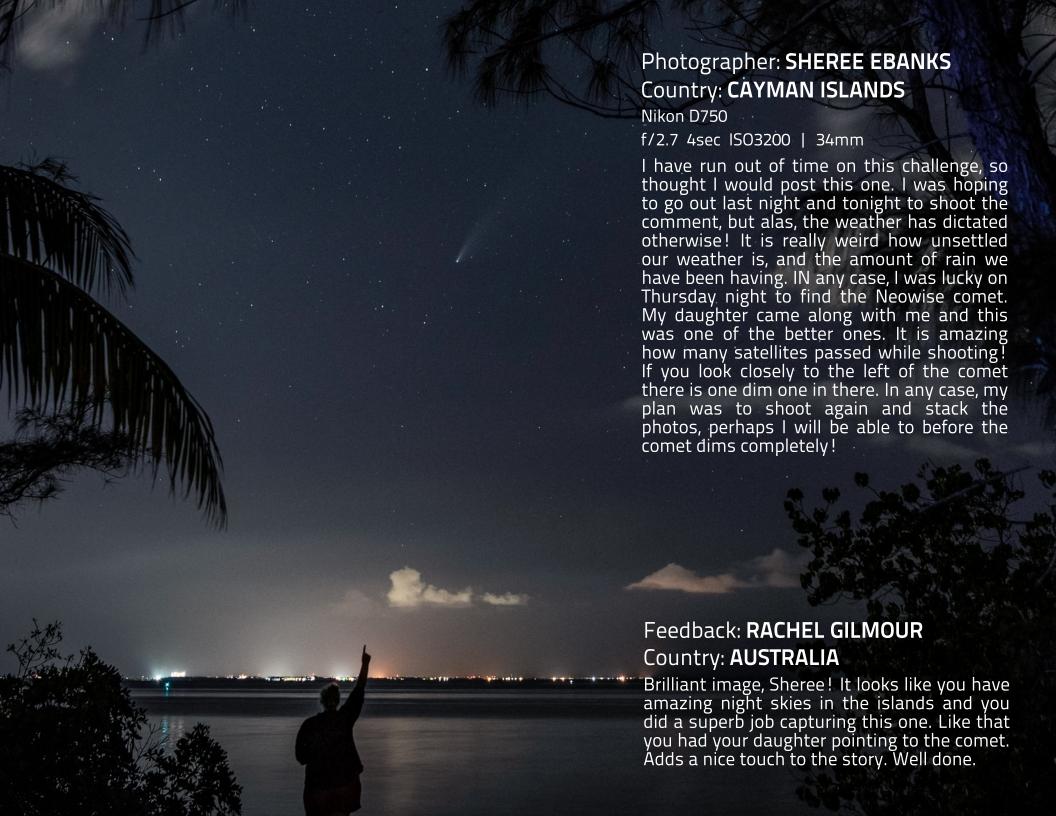
"Seasonal Vibes" - Usually, this is the time of year that I'm working on our boat. Maintenance, upgrades etc. However, with the lock-down due to the virus, I had gotten most things done, which allowed us to spend last week on the Hawkesbury River. Sunny days, cool nights and quiet. It was beautiful. This image was taken on our last day, the only day that we had fog. Temps in the single digits. This area, Ku-Ring-Gai Chase National Park, has 'guest' moorings in several bays that you can stay on for 24 hour periods, free of charge. This antique, timber boat had pulled in the previous evening. Image aspect ratio 1:1, Picture style; monochrome.

Feedback: PETER BRODY

Country: **USA**

Rachel, I like the symmetry that is created by the sky and its reflection. It is perfectly balanced.







Photographer: ANTHONY CADDEN Country: AUSTRALIA f/8 1/60sec ISO100 | 24mm I have tried to represent the cold of the mornings at the moment at home. I have taken my car to the beach to catch the sunrise, but through the frosted rear passenger window before it thawed out. I had to race to get the shot before the sun rose too much. The focus was on the window to show the droplets. This also reminds me of the view you will get from the plane window as the sun comes up. To get the colour back was a combination of slightly raising the global temp with an increase to dehaze, feathered radial filter over the sun to raise Feedback: PETER BRODY Country: **USA** temp more and adjust highlights and shadows, adjustment to the Anthony, nice creativity. I am always saturation of primary colours in calibration (need to give this a try) and adjustment of luminance to blue sky. reminding myself to turn around and look at what is happening behind me.

Photographer: **BRENDA POTTS**

Country: **USA**

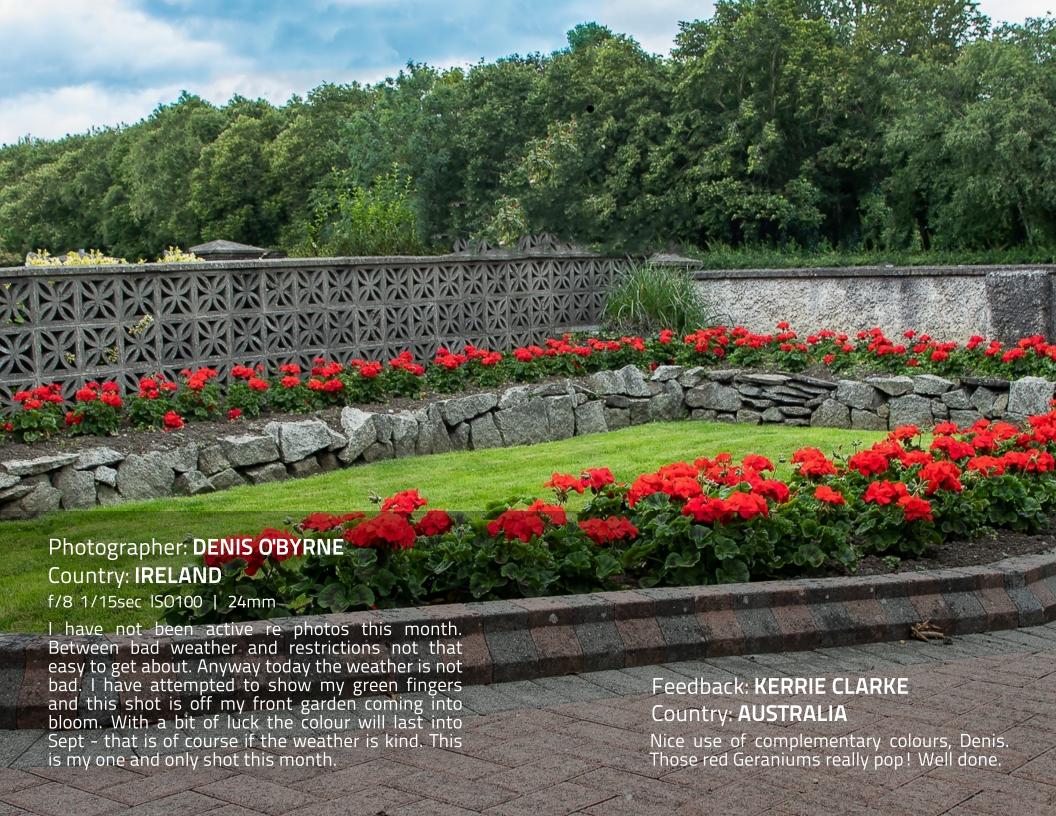
Nikon D750

f/18 4sec ISO100 | 18mm

I am woefully behind this month. I had grand plans and wasn't happy with anything that I shot this month. I guess that happens sometime. :) Anyway, a few nights ago, my husband and I headed up to our favorite golf course that overlooks Seattle and the Olympic Mountains in hopes of catching the comet (not), but there was a beautiful, if not hazy sunset.

Feedback: **TESSA BLEWCHAMP**Country: **UNITED KINGDOM**

Lovely shot of the sunset Brenda - you've captured the "big sky".







Photographer: ROMY VILLANUEVA

Country: **PHILIPPINES**

f/8 ISO100 | 32mm

First I planned to submit a photo juxtaposition of some people wearing masks walking along the beach without the usual crowd but I found it depressing. So I opted to submit a more cheerful photo. In the confines of my room I photographed an orchid flower against a black background. Coming in from the previous low key photography challenge the setup was still there. I took several shots and finally decided to post this photo with some incense smoke. The color of the incense smoke was adjusted using the temperature and tint sliders. I preferred this shot as the color of the smoke gave a semblance of the aurora borealis/australis. I only have my bridge camera with me so I did not have any other option.



Feedback: **DAVE KOH** Country: **SINGAPORE**

That was a great shot Romy. My first thought on the background was the leaves instead of the smoke until I saw them on the big screen. Nice feel with tact sharpness. Uniquely captured. Well done.

ACICNOMIEDGMENTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR TEAM

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About this publication:

Photo BootCamp Magazine was created to showcase the art, skills, and camaraderie of the recruits from the Academy. Each month, Brent leads members in a new drill, teaching them what they need to know to get out in the field and create images using their new skills.

About Photo BootCamp Academy:

Photo BootCamp Academy is a community of like-minded photography students who come together to learn in the fastest, most fun way - how to harness the magic of photography, improve their craft, gain confidence, and sometimes even win awards!

Join BootCamp here: https://shareinspirecreate.com/join-bootcamp

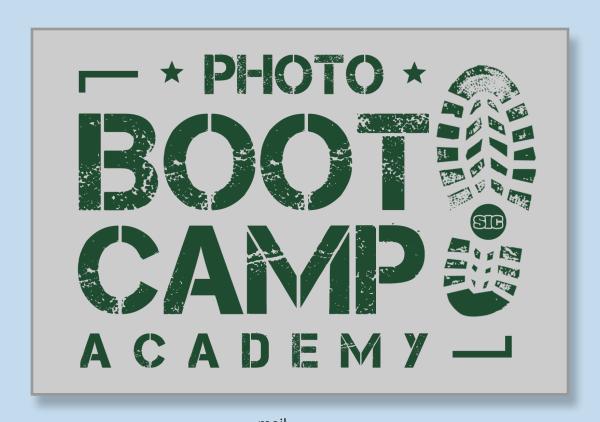
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