



# Shutter Release

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January 2012

## **2012!**

Happy New Year. Wishing you a year of photographic opportunities and WOW! images. And we're here to help! The next few months will provide lots of variety and opportunities to try new things in photography, so be sure to take advantage of them.

## **Program**

Our first 2012 meeting is **January 3** and it will be a "still life" workshop. We'll set up some stations with some props ranging from traditional (fruit/flowers) to something "outside the box" and whatever lighting people show up with (if you have something, please bring it). Digital cameras at least eliminate the need for "tungsten balanced film" if we end up shooting with the light from table lamps. Bring your cameras and tripods.

Although you have control over every aspect of a still life arrangement, the balance of composition and lighting can be challenging. We expect some stunning images to come out of this workshop.

The **January 24** meeting will be for sharing whatever images you might want to discuss, show off, or get opinions on. These can be from the outing, workshop, your last hike or anything else. As well, we will have a **print** competition. Considering that we will be selecting for the Crescent Beach B&W Invitational soon, **we encourage you to bring black and white images** and allow some time for what works best in B&W competitions.

A week later, at our **February 7** meeting, Allen Bargaen will be back with a CAPA presentation on what makes a good photograph. . Allen is an excellent photographer and presenter, and there will be lots of information and images to inform and inspire. You will not want to miss this presentation.

## **Outings**

No formal outings are scheduled for January. Let Justin know ([outings@nwphoto.org](mailto:outings@nwphoto.org) or 778-891-4774) that you want some outings!

We have an informal outing to the Vancouver Aquarium on January 21. Meet at 10:30 and bring money for admission. Most of us have not been there in ages; cameras and tripods are no problem as long as you take reasonable care with the tripods, and the photography is amazing. Contact [president@nwphoto.org](mailto:president@nwphoto.org) if you have any questions! More details TBA on the website.

## Themes

Remember, you can enter up to **three** interpretations of each month's theme. Current running themes are:

**Decorated** closes January **8**.

**Boke(h)** closes January 15.

**Blues** opens January 1 and closes February 12.

The value of theme assignments cannot be overstated. They encourage you to think outside your comfort zone (if you have one), consider new styles and - bonus – you get comments from other participants. You get around 6 weeks to come up with your 3 images – lots of time to get out with the camera or set something up. (That's why most of us leave it for the last week . . . ?)

## Our Outside Competitions

As mentioned previously, we will compete in the digital competition "Fraser Valley Invitational" this spring. The theme is "**Street Photography**", so keep your eyes open if this is not your normal type of photography. There will be lots of clubs competing, so try to capture a perfect moment.

We will also participate in the Crescent Beach black and white print event, so give some thought to your B&W interpretations. This can be harder than you think, so if you bring some B&W to the sharing and/or competition nights in January and February, you can get some pointers. Any topic. ***On the club website, Resources section, there is an article on converting colour to B&W - if you are new at this, it's a great starting point.***

Because of our meeting date changes, selection dates may change for these, so don't leave these for the last minute.

For these competitions, we try to allow enough time so that if you have an image selected, you have time to get it matted according to competition rules. That way you don't incur the expense if your image is not chosen.

## Upcoming Interesting Stuff

**January 19** – The West Coast Animatography members are screening shows for their upcoming presentation to the Pacific Digital Photography Club. You have seen some of our work at our social events, so if you'd like to learn more, you're welcome to attend. 7:00 sharp in the auditorium of the New Westminster library Main branch, and there is no charge.

**January 19-22** – the Vancouver Motorcycle Show out at Tradex in Abbotsford. If you have the slightest interest in motorcycles, this is worth seeing. Lots of photo ops of shiny new toys and usually some beautiful custom bikes. Similar to a car show, move in for the best shots. Suppertime is usually the least crowded time. (rat bike fans have to wait until the Tsawwassen show in April, sorry).

**February 4** is the Burnaby Showcase, an evening of AV presentations from the talented members of the Burnaby Photographic Society. 7:00 pm at the Shadbolt Centre. \$18 to get in. Sells out so call Linda at 604-433-0826 or link via the club website: [www.burnabyphotographicsociety.com](http://www.burnabyphotographicsociety.com).

**March 3** is the 28<sup>th</sup> annual North Shore Challenge. Although our club has not recently participated, this is an inspiring night of viewing images from clubs all over the province. Out in West Vancouver, information at [www.nsps.ca](http://www.nsps.ca).

Events are also found in the News section of our website or in Events and Exhibitions or the Pacific Zone News in the CAPA Pacific Zone website: [www.capapac.org](http://www.capapac.org).

## **January Photography**

This is not usually a cheery month for photography – the first full month of winter can be dreary and damp. There are still lots of photo opportunities. In addition to the club outings and local events, try:

**Downtown** Vancouver – bad weather means reflections, umbrellas, steaming streets and neon – architecture from gleaming modern to, well, less gleaming but interesting. Twilight hours are superb and you might pick up a winner for “Street Photography” for the rapidly approaching Fraser Valley Invitational. The **mountains** can be beautiful, whether it’s transit to Grouse (save on fuel and parking to help pay for the astronomical \$40 Skyride) or snow tires up Seymour or Cypress. Usually there are nice views just from the parking lot. Don’t overlook **local parks** – winter foliage and bare branches can provide hours of beautiful compositions – birds and animals are a bonus. Or people watch/photograph. And don’t overlook the local New Westminster **Quay** – a long walk of river views, exotic plants (year round interest), dogs on strings, moving things and interesting angles for architecture. **Bridges** have wonderful lines in any weather – lucky members have view from their balconies. Create your own outing: pick a place and go for a walk. Remember the variety of subjects that Shona found on Main Street (Christmas pot-luck entertainment)? The list is endless. Start the New Year with some adventure: get out and shoot!

## **Publicity**

Contact [program@nwphoto.org](mailto:program@nwphoto.org) for a pdf of the poster on the next page, print at least one copy and post it on your condo bulletin board, at your work place or wherever you can. Let’s encourage visitors. This will be a great program.

*Coming to the New Westminster Photography Club on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012*  
(Centennial Lodge hall, Queens Park,  
7:30 p.m.)

The Canadian Association for Photographic Art  
presents



# In Search of a Better Photograph



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