

Monday, October 20, 2014
2nd Bonnie Nichol Lecture Series

THE IMPORTANCE OF CREATIVITY

with
Guy Boily

We have all asked ourselves this question. What makes a great image? It's a combination of several elements, depending on what the subject matter is. A great subject with poor lighting will result in a mediocre image but even a poor subject with great lighting can become a work of art.

Light has always been my main subject and I see myself as a pursuer of light.



In nature or travel photography, it's about composition, subject, lighting and how demanding you are about your results. If your only desire is to document your trip, anyone can probably do a fairly good job with the camera equipment we have these days. But, if you are even slightly interested in getting better shots, it takes work and if you are at all passionate about your photography, it takes a lot of devotion and preparation.

Doing your research beforehand can be helpful. I will talk about preparing for that special shoot, what gear you

might need and what time to arrive at your location. And—oh yeah!—have a backup plan because more often than not you will need one as nature can surely play tricks on you.

My goal is to do my best work on location. I make sure to have with me, GR (graduated) filters, ND (neutral density) filters, flashlights, tidal charts, SR (sunrise) and SS (sunset) charts, MR (moon rise) and MS (moon set) charts and my best friend, my tripod.

We have at our disposal great post-processing software, but many of us rely on them too much. We all use these programs, however I recommend that the greater part of your work should be in the field using your camera.

During the presentation, you will be given information which will certainly help you to achieve a better success rate with your images. Remember, it's not the equipment that's important, it's how you use it!





Biography



I was born in Montreal in 1950 and like most young boys grew up playing outside.

It was not until I was 16 and on a wilderness survival course in Alberta with the air cadets that I awakened to the natural beauty which surrounded me.

Years passed and in 1988 I attended an evening at an amateur photo club. There I discovered what would become my life's passion—photography.

Over time, creativity became more and more important to me. In 1995 I began to seriously pursue photography full time. Highlights of my career have been the numerous photo workshops I have given in l'Archipel de Mingan,



in Charlevoix and for L.L. Lozeau, in Montréal. I am very much an outdoor photographer, having worked in Quebec's Great North to produce a national calendar on Nunavut for Kodak Canada. I have also photographed both Mosaiculture International Exhibitions in Montreal. Nikon hired me to present my images to promote their products at the Salon D-Clic of 2012. The same year, the Department of Foreign Affairs of Canada purchased some of my images which are now on permanent exhibit in Mumbai, India and in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. I continue to teach photography in Montreal libraries and at photo clubs throughout Quebec.

Photography is my passion and I have developed the art of "seeing differently." I devote a lot of time just observing with my eyes and with my soul, not using a camera, picturing the scene or object before me in my head and that's where my approach to photographing it first take's shape. The most important work is in the imagination and the resultant photograph is the representation of his or her life experiences.

Creating the best image I can and sharing my ideas with others is my ultimate goal. I consider myself as more of an artist than a photographer.