

Travel Photography

Susan Onysko

Available Light Portraits- Soft Light on overcast or cloudy days, or in morning evening light-if mid-day sun place person in a doorway, sun becomes your softbox (ex left)- if bad light still shoot, sometimes person and expression can trump bad light- ex right)



Environmental Portraits: watch backgrounds, to capture moments, be patient try to predict subjects behavior



Misc. Travel Tips-

Watch for Frames, Reflections, and find a cool wall and wait for an interesting person to walk in the frame

Details- are everywhere: markets, can use a long lens and isolate, get cleaner simpler shots

Off Camera Flash

I use Nikon Speedlights with a SU-800 wireless transmitter on camera (just purchased pocket wizards as sometimes in harsh light Nikon unit doesn't work well enough) hold flash out with arm about 45degrees and eye level/higher than subject (eye level if wearing a hat etc.) or have someone else hold it—local people love to help! Always show the photos to subject, even if they aren't that great. Be thankful!

High Speed Sync

Setting in Menu on Nikon- allows flash to synch at higher than normal speeds (normal 1/125, 1/250th shutter speed) can use to over-power the sun on a bright day- higher shutter speed (ex 1/4000th) darkens background, flash on subject makes it pop against darker background, also can use just for dramatic effect-



Dreary (Coudy/Overcast) Day Dramatic Portraits

Off camera flash with orange gel, set white balance on incandescent



Landscapes

Sunstars

Sunny day wide angle lens and no filter- f/22- super easy



Photography –Simplicity is Key-

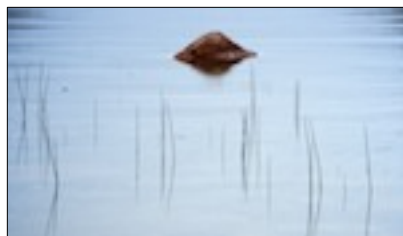
Photos that are easy to look at, subject known, no distractions in the frame, no wandering eye



My version vs. John's, which is what it really looked like when we were there.

Pre-Visualization

Try to create something unique, something others don't see, better to get one amazing photo as opposed to 20 so-so ones.



Processing Photos

- Aperture (Lightroom, both the same)
- PS CS6
- Nik Color and Silver Efex (convert all b/w in silver efex)
- Portrait Professional (really inexpensive and easy to use portrait retouching)
- Alien Skin Exposure 4 (film effects- I tone a lot of images with a separate layer of one of these)
- Topaz Adjust
- Noiseware Professional
- Vertus Fluid Mask 3

Some Resources:

Workflow

- Import into Aperture- Adjust Levels, Mid Contrast, White Balance, Sharpen and Vignette
- In Aperture (sure LR has also) I always turn on my highlight hot/cold areas on, so it shows me any blown out highlights or detail less shadows....I then adjust as needed with Recovery Slider and Black Point Slider
- I use PS for the spot healing brush, clone tool and anything requiring layers.

Photo Tour Groups

- Strabo Tours
- American Nature Photography Workshops
- Popular Photography Magazine Mentor Series
- Photo Quest Adventures

Photographers I follow....

- Tom Bol- Great teacher, one of PDN's to teachers- shoots everything, amazing lighting
- Ami Vitale- incredible photojournalist
- Nevada Wier- my girl photo travel idol
- Varina and Jay Patel- Landscapes (and great friends)
- Joey Lawrence – Lighting....wow!
- Phil Borges- Travel Portrait Work
- Jan C. Schlegel- Travel Portrait Work
- Stacy L. Perarsall – War Photographer, among other things
- Deborah Sandidge – Travel, Nature, Fine Art
- Grace Jones- local -fashion, conceptual portrait person