



Photo of the Year Steve Choatie

News Letter Oct. 2011

September Speaker, Peter Nash



does Peter Nash do it? Well, he treats *all* his subjects as celebrities. He says, "I approach a dog, in a sense, no different than if it was Dolly Parton." He shoots in color, he exclaims enthusiastically, "because they are in fur coats!" Beautiful browns and creams and oranges and blacks shot in blocks of shapes transferred to canvas make for stunning portraits. What makes his work different is that he identifies himself as a portrait artist as opposed to a photographer and likes his portraits to look like art on canvas, by using light in the same way classic artists did. And all the while he is charming your dog into posing like a professional. The result is a very special photographic and classic dog portraiture. I had to see for myself how

he weaves his magic spell over his canine subjects. [continued on Page 15](#)

**Club meeting Tuesday
October 18 : 7PM**

Note:

**Meeting is at Dury's
6 P.M Informal Visitation
7 P.M. Meeting
8 P.M. Speaker
9 P.M. Adjourn**

Dog Day Afternoons

Will Rogers once said, "If you get to thinking you're a person of some influence, try ordering somebody else's dog around." So how

*[Map to Dury's
Club Website](#)*

- www.nashvillephotographyclub.com

Quote

*"My expensive, state of the art, first class quality camera does a highly accurate job capturing reality-in-itself. Fortunately, I can fix that with Photoshop."
- George Machen*

Beginner Tips for Setting up a Photo

Since I like to travel light, I rarely buy souvenirs so the most important things I bring home from a trip are my photos. I love taking and sharing photos, but I'm very much an amateur photographer.

I don't know the lingo and I have a year-old Canon Rebel XS SLR (single lens reflex, whatever that means) digital camera that ups my street cred, but in all honesty, I'm still figuring out what most of the buttons and settings do.

It's intimidating to wade through all of the information, equipment and technology available, but there are a number of things that everyone can do immediately to ensure that you come home from a trip with a great set of photos that are



Through the frame

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presentable and fun to look at regardless of the type of camera that you own.

These are some of the things that I quickly think through whenever I'm setting up shots:

1. Prioritize your subject: don't try to highlight everything in one shot. If there is more than one potential subject in the frame, decide what takes precedence and then center it.

Do you care more about the person or the landscape? The two should not be competing. If it's the landscape, make sure the person is not obscuring any important elements- consider even shifting them left or right of center. If it's the person, bring them closer to the camera so that you can really see their face and have the landscape serve as a beautiful backdrop.

Before you click, scan what's inside your frame to make sure you're not cutting off any important elements (the top of a mountain? the top of a person?). Include some space around the subject to create a natural border. When in doubt, include more space than less. It's easier to crop a photo later than to PhotoShop an arm back in.

2. Don't shoot into a light source (including the sun or a reflective surface): your subject will be back lit or the light will wash out the entire photo. If you really want to take the photo, and the light source isn't too strong, you can try shooting with a flash so that it lights up the subject in front of the light source. Sometimes this works, sometimes it doesn't. It can look kind of artificial.

On the other hand, light hitting a subject at an angle can create some beautiful effects and contrasts.



3. Make sure the subject you're highlighting is actually in focus: maybe you're looking at the person, but the camera has decided to blur them out and focus on the leaves in the background. Check before you click. Use a tripod or surface to stabilize your camera if necessary.

4. Experiment with different camera angles: While shooting at eye level will give you some concise, straightforward photos, try occasionally shooting at different angles to add interest. Shoot subjects from above, below, and the side. This will make for more dramatic photos and create size variation and interesting perspectives. In some cases, it will also allow you to capture more details be-

cause you're cutting across planes. Plus, kneeling down to take a shot makes you look really cool.

5. Include variations in color, texture and/or light: If what's in your frame doesn't include contrasts in at least one of these areas, your photo will probably be quite flat and blah to look at.

6. Find frames within the environment: try to find things that can be used as frames for subjects in your photo. A window or a doorway are more obvious options, but don't limit yourself. Think outside of the box. Shooting through a bike wheel or a space between a collection of objects could create an unexpected and interesting shot. **Continued next page**



I personally think the most important part of photography is learning to see things in different ways and being flexible with your vision. After you've become more adept at setting up these basic shots, a lot of "rules" can be disregarded to create more avant garde photos, but this is a good place to begin to ensure that you take sharp photos that "pop."

Author: Perrin Smith's

Russ Harrington (our speaker in February 2012) would like to invite the NPC Members to his OPEN HOUSE on Wednesday, October 19th from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. The Studio is located at 2935 Berry Hill Dr., 27204. Russ has also started renting out his studio to local photographers.

If you need a studio for a shoot, call Russ at 615-385-9444 or [mailto: studio@40russharrington.com](mailto:studio@40russharrington.com)

Congratulations to Nashville Photography Club Members Diana Powell and Bob Ellis for their winning entries in the Tennessean Vacation Photo contest. Diana won 1st place and Bob won 3rd place.



Diana Powell - 1st Place



Bob Ellis - 3rd Place



“Mark your Calendar” for the N.P.C. Christmas Party.

It is at Dury’s. Friday night, Dec. 2nd. More details to come soon.

The NPC Christmas Dinner Party will be Friday, December 2 starting at 6:00 PM. Location will be the Dury's meeting room where we have our monthly club meetings. Cost will be \$10.00 per member \$15.00 per non club member. Cost is non-refundable. You can pay for your reservations at the October 18 or November 15 meeting or by mail. Cool Cafe of Franklin will cater the event.

Time to begin getting your images ready for the Nashville Photography Club Christmas Dinner Party slide show

Each member can submit up to 12 images for the show. We had 42 members contribute for the July slide show, let's see if we can have even better participation for the December slide show. I would also like to get some type of self portrait or self image that can be displayed before your images so that club members can better associate a face with a name of the contributing photographer. Following are some details for submitting your images:

All images must be submitted by Friday, November 18 in order to get them in the slide show. Images should be 1024 on the longest side by 120 DPI.

Images need to be labeled in the following manner (Photographer Name_# ex. Chris Kringle_1). I need the photographers name in order to give credit to the photographer for their work. You can use WeTransfer file transfer to send me the images or you can give them to me on a CD at one of the meetings, or you can e-mail them to me. I prefer using WeTransfer file transfer, but I can take them in the other methods also.

Contact me at my e-mail address or see me at one of the meetings if you have questions. My e-mail address is: BWrightback@comcast.net

Don't forget to sign up for the [Members Spot Light](#). We have several opportunities coming up in the next few months. Members Spot light gives you the chance to show off some of your work and also allows other members of the club to get to know you a little better. Look for the signup sheets on one of the tables or email Brent Wright to be included. Bwrightback@comcast.net

Camera Club Council of Tennessee

Our club and several others from across the state have joined together to create an important new initiative for photography clubs across the state called the Camera Club Council of Tennessee (3CT). Jim Bruner is our representative and will be discussing this topic at the October club meeting. We all need to get behind Jim and show the council that the Nashville Photography Club is supportive of this ground breaking initiative. Listed below is a letter from the president of council to it's members.

Continued on next page



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Oct. 11, 2011

Twelve representatives from eleven major camera clubs across the State of Tennessee met on October 1ST, 2011 to make major decisions concerning the formation of a Camera Club Council of Tennessee. An organization dedicated to the advancement of all things photographic, enabling clubs to share speakers, workshops, field trips, seminars and competitions had been the dream of many of those present.

We met for three hours in a back room at Dury's in Nashville and were all blown away with the vast experience everyone brought to the table. We sailed through a lengthy agenda, including drafts of a Constitution, By-Laws, and the election of Officers. You could feel the excitement as we realized that 3CT was at last a reality.

Many of the representatives stepped into positions on the Executive Board and you will be hearing from all of them in the near future. They are:

Ron Plasencia - Vice President/Communications Director

Les Milligan – Treasurer

Jim Bruner – Membership Director

Mark Wurst – Publicity Director

Dee Murphy – Activities Director



Back row- Titus Bartos, Jim Bruner, Mark Wurst, Colby McLemore
Middle row- Dee Murphy, Jane Brewer, Lisa Skelley, Douglas Hubbard, Jeff Roush
Front Row- Les Milligan, Ron Plasencia, Sue Milligan
First meeting of the Camera Club Council of Tennessee Oct 1, 2011



Cont. from previous page

(Titus Bartos will be working with Ron as Technical Advisor and Colby McLemore will be assisting Jeff with Education. We hope to have a Secretary in place soon.)

The Camera Club Council of Tennessee's two year goals have been set and there will be hard work ahead for all, but anything worth having is worth working for and this Executive Board realizes the advantages of such an organization. We will be depending on camera clubs across the state getting involved. They will be the key to the organizations success; they are who we will be working for.

I am proud to have the honor of being 3CT's first President and I am looking forward to working with the amazing team we have put together. But for now, I want to thank everyone who traveled great distances and gave up their Saturday to help make 3CT possible; our "founding fathers", so to speak. It was a pleasure working with you!

Titus Bartos: Murfreesboro Camera Club

Jane Brewer: LeConte Photographic Society (Sevierville)

Jim Bruner: Nashville Photography Society/Brentwood Photography Group

Douglas Hubbard: Camera Club of Oakridge

Colby McLemore: Southern Appalachian Nature Photographers (Knoxville)

Les Milligan: Cookeville Camera Club

Dee Murphy: LeConte Photographic Society (Sevierville)

Ron Plasencia: Photographic Society of East Tennessee (Morristown)

Jeff Roush: Dyersburg Camera Club

Lisa Shelly: Jackson Photo Club

Mark Wurst: Photographic Society of Chattanooga

You can all be proud of the part you played in forming 3CT! Thanks again.

Sue Milligan: Cookeville Camera Club/3CT President



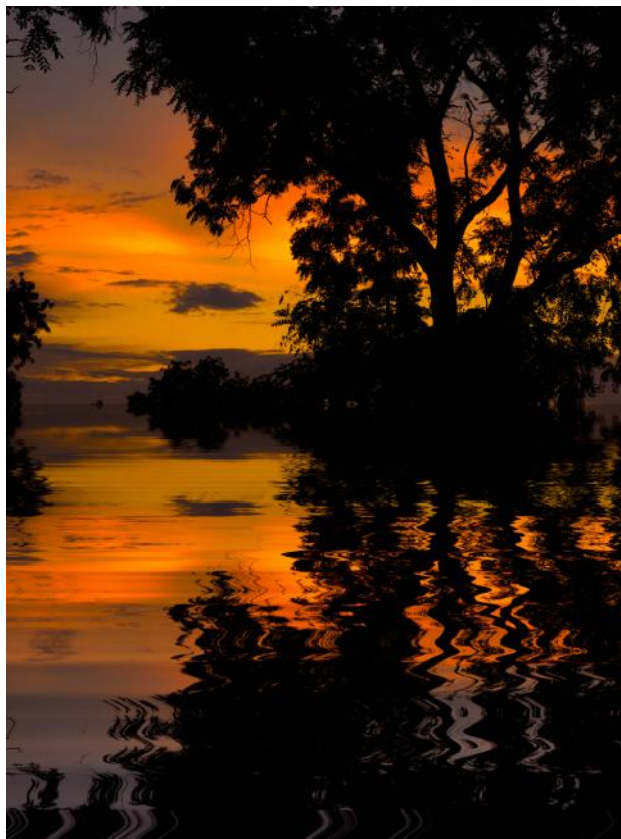
Picture of the Month September 2011

"Silhouette"

Congratulations to

Michelle Huguley

Nikon D200 50mm lens
f/5.0 1/200 sec @ ISO 250
ambient light

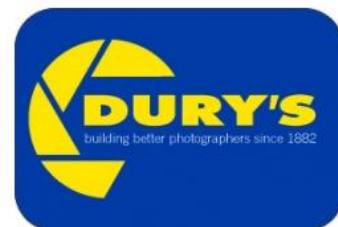


Upcoming Photo of the Month Themes

October - Barns
November - Hills

-Rules for Photo of the Month Contest -

1. You **MUST** be a member and dues paid up to date.
2. Photograph must pertain to the Monthly Theme (i.e. November is FOLIAGE).
3. Image size limits: Minimum 4 x 6 to Maximum 12" (long side).
4. Place ONE photo in the Marked Folder on the center table.
5. Photograph needs to be taken within the past 3 months.



Sponsored by Dury's

Note: Be sure an put your name on the back of your image.



NASHVILLE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Schedule of Speakers

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Photo Theme</u>	<u>Spotlights</u>
October 18th	Peter Nash	Barns	Virginia Gregory-Kojac & David Jones
November 15th	Ashley & Brannon Segroves	Hills	Wayne Wilkerson & Shirley Williams
December 2nd	Christmas Party	See additional info below	MEMBER'S SLIDES
January	Jason Tucker		
FEBRUARY	Russ Harrington		
March	BOB GLOVER		
April	GEORGE BRADFIELD & GAIL STEWART		

“Mark your Calendar” for the N.P.C. Christmas Party.

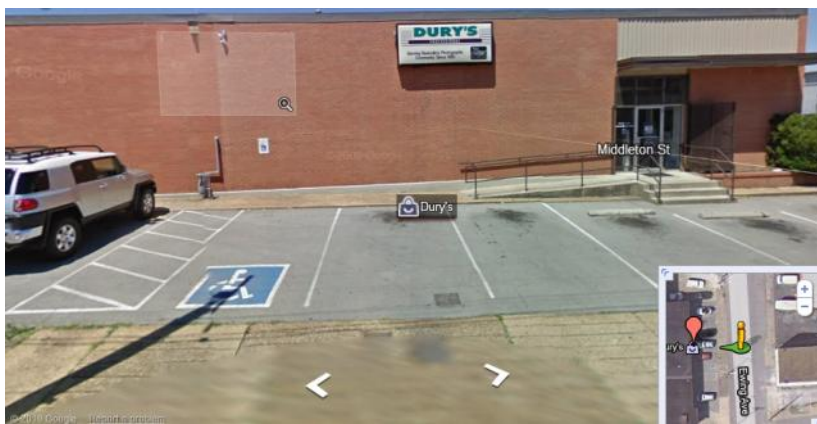
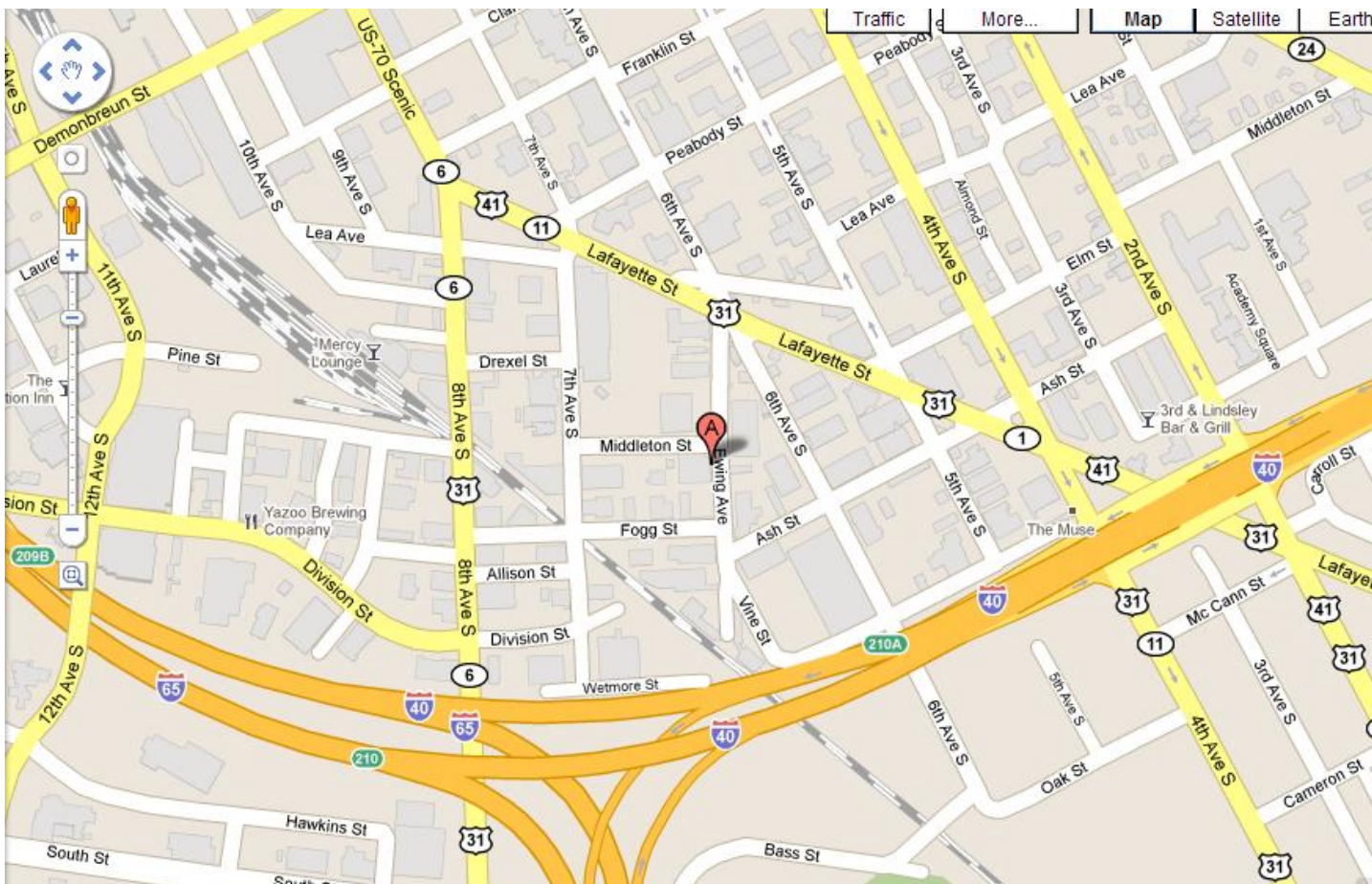
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Meeting at Dury's 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Dury's is located at 701 Ewing Ave, Nashville, TN



Since it is autumn a time of year when we may take a lot of landscape photos. I thought this article would be timely.

Landscape Photography: Steps to Improve

How many times have you been driving and wanted to stop and take a shot of that breathtaking landscape. You then stop, look around and the shot even looks better. Your heart even skips a beat. You go for it and return to the car with a huge smile.



When you get back home you download your pictures, process them and then you find out that what you shot was not what you placed your eyes on. What went wrong? Well its simple your lens and the sensor of your camera do not work like your eyes and your brain does. You select different parts of the scene and produce beauty out of them, your sensor doesn't.

So what do you now? For landscape photography you need time and a couple of tips, follow them, practice and your shots will improve.

The general rule for landscape photography is to keep as much of the scene in focus as possible. This means that you have to maximize the Depth of Field or DOF. In other words you have to choose a small aperture setting (remember small in this case means a large number) to obtain a greater Depth of Field. The greater the DOF is the more focus you will achieve. This also means that your shutter will stay open more than it would normally be.

Since you are now using a longer shutter speed to maximize your Depth of Field you need to ensure that your camera is stable and not shaking. The best thing to do is to use a tripod and a cable or wireless shutter release mechanism. Doing so your camera will not shake and your photo will be not blur.

Decide what your central point will be, what is your subject, where is it, what size is it, does it have enough contrast with the rest of the picture and how does its shape compare to the rest of the composition. Your central point, know as Focal Point, is what will make your shot stand out and not allow the eyes of the viewer to wonder. The Focal Point in landscape photography can take the shape of many different things, a building, a tree, a rock, a person, etc. The placement of your subject is very important, use the rules of composition for this purpose.

Your horizon is the next step to consider and an important one. Make sure your horizon is straight and in the lower third or the top third of the photo. The rule of thirds applies very well to landscape photography.

Now look for lines in your shot. Lines are a way to guide the eye. It gives your image a sense of direction. Lines should direct the viewer towards your subject. A line can be road, a river, shoreline, mountain edges, etc.

Another element of your landscape composition that can create an amazing landscape shot is a foreground object, this creates

depth in your shot and prevents it from being flat. The foreground will help you balance your image.

When possible convey and transmit the movement that you see, wind, water, moving clouds, a bird. A static image is less dramatic than one that showcases movement, it adds drama, mood and creates point of interest.

Shoot landscapes either early morning or at dusk, light is the best at this point and colors, textures, patterns will pop out and impact your image.

Take your time before taking the final shot. Try different points of view. The same image will look completely different if you go low- or if you go higher. So walk around, climb a little, get on your knees or in a ditch. You will be surprised at what you see.



What Makes a Great Photograph?

I'm sure this article will be controversial. I mean, after all, how do you objectively characterize what makes a good photograph? It's not like marking a mathematics paper, where there is always a right or wrong answer. Photography, much like any other art form, is very subjective. That said, I do believe that there are certain elements that all great photographs share in common. Here's my (subjective) attempt at defining them:

1. Great use of Light – I've placed this in position 1, because photography is essentially all about light. As has been said many a time, photography literally means 'painting with light', and to become a true master of this



discipline requires that you can read and understand light in the same way that you read and understand language- Metaphorically,

it is one of the linguistic building blocks of photography. When taking a picture, great photographers will consider the direction as well as the quality of light. Is the subject side lit, or back lit? Is the light source hard or soft? Will I set up the picture so that it is low-key or high key? Depending on the answers to these questions the overall emotional feel and aesthetic of the image will change radically, thereby changing its meaning. To give you an example, look at some classic pictures taken of jazz clubs in low light. Typically these are low key in nature and they create a very definite 'noir' aesthetic. Play around with light so that it supports the meaning you are trying to convey in the image.

2. Great Composition – As in great art, great photographs generally have a sense of compositional form and balance that is pleasing to the eye. As a starting point it's a great idea to understand the basic rules of composition, such as using the rules of thirds. Once you have learned them though, don't be afraid to play around with them and break the rules. It's a way of establishing your own unique style, and who wants to be limited by rules anyway?

3. A Sense of Timing – Take a look at the work of Henri Cartier-Bresson, the undisputed master of street photography, and you will notice that, as well as having complete mastery of composition, he was also a master of timing. He knew how and when to

anticipate what he called 'The Decisive Moment'; that point in time when all of the elements of the image fall into place and when the emotional 'pitch' of the story is at its peak. Great timing is essential in photography. Practice being patient, and remember to try to anticipate the best moment at which to engage the shutter button.

4. A Clear Subject – Great photographs generally have a very clear idea of what the core subject of the photograph is. If you find that when you frame an image the subject is unclear then try taking out any unnecessary elements. Sometimes simplifying the image is the best way to improve it.

Try experimenting with these different elements to see what works for you.

Don't forget you only get better with plenty of practice. Good luck!

Author: Matt Foden





NatchezTraceTravel.com News Release - Natchez Trace Fall Foliage Photo Contest

Release date: October 1, 2011

Contact:

Randy Fought
 NatchezTraceTravel.com - Natchez Trace Bed & Breakfast Reservation Service
 PO Box 826
 Madison, TN 37116
 800.377.2770 or info@natcheztracetravel.com



Fall foliage season on the Natchez Trace Parkway is just around the corner. This year, folks can enter their fall foliage pictures of the parkway anytime from October 1 through November 23 in a Natchez Trace Fall Foliage Photo Contest. The parkway offers numerous opportunities for enjoying fall foliage - scenic overlooks, waterfalls, streams, river crossings, historic sites, sunken roads and sections of the 200+ year-old original Natchez Trace. Each contestant may enter up to three pictures.

We can't predict the exact fall foliage peak dates along each section of the 444 mile-long Natchez Trace but generally...Tennessee is at or near peak foliage colors from mid to late October, northwest Alabama and northeast Mississippi from late October to early November and central Mississippi early to mid November.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes will be awarded to the top three pictures. The 1st place winner will receive a \$300 B&B gift certificate from the reservation service, 2nd place winner a \$200 B&B gift certificate and the 3rd place winner a \$100 B&B gift certificate. Each of the winners will also receive one or more \$25 dining certificates from restaurants located near the parkway. Winners will be determined by public voting on the website.

Go to www.NatchezTraceTravel.com for more details on prizes, fall foliage 'when and where' tips with pictures from past years, how to enter the contest and how to vote for pictures.

About NatchezTraceTravel.com:

NatchezTraceTravel.com is a travel guide about the Natchez Trace Parkway and the towns and areas near the Trace. Travelers can find pictures, information and maps for each of the 90+ interpretive on the parkway as well as many of the major attractions located near the Trace.

NatchezTraceTravel.com is also the online home of the Natchez Trace B&B Reservation Service. The reservation service works with 40 B&Bs, cabins, cottages and historic hotels located near the parkway. For each of the lodging options the website provides information, photo galleries, guest room pictures, descriptions and rates, maps and area attractions. Free itinerary planning is available for tourists, bicyclists and motorcyclists online and at 800.377.2770.

About Natchez Trace Parkway:

Started in the late 1930s, the modern Natchez Trace Parkway is a 444 mile-long, scenic road that generally follows the path of the Old Natchez Trace from Natchez, Mississippi to Nashville, Tennessee. The parkway is a federal park maintained by the National Park Service. www.nps.gov/natr/

-- NatchezTraceTravel.com --



Advanced Animal Photography Class at the Nashville Zoo
with Zoo Photographer Christian Sperka
on Saturday, September 24, 2011 - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For details and/or book the class go to <http://www.nashvillezoo.org/education/animal-art-photography-ii-adult>

Nov 19, 2011 - Animal Art Photography II (Advanced)

Dec 3, 2011 - Animal Art Photography I

For more information go to <http://www.nashvillezoo.org/education/photography-classes>

or contact me directly - christian@sperka.com / (347) 819 3030

Check out the [Charities Page](#) on the website for info on upcoming charities that need our help with photographing their event.



Click on the photo below to watch a short video about Macro Photography.



Continued from page 1

Zeeka and Ruby, the most wonderful whippets, met us at the door of the home in Brentwood the dogs share with Peter and Laura and their two teenage children. The playful energy of both dogs and owner were quite charming. Peter and these furry friends led us back to a bright workspace filled with some of his canvas canines. Ruby naturally posed on “her” couch just as if she were ready for her close-up. She had obviously done this before. A graduate of the Pasadena Art and Design Center in California, Nash



hours of listening to his brother’s Hank Williams records, led him on the road to Nashville in 1983.

His list of clients includes most if not all of country music’s royalty, from Dolly to Willie, from Johnny to Loretta, both Georges, and Chet too. No last names required. During those times there was no art direction position, so Peter learned to do it all. He became a favorite of many artists, a friend of Lyle Lovett, and was even the one to photograph the slightly surprising wedding of Lovett to Julia Roberts. In the ’90s there was a shift in fashion and country music. Peter, who at one time was only reluctantly

hired because he was “too L.A.,” was now watching a migration of his work to the photographers and stylists of the coasts. The music was changing, but then so was Peter’s interest in it. As his passion for the genre shifted, he began to think about what his next adventure might be.



the phone, then thought to himself, “What am I doing? I love dogs!” He had no way of getting back to her, but, as fate would have it, she was persistent and called him back a month later. He took the job but charged her nothing. As he shows us the portraits, he sadly tells us that quite a few of his subjects have passed on already. Because we know that a dog’s lifespan is shorter than ours, “A dog relationship is temporary . . . [but] it’s the closest thing to nature we have as city dwellers.” Peter feels honored to have been able to capture their spirits in unique portraits that will be family heirlooms. What I’ve found during this delightful afternoon with Peter Nash, and as I think Ruby and Zeeka would tell you too if they could, is that there is no one better for the job of making your dog feel and look like a celebrity.



Peter Nash’s dog portraits are represented by Gallery202 in Franklin, Tennessee. www.peternashdogs.com

This article appeared in the Feb 2011 edition of the Nashville Arts Magazine it was written by Robbie Moore
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nashville
photography club

VISUAL ARTS | PHOTOGRAPHY | ANTIQUES | LITERATURE | THEATRE

Nashville Arts

February 2011

MAGAZINE



Enchanting Ningyo
The Dolls of Japan

Andrew Saftel
Face to Face

Jeff Jamison
In Reflection

Peter Nash
Dog Day Afternoons