



Meeting Agenda

May 3, 2023

Hobbyists Camera Club

Meeting Agenda

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Monthly assignment slideshow
- ❖ Club Management Discussion
- ❖ Photography as Narrative *Tom Heed*
- ❖ AI and Photography
- ❖ Monthly Assignment

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Monthly Assignment Slideshow



View slideshow at
<https://youtu.be/HR3SjDaEziQ>

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Club Management Discussion

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Club Management Discussion

- ❖ Since I will be relinquishing my Club chairman position at the end of next month, I would like to hear and discuss your possible suggestions/ideas on how to manage our Club going forward.
- ❖ Unfortunately as of today, no-one has come forward to become the new Chairman and I hope that this position will be filled by September when the Club activities are scheduled to resume after the Summer pause.

Photography as Narrative

Tom Heed

Click on this link to see the presentation
<https://prezi.com/view/82Xve0nVV06mGhiwqg6kp/>

AI and Photography

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AI and Photography

- ❖ One of the buzzword that is all over the media these days is AI (Artificial Intelligence) and its current and future impact on the business world and society in general.
- ❖ But what is AI? In a nutshell, AI is the process of machine learning. It is the simulation of human intelligence in a computer.
Programs learn and keep the information as they progress and the learning process is refined by each iteration.
- ❖ If you apply this type of machine learning to photography, you could have a machine that theoretically takes perfect pictures!

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AI and Photography

- ❖ Manufacturers have integrated AI into photography for a few years now. If you have a smartphone, you already have a range of AI programs at your fingertips.
- ❖ For example, AI in photography includes the camera's computer identifying certain subjects. This identification leads to the program making automatic adjustments to the image.
- ❖ Some examples of everyday AI photography are:
 - ▶ Facial Recognition to improve autofocusing
 - ▶ Environment Recognition (like in the Portrait mode on our smartphones)
 - ▶ Zoom and Enhance (improve the quality of a low resolution image).

Arsenal

- ❖ AI has also entered the world of photography hardware with add ons that can help us to take the “perfect” shot.
- ❖ Arsenal is an AI camera hardware that attach to most DSLR cameras. And then, it aids you with the scene you are photographing.
- ❖ The Arsenal team claims the program doesn't take away from photographic originality. That's because it is still up to us to decide what you point your camera at and how to frame the image.

Arsenal

- ❖ This program works with a vast database of photos. When you direct your camera to a scene, Arsenal will search its database for similar ones. The AI software then offers you many settings to capture what it thinks is the best image possible. Thus, it gives you an image like those taken by professional photographers.
- ❖ Arsenal has a list price of \$289 (from the manufacturer).
- ❖ The following video highlights the key features of Arsenal.

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View video at

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=PNj8yBII4YQ>

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AI Photo Editing

- ❖ Another area where AI has entered photography is AI Driven Photo Editing.
- ❖ Many new and old programs are incorporating AI capabilities to improve and speedup the editing process.
- ❖ One of the best-known AI photo editing software is Luminar AI from Skylum. It features specific landscape and portrait tools.
- ❖ Photoshop and Lightroom are also introducing more and more AI driven functionalities like sky replacement and masking.

AI Generated Images

- ❖ Without doubt, the most controversial aspect of AI in photography is the issue of AI Generated Images.
- ❖ The Sony World Photography Awards, held in mid April, witnessed an unprecedented event. The creative, open-category winner, German-based artist Boris Eldagsen, revealed on his website that he would not accept the prize.
Eldagsen generated the prize-winning image using artificial intelligence (AI) and wanted to spark an open discussion about the place of AI in photography.

AI Generated Images



Boris Eldagsen, *The Electrician*.

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AI Generated Images

- ❖ AI Generated Images essentially are images produced by a computer without the use of a camera.
- ❖ There are a few programs that now work in a text-to-image format. They let you type in prompts for a picture you would like to “create” and the program generates original images for you.
- ❖ These images will normally take the aesthetic of digital art. They don't always produce realistic sizes, forms, and proportions but recent improvements are simply spectacular.

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AI Generated Images

- ❖ The two leading programs in this field are DALL-E 2 and Midjourney.
- ❖ For example, you give Midjourney a prompt like this:

A realistic photo of a New York sandwich with beef and lettuce on the tabletop of a hip restaurant shot on a Canon 5D with a telephoto lens and an f/1.4 aperture

And this is what Midjourney creates

AI Generated Images



AI Generated Images

- ❖ Not only you can give Midjourney prompts about how a specific camera will work but also prompts on how famous photographers might interpret the scene. For example this prompt

An art photo of a coal mining district in the style of Henri Cartier Bresson

will produce this result

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AI Generated Images



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AI Generated Images

- ❖ Beside DALL-E 2 and Midjourney there are other AI programs that are now extensively used:
 - ▶ **ChatGPT**
 - ▶ **Booth AI** (an AI application that produces product photography)
 - ▶ **Photo AI** (This app is specifically built to improve your portraits. You upload images and then you can give commands for your setting and pose)
 - ▶ **Jasper Art**

Is AI Ruining Photography?

- ❖ Like all the major development in photography (Photoshop, Digital Cameras, Smartphones, etc.) there is a great debate about how AI is changing photography.
- ❖ Some will say it is the death of true photography, others see AI as a natural evolution in photography.
- ❖ In my opinion, AI will not ruin the natural art and expression of photography but will make our hobby more fun and improve the quality of our images.
- ❖ The following video is about one opinion on the impact of AI on photography.



View video at
<https://youtube.com/watch?v=iDvZFLxQcQ4>

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Monthly Assignment

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Monthly Assignment

Memorial Day Photos



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Calendar

Wednesday June 7, 2023
Camera Club Meeting

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Thanks

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