

# HORIZON NEWS #56

IMAGES, THOUGHTS AND NEWS FROM HORIZON PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

*I have two pairs of eyes — one to paint, and one to take photographs.  
There is little relationship between the two.*  
Jacques-Henri Lartique (1894-1986)

## Whither\* Now Painting?



Photography has influenced painters since the first image was captured in the late 1820s, though painters have never been inclined to talk about it. As Frenchman Ernest Lacan colorfully observed way back in 1852, painters' relationship to photography is "like a mistress whom one cherishes but hides."



Actually, long *before* the first photograph was taken, the camera's precursor, the camera obscura — a dark chamber with a lens or opening which projects an image onto an opposite surface — was a tool painters used to help them reproduce scenes with utmost realism. They were secretive about this, fearing people would discount their talents.

The photographer's facile ability to reproduce reality clearly pushed painters into more abstract directions, notably impressionism and abstract expressionism. That was turf photographers could not (easily) invade...until now. Using new digital tools, photographers can generate — *easily* generate — images in an almost infinite variety of painterly styles. What takes painters days to create, a photographer can create in minutes. What territory can painters now claim for themselves where photographers cannot tread? Have painters these days become like Pony Express riders in an era of airplanes?

Photographers don't ponder such questions. They are having a field day using these new artist palette tools. Among my favorite photographers in this genre is **Karen Messick**, a Horizon instructor. (She teaches a class on iPhone apps that are designed, among other things, to create painterly effects.) Karen seems to always apply just the right filter for the particular image. Her effects are not a distracting "gimmick" used to make up for weakness in the underlying image; she starts with strong basic photographic raw material.

Painting and photography are merging into a dynamic new creative medium...If the great Lartique were alive today, would he still say the same thing about using "two pairs of eyes"?

\*To what place, result, end, point and the like

# Bob Madden: Grand Master



When I first met Bob Madden back in 1978, he had already established himself as one of National Geographic's leading staff photographers. At the time, I owned a photography gallery; I wanted to represent Bob because I had great respect for his vision. After extended discussions with the heavily bureaucratic Geographic — they were pondering whether gallery representation would be consistent with the magazine's objectives — they agreed.

My gallery, sad to say, didn't last long, but happily my relationship with Bob survived. When I established Horizon Photography Workshops, Bob was one of the first photographers I signed up. He has led the "Chesapeake City through National Geographic Eyes" workshop for some years now.

Bob has shot every imaginable subject in every imaginable location, and won major recognition for his work — twice chosen as Magazine Photographer of the Year, among many plaudits. (Incidentally, in an unusual exercise of multiple talents, Bob switched hats for a while to serve as the magazine's Director of Design.)

Now an elder statesman, Bob hasn't hung up his camera bag and rested on his laurels. Quite the contrary. With the energy, enthusiasm and travel schedule that many top pros half his age would envy, Bob is still at it...and still in top form.

Here we showcase three very different animal images from Bob's recent output. Observe how, in distinctly different ways, Bob creates a perfect resonance between the animal and its environment.

Bob's next Horizon workshop is October 25-27. He'll also be speaking at the Horizon Summit on Mar. 1 & 2, 2014 in Wilmington. This is an opportunity not only to learn from a grand master, but to share time with an unusual person who has a distinctive low-key demeanor behind which lurks an intense passion for his craft.



Steve Gottlieb

# Save the Dates in 2014

[HORIZON ANNUAL SUMMIT: Mar. 1 & 2 in Wilmington, DE](http://www.horizonworkshops.com/summit/) [www.horizonworkshops.com/summit/](http://www.horizonworkshops.com/workshops.html?cr=199)  
[DEATH VALLEY TO YOSEMITE: April 27 - May 4](http://www.horizonworkshops.com/workshops.html?cr=199) [www.horizonworkshops.com/workshops.html?cr=199](http://www.horizonworkshops.com/workshops.html?cr=199)  
Locations: Death Valley, Eureka Sand Dunes, Eastern Sierras, Mono Lake, Bodie Ghost Town, Petroglyphs, Mammoth Lakes, Yosemite. (Departure from Las Vegas)

## Upcoming Workshops

Sept. 14-15: Real People, Real Places  
Oct 5 - 6: Flash Magic: Indoors & Outside  
Oct. 5: Adobe Lightroom  
Oct. 6: Photoshop Elements  
Oct. 11: Camera Basics  
Oct. 12-13: Creative Vision: 2 Day  
Oct. 19-20: Washington DC: Icons w/ a Creative Eye  
Oct. 25-27: Chesapeake City thru Nat'l Geo Eyes  
Nov. 2: Abandoned Factory, Yorklyn, DE (1/2 day)

Bob Madden



## “Abandoned Factory Photo Contest”

### RULES

- Those who join Steve Gottlieb (who acts as contest judge) in the abandoned factory in Yorklyn, DE, are eligible.
  - Email up to THREE images of the factory by Nov. 12.
  - Winners must make a print of their winning image(s); it will be framed and *permanently* exhibited at the factory.

### PRIZES

**FIRST PRIZE: \$150 + \$150 Horizon Gift Certificate**  
**SECOND PRIZE: \$100 + \$100 Gift Certificate**  
**THIRD PRIZE: \$50 + \$50 Gift Certificate**  
**10 Honorable Mentions: \$50 Gift Certificate**

## END FRAME

This astonishing, over-the-top bathroom is the latest image for my book, *FLUSH: Celebrating Bathrooms Past & Present*. The room presented two problems: high contrast and cramped space (even with a 10mm lens I couldn't get back far enough.) Solutions: 1. HDR to control contrast problem. 2. Shoot the top and bottom half of the room separately, then merge. This shot is actually SIX separate exposures.

In late October, I'll finish *FLUSH* with a flourish: a two-week road trip — Virginia, W. Virginia, N. Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania. Then a brief trip to NYC. In November, I'll finalize the captions and layout...then send digital files to the printer.

