Street Photography Composition—Curves

In anticipation of the October competition “CURVES,” you may be interested in a few tips to bring out the best in your images. The following is an edited excerpt from a post by Eric Kim. For the complete article, visit: http://erickimphotography.com/blog/2013/11/05/street-photography-composition-lesson-8-curves/. All photos in this article are copyrighted by their respective photographers.

Curves are the most dynamic forms of lines out there. They add energy, suspense, elegance, movement, power, motion, and direction to a photograph.

Curves are a little more difficult to spot when out shooting than horizontal, vertical, or diagonal lines. However if you look closely enough and are attentive enough—you can capture them to create stunning images.

With composition, everything starts at nature. What curves can you think of that occur in nature? Some things that come to mind: rivers, a woman’s body, solar systems, sand at the beach, seashells, hills, leaves and much, much, more.

Let us think of some other curves that are man-made. Some things that come to mind: highways (and speedways), stairwells, graphs, arches, snakes and much, much, more.

So how can we better apply curves to make our images more dynamic, elegant, and flow-well?

Let us look at some examples from the masters like this great example from history—this famous image by Henri Cartier-Bresson: In one of HCB’s most famous images—we see a symphony of beautiful curving lines—with a bicyclist speeding by in the frame. The energy of the photograph is incredible—and it looks as if the man is going about a hundred miles per hour.

I suspect that HCB first saw the beautiful composition of the lines—and waited for the right person to enter the scene in the top left quadrant.
Out and About

EXHIBITION

Family Gathering: Linda Bruckheimer’s Kentucky
October 5, 2017 – January 12, 2018
Frazier History Museum
829 West Main Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Three Wise Men ©Linda Bruckheimer

Acclaimed photographer and native Kentuckian, Linda Bruckheimer, has a unique way of seeing her home state. Her preservationist’s eye and historian’s sense of detail mean that even the most ordinary becomes extraordinary when captured by her lens. In this Frazier original exhibition, Bruckheimer’s beautiful, funny, heartbreaking, and authentic images will be paired with the words of Kentucky writers in celebration of the splendor and majesty of the Commonwealth.

WORKSHOP

PhotoScenic Weekend 2017
Lake Cumberland - October 13-14, 2017

PhotoScenic Weekend announces that the 2017 sessions will be held at Lake Cumberland on October 13-14, 2017. The address for Lake Cumberland is 5465 State Park Road, Jamestown, Ky. 42629 - not to be confused with Cumberland Falls.

You can pre-register for PhotoScenic Weekend by email. Please send a message to Tom Barnett at tombarrett@twc.com or call him at 502 452-9471. Include all names and email addresses in your party who will attend the weekend event. Attendance is $10.00 per person at the door.

A group discount on rooms is available for $89.95 plus taxes/fees at Lake Cumberland for the weekend. To make your reservation, call 800 325-1709 and mention “PhotoScenic Weekend.”

www.creativecameraclub.org

In Your Own Neighborhood / First Place

COLOR

Advanced

Name: Robert Johnson
Camera: SONY ILCE-6300
Lens: 70-300mm F4-5.6 G SSM
Focal length: 218mm
Shutter: 1/200
f/stop: f/7.10
ISO: 3200

Intermediate

Name: Kathy Davis
Camera: Canon 5D Mark IV
Lens: 24-70
Focal length: 70mm
Shutter: 1/125
f/stop: f/8
ISO: 800

Beginner

Name: Karen Higdon
Camera: FUJIFILM X-S1
Lens: na
Focal length: 39mm
Shutter: 1/200
f/stop: f/4.50
ISO: 800
All Winners
In Your Own Neighborhood

COLOR
Advanced
1st: Robert Johnson
2nd: John Snell
3rd: Terry Bailey
HM: Tom Myers

Intermediate
1st: Kathy Davis
2nd: Jan McKinney
3rd: Kathy Davis
HM: Jan McKinney

Beginner
1st: Karen Higdon
2nd: Earl James
3rd: Karen Higdon
HM: Earl James

BLACK & WHITE
Advanced
1st: Bill Cole
2nd: Roger Ballard
3rd: Bill Cole

Intermediate
1st: Michael Asalon
2nd: Joe Omelan
3rd: Michael Asalon

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Please note that Officers for 2018 will be elected at the regular meeting on October 19th. We will be filling the following positions:
• Director (3-year term)
• Newsletter Editor: Contact Donna Farmer for information about what the Newsletter Editor’s job entails.

Please let any of the board members know if you’re interested in serving on the CCC board. Remember this is YOUR camera club! It’s as great as it is today because of the dedication of many CCC members who serve tirelessly on your behalf. Whether it’s working on a committee or as an elected officer, your contribution helps us to provide everyone in the CCC with opportunities for becoming better photographers.

In Your Own Neighborhood / First Place

BLACK & WHITE

Advanced

Name: Bill Cole
Camera: Canon 5DM3
Lens: Canon EF 100mm f/2.8L Macro
Focal length: 100mm
Shutter: 1/200
f/stop: f/10
ISO: 800

Intermediate

Name: Michael Asalon
Camera: NIKON D5100
Lens: 18.0-55.0 mm f/3.5-5.6
Focal length: 50mm
Shutter: 1/60
f/stop: f/13
ISO: 800
He might have seen an empty scene like this:

I am not 100% certain that HCB saw the background, framed it, and waited for the right person to enter. Who knows— it could have all happened spontaneously. But considering that HCB was a patient photographer— and was also into hunting— I am sure he waited all day for the scene and for the right person to enter.

Either that, or he paid the guy on the bicycle $5 to loop around a few times (just kidding).

But if we analyze this empty scene— you can see all the curves that were apparent in the scene— from the curve on the top, to the railing leading from the bottom left to the center, and the stairway. All of them add energy and motion to the shot. And of course the missing ingredient is having the slightly blurred bicycle (which suggest motion) in the shot.

Based on what my eyes see— all of these curving lines seem to point towards the direction of the bicyclist— which is left. This makes the bicyclist look as if he is moving 100 miles per hour.

Takeaway point? If you see a great scenes with a lot of curves just waiting for you— wait for the right person to complete the composition and click.

Carter Caves Outing on Nov 4th

Our Carter Caves outing is November 4th! We will convene at Carter Caves state park Saturday, Nov 4th in the morning, with a general meet-up around 9:30 a.m. at the visitors center.

We will shoot the various arches, the box canyon, and other features of the park in the morning. For lunch everyone is free to picnic or eat at the lodge. Final time to access the cave (Cathedral Cavern) will be announced at the October regular meeting, but it will probably be around 2:00 p.m.

Bring your tripod and flashes. (Flash is not allowed if bats are present). The Rangers will allow us into the cave at the back of a tour group then allow us free roam of any lit area until the next group comes in. They basically lock us in the cave!

Bringing a flashlight is suggested. Light painting some of the formations can yield some nice images. We hope to see you there!
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Join Us!

The Creative Camera Club (CCC) can trace its roots back to the Lexington Camera Club of 1930s. We welcome anyone interested in the art and science of photography from amateur to professional. To learn more, please visit our website or contact one of our officers or directors.

2017 Calendar

January
5  First Thursday - Gear Petting Zoo & Swap/Sell - Cancelled/weather
7  Pick up prints from Annual Print Show / 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
19  Regular Meeting / Speaker: Phillips Mitchell

February
2  First Thursday, 7:00: Gear Petting Zoo & Swap/Sell
12  Competition Submission Closes
16  Competition, 7:00: WATER IN ANY OF ITS FORMS
Critique by David Coyle

March
2  First Thursday: Using your Flash Workshop (Part 1)
16  Regular Meeting / Speaker: Pam Spaulding

April
6  First Thursday: Putting together a slide show
16  Competition Submission Closes
20  Competition: MOVING SUBJECTS

May
1  Drop off images at Vine Street Central Bank and Trust between 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
4  First Thursday: Table top close-up photography
Bring images for CCC Exhibit at St. Joe East
5  Exhibit reception 4:30-6:00 p.m. - CCC Club
Exhibition at Vine Street Central Bank and Trust
18  Regular Meeting: Andrew Fore/Concert & Music Photography

June
1  First Thursday: Arboretum Photo Shoot
25  Competition Submission Closes
26  Drop off Christ Church Cathedral, 4 - 6 pm
29  Competition: CONVERGING LINES, critique by Dan Silvestri

July
6  First Thursday: Using your Flash Workshop (Part 2)
12  Special Program: Lisa Langell, Wildlife Photographer
20  Regular Meeting: Ben Childers/Drone Photography and Insect Salon
21  Gallery Hop, Club Exhibition at Christ Church Cathedral, 5-8 pm
27-30  NC Blue Ridge Parkway Field Trip

August
3  First Thursday: Downtown Photo Shoot
13  Competition Submission Closes
17  Competition: IN YOUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD
Critique and member slide show by Allen Dawson.

September
7  First Thursday: Club Picnic at Jacobson Park
21  Regular Meeting: Mini-lessons and member presentations

October
5  First Thursday: Alternatives / Complements to LR / Photoshop
15  Competition Submission Closes
19  Competition: CURVES; Meet & Greet-bring friends!

November
2  First Thursday: Print/Display your Images so they last and practice portrait shooting
4  Carter Caves Outing
16  Regular Meeting

December
12  Club Christmas Party at Fasig Tipton

January 2018
6  Turn in prints at The Living Arts & Science Center
11  Show judging and club meeting
19  Gallery Hop and Reception