

DSS COVERS

VOLUME 14

Ten featured images from the covers of
“The Stereo Window” newsletter of
The Detroit Stereographic Society.

Images from the 2013-14 season

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“Prusik Peak from Leprechaun Lake”

by Bob Venezia

Competition topic: Open



This cover image by Seattle's Bob Venezia won the “Best of Show” in the 2012 Detroit International Stereo Exhibition. Bob tells us this about his image:

My wife Mandy and I went on a backpacking trip into the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in September 2007 (permit required, hard hiking, heavy pack, uncooperative weather). The whole point for me was photography, but after 3 days I had only taken 1 35mm stereo pair. The winds died down some on the 4th day and I went nuts with the picture taking. This area is known for its pristine lakes, granite peaks, and larch trees turning gold in the fall. It's a stunningly beautiful place.

This shot features the iconic Prusik Peak, taken from a spot along the shore of Leprechaun Lake. The two 35mm Olympus XA1 cameras were mounted on a twin bar on a tripod and as close together as side-by-side would allow. I tend to calculate my near point by multiplying my focal length x .8, then x my stereo base.

Since this camera has a 35mm lens, I multiplied $35 \times .8 = 28$. The cameras mounted side-by-side are 4.25 inches apart. $4.25 \text{ inches} \times 28 = 119 \text{ inches}$ (pretty close to 10 feet!). Once I knew that I walked up to the nearest object in the shot and paced back 10 feet to the spot where I set up my tripod (fortunately not IN Leprechaun Lake!).

This image has been accepted into several International exhibitions but the 2012 DISE is its first award. - Bob Venezia

“Buried by the Blizzard of 2011”

by Gene Mitofsky

Competition topic “Through the Window”



This month's cover has a great example of a “through the window” image. Gene's image won Honorable Mention awards in the 2011 Ohio International Stereo Exhibition and the 2011 Cascade Exhibition, as well as the Humour Award in the 2011 Third Dimension Society Exhibition (UK). It has also been accepted in three other stereo exhibitions. Here are some comments from Gene:

The photo "Buried by the Blizzard of 2011" was taken in Lincolnwood IL, a northern suburb of Chicago. The Huffington Post, January 31, 2011 said, "The 20.2 inches of snow that fell by midday in Chicago made the storm the city's third-largest on record, with still more coming down. Chicago closed its public schools for the first time in 12 years and shut down Lake Shore Drive, where hundreds of motorists were stranded for 12 hours after multiple car accidents".

I used twin Canon A590 IS cameras. After the snow stopped and we dug out our driveway I thought maybe some good could come from the four and five foot mounds of snow along our driveway! And so "Buried by the Blizzard of 2011" became a winning photo! Besides offering a good composition, the Blizzard may have played a major role in why we moved to Sunny No Snow Arizona the following year!

“Hibiscus”
by Chris Reynolds
Competition topic: “Flowers”



This image was created by Chris Reynolds from South Carolina and was an Honorable Mention in the 2013 Detroit International Stereo Exhibition. Here is a description Chris sent:

“Taken in the back yard on a Contax RTSiii with 60mm macro and linear polarizer, using Velvia 50 film (home processed). The camera was on a tripod with a slide bar. The separation between shots was not calculated - I just used the deviation in the viewfinder to give an indication of the depth relationship between petals & stamen.

There was a slight breeze and the flower was not sheltered, so there was a little movement. Shots were taken when the flower was settled approximately in its "resting" position.

This was a sunny day, and this exposure was ~ 1/60 @ f11; different exposure combinations using apertures from f4 to f11 were used - the wide aperture giving a focus on the stamen with soft petals - but the f11 version gave a pleasing overall stereo result.

Although this was a tripod set-up, it was a technically "casual" shot - If I did this again, I'd definitely use a wind break and rearrange the background. We have since moved to the upstate in SC, but the hibiscus is still doing well and has a number of blooms even in late October - may still be an opportunity for shots this year!”

“Alberta Falls”
by Rick Shomsky
Competition topic: “Water”



This month's front cover photo is a winner from our March 2012 “Water” competition from Rick Shomsky, our very able club Secretary. Rick has this to say about shooting this image:

Alberta Falls is in Rocky Mountain National Park. It's a 1.7 mile round trip scenic hike to see it. The wind was blowing a mist towards the camera, so I had to take a quick shot. It's pure white water above the falls, so you wouldn't want to fall in. It was shot with a Canon SX10 twin rig at 9" separation.

“Roses & Carnation”
by Derek Gee
Competition topic: “Open”



This month's cover image was taken by DSS past president Derek Gee. "Roses & Carnation", was one of his submissions for our recent "Flowers" competition (this past November). We can all use some insight into how our fellow members go about creating images for a topic, and Derek tells the story behind this one:

"I've never felt I was that accomplished at flower photos, so for that assignment I forced myself to go out and shoot some location photos, as well as create the 'Roses' picture with what was in Ann's vase in the kitchen. To make it interesting, I arranged them a bit, and took the photo from slightly overhead. After a bit of cropping in StereoPhoto Maker, the view that was entered in the competition emerged."

“Yesterday's Playthings”
by Dennis Green
Competition topic: “Junk”



"Yesterday's Playthings" was taken to fulfill the slide competition assignment of "Junk" for November, 2000. My boys had gotten into some paint and "decorated" their playhouse that summer. They had also broken a couple of toys and just left them in the yard one day, so I set my Stereo Realist on a tripod and tried a double exposure "ghost" picture with my youngest son Brian (a DSS member at the time this image was taken at the age of 7) and one of his friends.

We tried several poses and exposures, taking two shots on the same piece of film, recocking the shutter without moving the (Stereo Realist) camera. One shot contained the boys and one was without them. When the film came back, I found that the ones where each shot of the double exposure was taken at 50% of the correct final exposure gave the best "ghost" image.

This slide took first place in that club competition and later took a gold medal in the 2008 PSA Digital Stereo Exhibition in the Creative section. It has also been accepted in three other PSA recognized exhibitions (Oakland 2002, Hollywood 2003, and the Third Dimension Society 2010).

“Classic Chevy Chrome”
by David Kuntz
Competition topic - “Close-Up”



This image was taken at a classic car show in Santa Monica in October, 2009. It was shot with a Sony DSC-W200 twin camera rig, built by Co van Ekeren. The cameras were set at essentially normal interocular and operated in program mode with ambient light, which gave an exposure of 1/400 second at f/6.3 at ISO 100.

When I got home, I aligned the pair with StereoPhoto Maker and viewed it on my monitor. I immediately realized that, because I was so close to the subject at normal interocular, this image had a very large amount of parallax. I decided to crop in very tight on it to eliminate some of the parts that were too far back for comfortable viewing. Also, I was very careful to place key features, like the headlight and bumper protrusions at the "one-third" points in the composition, and to balance these elements. The final image still has a substantial amount of parallax; it works well as a stereo card, but probably wouldn't project comfortably.

I think I can claim that the result was a success. The card won "Best of Show" in the 2010 SSA Exhibition, got HMs in the 2010 Hollywood and Chicago Lighthouse Exhibitions. In 2011, it was accepted by Cascade, Oakland and Third Dimension Society.

“Kiss Me Quick”
by Ron Kriesel
Competition topic - “Humor”



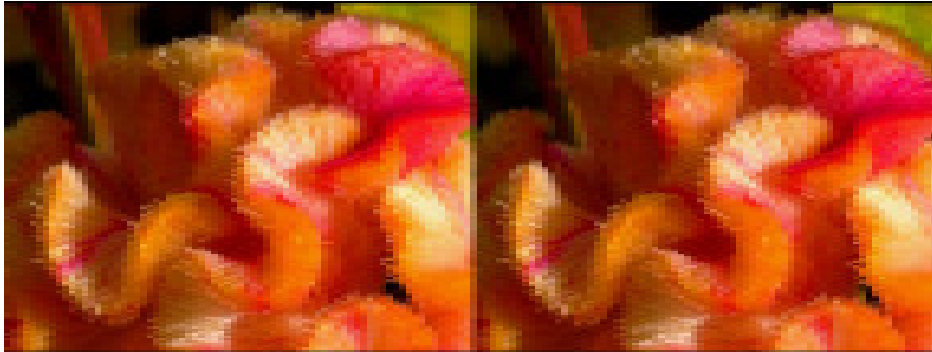
The scene, "Kissing Toad", a bronze by Jim Demetro, is found on the downtown streets of Lake Oswego, Oregon along with many other pieces of art commissioned by the Lake Oswego Arts Council for their downtown art displays. I asked my wife if she had kissed a frog lately, and she gave me this great pose!

The image was captured with a FinePix REAL 3D W3 in May of 2012. I set the mode dial on P and the FINEPIX Color setting at F-Chrome for a richer image. The image won the Humor Award at the Chicago Lighthouse Exhibition in 2012. It came close to one other acceptance in 2013.

I follow a practice of producing my images in my version of "photo-art". I accomplish this by first making a well composed and correctly exposed camera setting with plenty of edge space in the composition (for later cropping) and then using the Photoshop plug-ins from Topaz Labs and Photo Effects 8 by onOne Software, Inc. I use these in Photoshop Elements 12 as that has all the tools I will ever really need. I do have Photoshop CS2 but it does not accept all the newer plug-ins.

P.S. You may purchase that sculpture for only \$14,000.00!

“Hairy Peach & Pink”
by Lindel Salow
Competition topic: “Open”



This stereo image is from our Treasurer and past-President, Lindel Salow, an image from the May 2012 “Open” competition. Although at first look, you might think that this is something man-made, Lindel assures us that this is a close-up of an actual living flower, taken outdoors in natural light. Here are some more details about the image:

The image was taken a some time ago with my Fuji W3. The final picture is the result of an enlarging an area of the entire flower and reworking it with SPM and Photoshop. I generally like to warm the color in most of my images and saturate the color as well. I tend to like the warm saturated colors of Kodachrome, and so often try to replicate that in my pictures.

The original picture was taken at Greenfield Village, I believe, during one of my many visits. Although I do watch for images that I can use for competition, it was not taken for any specific topic.



“Colorful Resting Place” by Dennis Hanser
DSS 2012-2013 Film Slide of the Year



“Turret Arch” by Dennis Hanser
DSS 2012-2013 Digital Image of the Year

These stereo images were the 2012-13 season winners in the *Image of the Year* competition as judged by another stereo club. Our final meeting of each year shows all of the current year’s award winning images, those that won ribbons in our competitions during the year. These fine images make a great wrap-up for the season, as well as giving attending members the chance to see images that won awards at meetings they may have missed.

This is a great meeting to bring people who might be interested in do-it-yourself 3D images, as well as friends who would enjoy seeing some of the best results of our unique hobby. There are many people out there who do not know that they can create the strikingly real images that we enjoy every month.