

DSS COVERS

VOLUME 15

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

Images from the 2014-15 season

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“Crossing Carrick-a-Rede”
by Dennis Green
Competition topic: “Open”



This month's cover image is by Dennis Green (Guest Editor), and is one of the images that will be part of the “Ireland in 3D” program that he is presenting later this year. Here are some details on the image:

“Each summer for the past four years, my Irish band Blackthorn has taken a group of travelers on a ten day bus tour of a section of Ireland. This year we went to Northern Ireland and visited many of the sites along the coast. One of these locations is a tiny island near the Giant's Causeway called Carrick-a-Rede, which in Gaelic means “Rock in the Road”, where the fishermen would throw up a rope bridge to get to the island to check their nets for the catch of Atlantic Salmon. These days the Atlantic Salmon has declined so much that it is an endangered species, and the rope bridge is now crossed mainly by adventurous visitors.

“Swinging 100 feet above the churning sea and rocks below, made up of planks strung between wires, the swinging rope bridge brings you across a 60 foot chasm to the island. It is not for the timid!”

“Genet in Tree”
by Robert Bloomberg
Competition topic “Animals”



This month's cover has a great example of an “animal” image, which is the theme of this month's competition. Robert Bloomberg captured this image of a genet, which is a small mammal related to a cat, but more closely to a mongoose. They live primarily in Africa and can also be found in southwestern Europe. Robert relates how he got this picture:

I would love to report that I tracked this handsome guy down in the wild and waited patiently in my blind for weeks to get this photo, but the truth is that my friend Bonnie Cromwell runs a wonderful program called “Classroom Safari” and Bennet the Genet was one of her animal ambassadors. I took this photo several years ago in her backyard in Petaluma [California - north of San Francisco]. I believe I was using my RBT X3 at the time, and something we used to call “film”. Fuji Velvia if memory serves me.

Robert's image won the “Best of Show” awards in this year's Detroit International Stereo Exhibition in the slide section, and will be one of the images shown at our meeting this month.

**“A Busy Freight Canal in Tokyo, Japan”
from the U & U Stereocard Set “Japan”
Competition topic: “Nautical / Maritime”**



This month's front cover photo is from a stereo card that is part of the box set entitled "Japan" published by Underwood & Underwood in 1904. These images, along with those of many other Keystone and U & U box sets, are available now in a format that is designed to be viewed on one of the newer high-definition cell phones, iPods or tablets. The project was started for use with the Cyclopital3d "View-Vaster" viewer, but could also be used with the inexpensive Hasbro "My3D" or one of the cardboard viewers being used for Virtual Reality experiments.

The box sets are produced by DSS member Dennis Green, and can be found on the same website as the NSA and DSS workshop DVDs: www.3DPhotoWorkshops.com.

**“Mothers Cupboards”
by Larry Fischer
Competition topic: “Antique/Vintage”**



This month's front cover photo is from Larry Fischer from Wayne, Michigan. It was accepted in the 2013 Cascade Stereo Exhibition and is a good example of our competition topic "Antique/Vintage". Larry has this to say about shooting this image:

I found the tin cans at a local church rummage sale and thought they would be a good subject for 3D. I used the Fuji W1 3D camera outside with natural light on a black background. I took several pictures at different angles and chose the one I liked best. The image was accepted in six exhibitions last year.

You can find more of Larry's 3D work on his Facebook page. Just get on Facebook and search for LR Fischer (Larry Robert Fischer) and grab your anaglyph glasses. It's really cool!

“Venice 235”
by Jerry Chisnell
Competition topic: “Open”



This month's cover image is the work of Jerry Chisnell whose images are nearly always awarded ribbons in our competitions, no matter what the theme. This is one of several images taken in Venice that have made the winners' circle. This one took a second place ribbon in the December 2013 competition with the theme of “Water”. Here are some details Jerry has shared on this image:

“This image was taken with a pair of Cannon A590s, coupled using a home made rig and StereoData Maker. It was taken on a Vacation trip to Venice, which is by far one of the most interesting as well as picturesque places in the world. We spent a week there and finished the second week of the trip in Austria. Two extremes in culture and landscape, yet they are within easy driving distance of each other.

“I would highly recommend this grouping as a chance to see a snapshot of Europe without wasting time on travel and cost. While both places provided ample opportunity for 3D photography, the age and uniqueness of Venice with its canals made it imperative to capture it in 3D. A minimum of 5 days is necessary to really get the feel of the history there and enjoy it all. Plan on a lot of walking, and make sure there is capacity in your camera memory cards for at least 500 pictures. Also have a 220 volt charger for your batteries.”

“Dositheos”
by Klaus Kemper
Competition topic: “Low Light”



“Dositheos’ is the name of the orthodox monk in the image.

“The image was taken on October 5th. 2007, 04:46:04 in the Skite ‘Nea Skiti’ on Holy Mount Athos. We celebrated the ‘ORTHROS’ (which means the morning divine service) in the small chapel of Geron Nikon, the father of the Skite. (Skite means a house with 2-4 monks living by themselves, not in a monastery). It was not easy to take this image, because I could not get a larger distance from Dositheos, the chapel is very small.

“Photographing on Mount Athos gets more and more difficult, because it is strictly forbidden to take images in the monasteries. And of course it is not possible to take images during a divine service. But I was with Father Nikon the third time and so we get a little bit familiar. So I got permission to take images everywhere and at any time in his home. By the way, Nikon is an excellent photographer himself. When you meet him the first time he says: ‘I am Father Nikon, like Kodak’. He also gives you advice how to take (forbidden) images on Holy Mount Athos: ‘First shoot, than ask’.

“The image was taken by the Sony P200 camera rig made by Co van Ekeren, whom I knew personally. The lens separation was put on the smallest possible adjustment: 48 mm. The light came only from some candles. In all monasteries there is only candlelight during the services.

“If somebody would like to visit Holy Mount Athos, here is some information. You can not go there without a special permission, which you have to apply for, 6 months before you wish to enter. Only 10 non-orthodox men older than 16 years can enter per day and about 100 orthodox men. Woman are strictly forbidden to go there. You can only enter by ship from Ouranopolis, where you get your final permission at the day of entrance. The permission allows, to stay four days. But you have to contact the monasteries where you want to stay months ago. And most of the monasteries do not give permission.”

“Artist in the Park”

by Geoff Peters

Competition topic - “Hobbies”



This month's cover image is from Geoff Peters, who is a regular competitor in many PSA recognized exhibitions, including our own Detroit International Stereo Exhibition. Geoff tells the story behind this image:

I made the image in November 2005 at the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris. I was using my RBT S-1 camera with Fuji Provia 100 slide film. The artist is including the colorful fall foliage of the sumac trees in his painting. Sumacs are very colorful here in the Eastern US in the fall also, but they are rarely included in parks. Perhaps we consider them a bit too commonplace.

I have received 11 acceptances for this image in international competitions, including two honorable mentions [one of which was in the Detroit International Stereo Exhibition!]

“The Source”

by Robert Bloomberg

Competition topic - “Reflections”



This month's stereo image is from Bob Bloomberg, who has already had an image on our cover earlier this season (see October, 2014), but this image gives not only natural reflection, but also the mirroring possible in SPM or other digital image editing programs. Here are some details he gave about the capturing and processing of “The Source”:

The original image was taken at Lake Tahoe with either my Sony P200 stereo rig or my Sony Nex 6 (cha cha). All the other elements and effects--mirror image, fire, reflections, shaft of light--were added and manipulated in Photoshop. The "lake" (actually a small inlet/riverlet which I mirrored in Photoshop) is a true reflection of the sky. Here is one of the original, non-Photoshopped views:



“Frozen Fingers”
by Keith Taitt
Competition topic: “Open”



This month's stereo image is a good example of a portrait-format image from DSS member Keith Taitt. This image was entered in the March 2014 “Close Up” competition and won an HM award. Here are some more details about the image:

Like most of my 3D work, this one was a cha-cha--Canon 20D, 18-55 lens set at 35mm, f11, 1/200, ISO 400. The cha-cha method has its limitations, but on a stationary subject like this bronze sculpture on the Cranbrook campus, it works well. I have the freedom to use a vertical or inclined camera position without rotation or excessive cropping, which helps to frame the small details of a scene that attracts my eye.

“Liberty Fest at Dusk”
by Rick Shomsky
Last Year's Stereo Image of the Year



Rick Shomsky's “Liberty Fest at Dusk”, this month's cover stereo image, was last year's winner in the *Image of the Year* competition as judged by another stereo club. Our meeting this month will show all of the award winning images in our competitions this 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. Make plans to share our June 10th meeting with someone new to the club.