# APJA NEWS

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**Established 2014**

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## Photographic Artist Feature
## Lisa Kurtz (Australia)

# *Presidents Message*

Changes have recently taken place in the committee with Harry Sheppard, Gary Smith, David Skinner, Bob Artis, Margaret Zommers and Rob Sloane deciding to move on. Their potential ongoing contribution will be sadly missed and their past input has had a huge positive influence upon the operations of the APJA. Their service to the association is deeply appreciated.

As a result of these changes to the committee there are now several casual vacancies and the committee welcomes any enquiries to the secretary (apjasecretary@gmail.com). The association has a strong membership, is gradually expanding with interstate members and contribution to the association via the committee ensures its ongoing success. The committee works as a team, supporting each other in guiding the association and is at the forefront of progress, especially in the training program.

Your volunteering to the committee would be seen as an asset and received with care and support. We look forward to enquiries to fill these vacancies.

*Paul Robinson*

# *VAPSCON 16-18 June 23*

VAPSCON has kindly invited the APJA to present a session at its convention at the **Colac Otway Performing Arts and Cultural Centre 95-97 Gellibrand St, Colac.** The APJA committee is currently constructing the presentation and will be shown by Paul Robinson. We recommend attending the convention, not only to represent the APJA but also to gain photographic knowledge useful to your judging practice.

If you are attending then it is a useful venue to continue to get to know your fellow judges and discuss things 'photographic judging'. If you see Paul there introduce yourself: discuss your photographic journey.

# *New Members*

At the last committee meeting the following applied for membership in the associatio9n and were approved. A warm welcome to our new members and if any current members meet up with these newbies then please make them feel welcome.

*We are so excited you have joined our team! With your experience, you are going to be a great addition. Welcome!'*

New members are:

Rodney Dowel – Clemantis, Vic,
Pam Pengelly – Moama, NSW, Member Echuca Moama PC
Colin Sheringham – Corlette, NSW, Tomaree Peninsular
Matt Oliver – Junortoun, Vic
Lyn Keillor – Echuca, Vic, Echuca Moama PC
Wendy Stanford – Wodonga, Vic, Wodonga Albury CC
Eugene Dopheide – Heathcote, Vic, Bendigo CC
Sue Kelso – Hughesdale, Vic, Caulfield CC
Helen Lang – Toorak, Vic, Melbourne CC
Lyn Haywood – Rosebud, Vic
Ian Guthrie – Wodonga, Vic, Wodonga Albury CC
Helen Loucas – Croydon, Vic, Maroondah PS
Nicola Donald – Sunbury, Vic, Macedon Ranges PS
Shane Montaperto – Nunawading, Vic, Maroondah PS
Katy Lylak – Baxter, Vic, Casey CC
Stuart Bazga – Melton South, Vic

# *2023 Syllabus*

| | APJA | Syllabus | 2023 | Proposed |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan | | | | |
| Feb | Sunday | **5** | Committee | |
| Feb | Sunday | maybe 26th ?? | VAPS Mid year | Could be 26th |
| Mar | Friday | **3** | General | |
| Mar | Friday | **10** | Image Eval pt 1 | |
| Mar | Friday | **17** | Image Eval pt 2 | |
| April | Sunday | **2** | Committee | Easter 7th |
| May | Friday | **12** | Level 2 #1 | |
| May | Friday | **19** | Level 2 #2 | |
| May | Friday | **26** | Level 2 #3 | |
| June | Friday | **2** | General | |
| June | Sunday | **4** | Committee | |
| June | Fri,Sat, Sun | **16/17/18** | VA)PS Convention | |
| July | Sunday | **2** | Cmt if needed (AGM) | If required (AGM next month) |
| July | Friday | **7** | Level 4 #1 | |
| July | Friday | **14** | Level 4 #2 | |
| July | Friday | **21** | Level 4 #3 | |
| **Aug** | **Friday** | **4** | **AGM** | **AGM on a Fri night** |
| Sept | Friday | **1** | Committee. (Note: Fri) | Fathers Day 3rd Sept. |
| Sept | Friday | **8** | Level 6 #1 | |
| Sept | Friday | **15** | Level 6 #2 | |
| Sept | Friday | **22** | Level 6 #3 | |
| Oct | Sunday | **8** | Committee | |
| Oct | Sunday | Maybe 22nd ?? | VAPS AGM | Could be the 22nd |
| Nov | Friday | **3** | EOY General | |
| Dec | | **3** | Committee | |
| | | | | |
| | Fridays | 7.30pm | Zoom | **Committee Meetings** |
| | Sundays | 1.30pm | Zoom | Sun Feb 5th |
| | | | | Sun Apr 2nd |
| | | | | Sun June 4th |
| | | | | Sun July 2 If required (AGM next month |
| | | | | Fri 4th Aug AGM |
| | | | | Sun Oct 8th |
| | | | | Sun Dec 3rd |
| | | | | **General Meetings** |
| | | | | Fri Mar 3rd |
| | | | | Fri June 2nd |
| | | | | Fri Aug 4th AGM |
| | | | | Fri Nov 3rd |
| | | | | **Training** |
| | | | | Fri Mar 10,17 Image Eval |
| | | | | Fri May 12,19,26 Level 2 |
| | | | | Fri July 7,14,21 Level 4 |
| | | | | Fri Sept 8,15,22 Level 6 |
| | | | | |

# Photographic Artist Review

**Photographic Artist, Lisa Kurtz (Australia),** presented to a packed Zoom meeting on Friday 3 March. Her topic was “Artificial Intelligence in Photography”, a provocative and thought inducing insight into AI.

Lisa touched on a variety of applications beginning with the camera. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a branch of computer science that tries to teach a computer to think, learn, and perform tasks like a human. Instead of simply being coded to do a particular job, high-powered electronic appliances are loaded with the power of AI, which does not simply instruct it to do a particular job, but actually programs it such that it learns and adapts to user’s behaviour and patterns. AI cameras are simply cameras that use AI programs to wisely deal with images and AI is becoming commonplace in Smartphone cameras. These advanced cameras help to save time by smartly performing the requisite image processing/enhancement in real time, which would otherwise require hours of toiling with the image on say, Photoshop, or other commercial-grade image editing software.

Lisa made particular reference to Dall.E-2. This form of AI is a system that can create realistic images and art from a text description in natural language. It is an encoder-decoder model, meaning when text is given, this text is encoded into a machine input, processed by the machine, and then fed through a decoder that decodes this into a visible image. For example, it can be asked by text to produce an image along the following lines:

- Make me a scene with a creek
- Put a willow tree near the creek
- Have the scene backlit
- Put a picnic with blanket, basket and food between the creek and the tree

It then produces the image. With further text instructions it will continue to refine the image until you get what you envisaged.

It is an app-based AI system, so if you want to try it out go to DALL·E 2's web app, and sign up (it's free).

Other References:
NOEMA: What is AI doing to art? ESSAYTECHNOLOGY & THE HUMAN BY LOIS ROSSON APRIL 11, 2023 (Internet)

https://www.maximizemarketresearch.com/market-report/ai-camera-market/145884/ - AI Camera Market: Global Industry Analysis and Forecast (2022-2029) – **Report ID: 145884** Published January 2023.

Lisa's presentation took the record for the highest member attendance in a single forum since the APJA commenced – well done members and Lisa.

# Level 2 Training Seminar

This is the second course for 2023 and it is designed those who have completed the Level 1 course previously. It further refines image evaluation skills and introduces legal, ethical and technical aspects of photography.

**Friday, 12 May 2023 7:30 pm**
**Online**
**$ 25.00**
**$65 Non Mbr**
**Day 1: 12th May 2023**
**Day 2: 19th May 2023**
**Day 3: 26th May 2023**

**Registrations close 6pm Wed 10th May 2023 which can be done through the website -** www.apja.org.au

A Zoom link will be sent to all registrants a couple of days prior to each course date.

# *Current Photography Exhibitions*

## New South Wales & ACT

Steve McCurry Exhibition, Icon Gallery, Pier ⅔ Walsh Bay, Sydney
Entry by ticket. Current till further notice.

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## South Australia

**ADVANCE NOTICE**
2023 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year
**Where:** South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide
**When:** Saturday 26 August 2023 - Sunday 29 October 2023.

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## Victoria

National Gallery of Victoria, Ground Level, Grollo Equiset Garden 180 St Kilda Rd Melbourne 3006 Current till 1 October "Architecture Commission: Temple of Boom"

Ian Bock 90th Birthday Exhibition, Melbourne Camera Club, 1 & 2 July. Address: 254-246 Ferrars St., South Melbourne. (Editor – Ian has been a presenter for the APJA, his exhibition is recommended)

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## Western Australia

"Visions of the Cosmos" is an astrophotography exhibition presented by Celestial Visions. It is a collaborative exhibition and showcases superb astro-landscape photography, featuring Western Australian, Australian, and international locations. Carnarvon Library & Gallery, 18 Egan St, Carnarvon, WA, Current till 20 May

"Alice - conversations with flowers", botanical artist Annie Kavanagh explores the floral world of her Victorian-era muse, Alice, through an immersive, interactive, multi-sensory experience staged in a Victorian parlour. Gallery 152, 152 Avon Terrace, York, WA

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## Queensland

Brisbane Photography Festival 9 – 18 June opening at VENTspace, 23 Glenelg St., South Brisbane on 9 June.