APJA NEWS

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Presidents Message

Here we are mid-year and feedback from clubs is that generally APJA judges are making a difference, a positive difference (owing to their training) where their commentaries are valued.

In my observations of some specific competitions, it has been gratifying that our judges provide objective and sensitive interpretations of images that are appreciated by entrants. Their evaluations lean towards a teaching role by providing information across competitions enlightening club members with insights into aesthetics.

Further, some of our members are contacting myself and other senior judges to discuss clarification of individual images, options for the approach to take with a competition and how they could best express their thoughts about an image. This goes to the team work, networking and the support our association provides to members. We all should feel we are not in this alone, members can diplomatically canvass between each other when we are unsure, overthink, need further input or dealing with a challenging image/topic/competition. The APJA is a training and support network where we feel comfortable in going about our assignments.

Paul Robinson

2024 Syllabus

	APJA	Syllabus	2024	
Jan	Day	Date	Activity	
Feb	Sunday	**11**	Committee Meeting	
Mar	Sunday	**10**	Committee Meeting	
				Easter 29 -31 March
April	Friday	**5**	Image Evaluation (pt1)	
	Sunday	**14**	Committee Meeting	
	Friday	**19**	Image Evaluation (pt2)	
May	Friday	**17**	Level 1 #1	Mother's Day 12th May
	Friday	**24**	Level 1 #2	
	Friday	**31**	Level 1 #3	
June	Friday	**7**	General	
	Sunday	**9**	Committee Meeting	
	Fri,Sat, Sun	**14/15/16**	VAPS Convention	VAPS Convention Berwick
July	Sunday	**14**	Committee Meeting	(AGM next month)
	Friday	**19**	Level 3 #1	
	Friday	**26**	Level 3 #2	
Aug	Friday	2	Level 3 #3	
	Friday	**16**	**General + AGM**	**AGM**
Sept	Sunday	**8**	Committee Meeting	
October	Friday	**4**	Level 5 #1	
	Sunday	**13**	Committee Meeting	
	Friday	**11**	Level 5 #2	
	Friday	**18**	Level 5 #3	
Nov	Friday	**3**	EOY General Meeting	
Dec	Sunday	**8**	Committee Meeting	
	Fridays	7:30pm AEST	Zoom	**Training Courses**
	Sundays	7:30pm AEST	Zoom	Committee Meetings

A friend of mine who teaches film-making at a well-known school was approached by a noted brain surgeon who asked that he be given a two-week crash course in film-making because of a film he wanted to produce. "Okay," my friend said, but I won't charge you for the course if you'll swap me a two-week course in brain surgery. That's something I've always wanted to do. - Anonymous , Professional photographer's survival guide by Charles E. Rotkin , ISBN: 0817454098 , Page: 11

Level 3 Training Course

As seen on the syllabus the next training course is due to start on Friday 19 July at 7:30pm via Zoom. If you have not attended this course you are encouraged to do so. The training team led by Lyn Haywood has redeveloped the course and a range of speakers as noted on the following pages will be covering the topics.

Training is the lifeblood of the association, no one knows it all, judging as with photography, is a lifelong learning experience. In recent years philosophy, psychology and neurology have made inroads into judging which have been referenced in training modules at the upper-level courses. These include bias, manual arts impact upon photography, how images affect us physiologically and perceptions about how commentaries upon entries in club competitions are received.

This Level 3 course continues the overall education in a pleasant and supportive environment.

	OK ! You have done some APJA training. You enjoy your Photography club. BUT you are not on the Judging list. We need you to take the next step. Step up and give back to the photography community. Judging just three clubs a year would be appreciated

Consider going on the Fast Track training program email Lyn on lyn.haywood@gmail.com
OR putting your name on the Victorian Judges List now at victorian-judges-new.html

APJA Training
Level 3
19, 26 July +2 August
on Zoom 7.30 – 9.30pm

Adrian Donohue	Judging Creative Composites
Trish McKeown	Bias in Judging Photography.
Rob Sloane	Panel Judging
Vicki Moritz	ICM from a Judge's perspective
Lyn Haywood	Using colour in Judging photographs

Register for APJA Training on https://www.apja.org.au/

Members : $35
Non-members: $80
Members repeating: Free

Who should go to Leve 3?

- Judges who want to update their information on judging ICM and Composites. The presenters are not only experts in their genre's, but they have put together presentations on how to judge them.

- Judges in clubs who do not presently do internal or external panel judging. This is a growing area that not only introduces people to judging but also takes some of the pressure from judges who are on the list.

Does your club have a Fast Track Trainee Judge?

If not, encourage your club to nominate one.
Choose a willing person whom the club considers is ready to judge. Email their name, club, phone no and email to Lyn Haywood lyn.haywood@gmail.com

Participants who join now will receive:

- Free APJA membership for one year if not already a member.
- Mentoring from a practicing judge.
- **Free training:**
  Level 3 on **9th, 26th July + 2nd August**
  Level 5 on 4th, 11th + 18th Oct
  Image Evaluation 2025
  Level 1 2025

In return Participants will put their name on the **VAPS Judges List** after completing level 1 in 2025.

Mentors needed for trainee Judges.

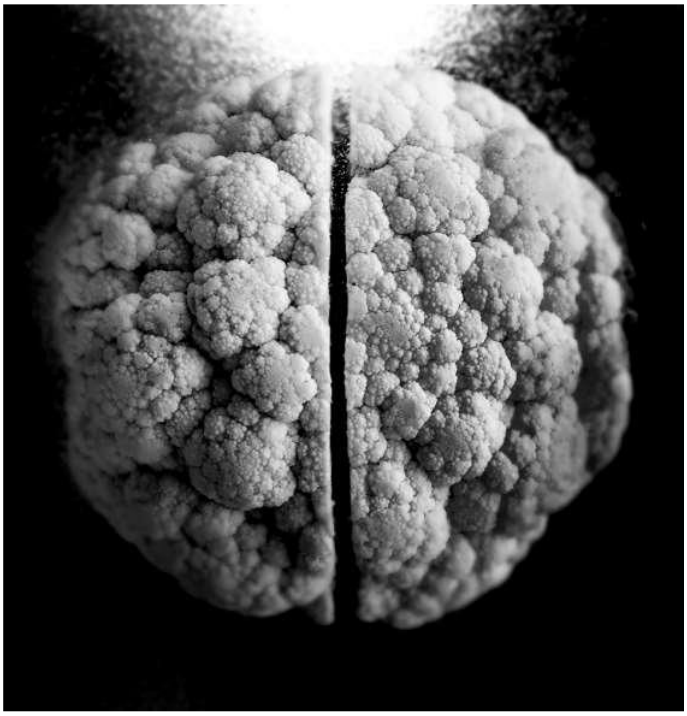
If you are interested, please contact Lyn at
lyn.haywood@gmail.com
We presently have 18 people on the Fast track training and the number is increasing. These people all need a mentee to support them. The mentors roll would include things like checking and discussing their practice judging notes, maybe giving them the images in a competition you are judging to practice doing the scoring and comments on, later coming back to compare scores and notes. When you think they are ready, organizing with a club to have them present the novice feedback.

Photographic Artist Review

Adrian Lowe

Continuing the training theme for this newsletter there are very few reference books about judging photographs anywhere on the planet. Just released 'Behind the Seen" is thoroughly recommended to inform and expand

After nearly 60 years of photography – Adrian's first job was in a camera store, then with 2 retail stores of his own down the track, a mini lab, darkroom, professional and commercial work as well as obligatory weddings for years. Projects, commissioned exhibitions, curating and personal exhibitions, 25 years of psychology practice and philosophy tutor, with photography lectures, workshops, judging, and mentoring - all these weaving together - Adrian thought it was time to get it all out there in one piece, hence this book:



Behind the Seen - The Psychology of Imagery

Adrian's illustrated eBook is aimed at all levels, beginners, advanced and professional. It is about why, not always how, although there are enough descriptive explanations to explain technique to a particular point.

To quote Adrian "Photography, at its core, is about capturing light. But the true power of photography lies not just in documenting the world around us, but as I keep on saying, in transforming how we see it. When photography becomes a habit, it ceases to be a mere act of recording and becomes a transformative practice with a profound impact on our mental and physical well-being, our creativity, and our connection to the world. We see the world differently".

As noted above from an international and national perspective reference material for judges is thin on the ground. We have our own manual 'Judging Photographs' easily accessed on our website, however, 'Behind the Seen A brief summary of The Psychology of Imagery' takes a different approach that fulfills, complements and expands knowledge for judges of photography. Our skills will be immeasurably enhanced throughout its entertaining pages.

To obtain a free copy of Adrian's high-quality eBook go to this link, register and download:

https://sites.google.com/view/behindtheseen

Current Photography Exhibitions

New South Wales & ACT

Sydney Morning Herald Photos1440, State Library of NSW, Macquarie St. Sydney. Current till Sunday 10 November 2024

The National Photographic Portrait Prize, The National Portrait Gallery, King Edward Ter, Parkes, Canberra. Current till Sunday 13 October 2024

Victoria

Built Photography, current till 25 Aug 2024.
Hollow, current till 25 July 2024
Jessie Turner, Scrying in oil spills, current till 1 October 2024.
All at the Museum of Australian Photography, 860 Ferntree Gully Rd., Wheelers Hill (Melbourne)

Western Australia
2024 Contemporary Landscapes in Photography (CLIP) Award, Perth Centre for Photography, Naval Store 141 Queen Victoria St, Fremantle From 12 July 2024 to end of August 2024.

Queensland
World Press Photo Exhibition 2024, Turbine Platform, then continues in the Fairfax Studio on the lower level at Brisbane Powerhouse, 119 Lamington St, New Farm, current till 4 August 2024

New Light, Photography Now and Then, a mesmerising display of photography spanning 1890 to 2024. Museum of Brisbane**,** Level 3, Brisbane City Hall, 64 Adelaide St, Brisbane 4000. From Saturday 17 August 2024 – Sunday 13 July 2025, Open daily 10:00am–5:00pm

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Judging Tip

Creative images – further thoughts. Guessing about how an image was made, making assumptions about the end result, where it was made, indicating you don't understand it and similar comments compromise your judgments. What to do?

Comments are about the artistry, not the mechanics or engineering, of an image work well. It does not matter how the image was made (where the work is completely by the entrant), that is another matter that can be discussed later with the photographer or they can be asked about it during the judging so all present can gain insight.

The artistry refers to aesthetics, of which all trained judges are aware. Also, does it remind us of another similar approach made by a famous photographic artist, or painter, this could inspire the photographer to pursue this as a personal style.

I was drunk when I had my driver's license picture taken. That way, when the police pull me over, I don't have to worry. Unknown