

APJA Australian  
Photographic  
Judges Association  
Inc.

# APJA NEWS

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Photographic Artist Feature  
Bill Gekas



**Established 2014**

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### ***President's Message***

Unfortunately, we have been unable to hold our first Level 5 Fellow Seminar on Sunday 14 October BUT it will be held next year. A draft syllabus for next year is currently under consideration by the committee and will be advertised after our EOY committee meeting and function on Sunday 11 November.

At our EOY function Jennifer Fawkes will make a presentation "17 things beginners need to know" encompassing things to assist new judges with how they might address common mistakes that beginning photographers make and what education the judges could provide.

By now a number of clubs are organizing their 2019 syllabus, APJA Judges are club members, so you can have input to the set subject competitions being arranged. Here is your opportunity to make suggestions. Aside from your own ideas for set subject competitions, over recent years at our seminars some underpinning ideas have been expressed by presenters, here are a few ideas: Environment (Purposeful Message), Allegorical (Vanitas Style), Interpretative (Abstract Concepts), Context (Issue based).

On Sunday 18 November the VAPS is holding a general meeting in which the APJA is involved. See the note below under committee activities.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the EOY Function at St Anthony's 'The Glen' meeting room on Sunday 11 Nov at 2pm.

*Paul Robinson*

Paul Robinson

President

## *Syllabus 2018*

Month	Date	Event 1	Event 2/Commence Times	Location	Topics	Leaders & Training Topic
Nov.						
	Sunday 11th	Committee Meeting 12.15 pm	EoY General Meeting 2pm	St. Anthony's	TBA	Portraiture
Dec.	No meeting this month					

### *APJA Facts*

In the ongoing series about bias covered to date has been Mere Exposure Effect Bias, Physiology of Bias, Superficial Bias, Confirmation Bias and Familiarity Bias. Sixth in this series about bias is known as ‘The Bandwagon Effect’ which causes us to believe or do things because other people believe or do the same. This is not so much about the actual judging of images but rather conforming to tradition about how we go about judging. Conforming to what everyone else believes judging should be inhibits new thinking and approaches to judging. All judges are encouraged to make fresh viewpoints about the judging process rather than following convention.

### *Monthly Presenter Notes*

Following on from a previous presentation Paul Robinson spoke about ‘Influence of Art upon Photography 1850 to Now’ which also covered the intervention of science and its influence upon photography. It covered early research work about the science of colour (Newton and Goethe) and the adoption of chemistry (Daguerre and Talbot). Then looked at Realism (Philip-Corsia diLorca), Pre-Raphaelites (Julia Margaret Cameron), Impressionism (Mark Lissick), Pictorialism (Henry Peach Robinson), Post-Impressionism (Chris Friels), Expressionism (Aaron Siskind), Cubism (David Hockney), Bauhaus (Laszlo Moholy-Nagy), Surrealism (Caras Ionut), Pop Art (William Eggleston) and Minimalism (Nicholas Goodden). While there were not a lot of members there on the day here is your chance to check out the images of these photographers who were influenced by art movements and science.

*You’ve gotten a ticket for an illegal u-turn – to go back for THE shot!!  
(Becca Morrison)*

## *Photographic Artist Review*

Fourth in our series about portrait photographers, Bill Gekas, (born 1973) is an Australian photographer, married since 2000 and his daughter Athena is the main focus of many of his pictures. He is entirely self-taught having practised the art of photography and constantly refined his style since the mid-90s. Since 2010, Bill has been creating a series of portraits of his beautiful daughter Athena, inspired by Dutch masters' classic paintings. What was originally intended to be just a few personal portraits, became an ongoing art-project for Bill and his family. Mastering the intricacies of studio lighting, combined with a huge amount of preparation painstakingly undertaken by the photographer and his wife in their spare time, has allowed Bill to capture these incredible images. It's important to note during the time of creating these images, Bill didn't work as a full-time photographer – he part-owns and successfully runs another business in a completely unrelated industry.

He styles the environment and his daughter to fit the time period, and uses strobe lights to maintain the appearance of soft, natural lighting. The self-taught photographer learned on 35mm and has since turned to digital techniques. He uses post-processing to put the final touches on each of his photographs. Through hard work, experimentation, and a grand vision, the talented artist has successfully produced an extensive collection—a tribute to both well-known artists as well as to his young daughter. As Gekas has evolved as a photographer, so has his unique style. He says "Don't be scared of taking certain elements from different works and moulding them into something to call your own. You might like the lighting from a photo you saw somewhere, a prop from another photo, colours from another. The key is not to limit yourself with the excuse, 'It's all been done before.' Yes, many things have been done before, but with some careful thought you can adjust a concept to give it your signature. Experiment!"

References: (1) <https://www.yellowtrace.com.au/bill-gekas-portraits-of-his-daughter-as-dutch-master-painting/> (2) Wikipedia (3) [My Modern Met](#)





### ***Committee Activities***

A meeting has been held with Grant McAvaney, CEO Australian Copyright Council, and subsequently the association has applied to become an affiliated member on a trial basis to be reviewed at the end of 2019. The application needs to be approved by the Board of the Council prior to acceptance. If it proceeds this will provide us with regular feedback regarding copyright issues, guide the manner the association approaches copyright and gives us the opportunity to have input into review of Commonwealth Govt. copyright matters as they are offered to the Council for commentary in the promulgation process.

**On Sunday 18 November the VAPS is holding a general meeting with a speaker from 1:30pm then a discussion from 3:30pm about issues the APJA has raised regarding club competitions. This is an information session but if you have any issues then please email Paul Robinson: [perfectpics.pr@gmail.com](mailto:perfectpics.pr@gmail.com) prior to the meeting.**

Please note: Paul Robinson will be overseas from this week and returning the first week of November.

## *Current Photography Exhibitions*

### **Victoria**

Centre for Contemporary Photography, 404 George St., Fitzroy  
T: (03) 9417 549. *Lost World*, John Stezaker. Current until 11 Nov 18.

Monash University Museum of Art, Building F, Monash University, Caulfield Campus, 900 Dandenong Rd, Caulfield East. T: (03) 9905 4217  
Lili Reynaud-Dewar *TEETH, GUMS, MACHINES, FUTURE, SOCIETY*.

Monash Gallery of Art, 860 Ferntree Gully Rd, Wheelers Hill.  
T: (03) 8544 0500 *Allusion & Illusion: the fantastical world of Valerie Sparks*  
Current to 18 November 2018

Hamilton Gallery, 107 Brown St, Hamilton. T: (03) 5573 0460

*National Photographic Portrait Prize* Current until Sunday, 4th Nov 2018.

### **New South Wales**

Maitland Regional Art Gallery, 230 High St, Maitland. T: (02) 4934 9859  
*American Visionary: John F. Kennedy's Life and Times*  
20 OCT 18 - 17 FEB 2019

Australian Centre for Photography, 72 Oxford St, Darlinghurst  
T: 02 9332 0555 *Geography of Space, Archaeology of Time*, by Izabela Pluta (Sydney) and Utako Shindo (Tokyo). From 26 October – 1 December 2018

## **Queensland**

Brisbane Powerhouse, 119 Lamington Street, New Farm T: 61 7 3358 8622  
*The Wildlife Photographer of the Year* Current until SUN 04 NOV18

Museum of Brisbane, Level 3, Brisbane City Hall, King George Square,  
Brisbane. Tel: 07 3339 0800 *Perspectives of Brisbane* currently on permanent  
display.

## **South Australia**

The Centre for Creative Photography, Light Gallery, 138 Richmond Rd,  
Marleston SA 5033 T: (08) 8354 0839. *Metamorphosis* Current until 30 Nov18

South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide.  
*2018 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year*  
Current to Sunday 11 November 2018

## **Western Australia**

WA Shipwrecks Museum, 45 Cliff Street, Fremantle *As Eye See It*  
*Photographic Exhibition* Current to 14 October 18.

The Perth Centre for Photography, 357 Murray St, Perth *Iris Awards*  
Opening 11 Oct 18 ongoing

WA Maritime Museum, Victoria Quay, Fremantle WA Tel: 1300 134 081  
*PrintWest – Photographic Exhibition*, Current to 7 October.

## **Tasmania**

Mawson Pavilion, Waterfront, Hobart. *Men with Heart* Current ongoing

*You know it's a problem when the number of lenses you have is greater than  
the pairs of shoes you own (Carsten Deutschmann)*



