



## Public Presentation 2025 "A Photo Journey"

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***Emptiness*** Kiril Rusev

***Pakistan: Asia's Undiscovered Wonder*** Scott Bennett

***Romania – Beyond the Dracula Myth*** Ray & Mary Ann Anderson

***Dreams – Deep in the Mind*** Gareth Jones

***People on the Street – Near and Far*** Andrzej Wodzinski

***Patagonia Adventure***

*Scott Bennett, Connie Lee, Katie Mak, Dror Orbach, Christopher Siou, Mona Turnbull & Andrzej Wodzinski*

***Space*** Kiril Rusev

On behalf of the members of the Toronto Camera Club, we would like to welcome you to the 2025  
Public Presentation – ***A Photo Journey***.

This is an annual fundraising event for the club, so your interest and participation are greatly appreciated. The funds raised from this event will go toward the maintenance and repair costs associated with the ownership of our club building in mid-town Toronto.

This year's ***A Photo Journey*** will showcase travel adventures to fascinating locations across the globe! Marvel at Patagonia's breathtaking craggy peaks, winding fjords, and majestic glaciers. Climb to extraordinary heights in the vast beauty of India's remote Ladakh region and Bolivia's Andes mountains. Immerse in the colourful markets, vibrant culture, and dramatic landscapes of Pakistan. Visit enchanting castles, medieval fortresses, and quaint villages in rural Romania. See captivating portraits of people in urban environments from around the world. And venture into the dreamscape of a creative mind!

As you watch these shows online, you can watch them in any order you please.

If you enjoy this presentation, please view the video on our website's homepage to learn more about the club's history and the benefits of a Toronto Camera Club membership.

Thank you and enjoy the show!

Kathryn Moore, President  
Mary Ann Anderson, Public Presentation Chair

## Patagonia Adventure

*Andrzej Wodzinski, Christopher Siou, Connie Lee, Dror Orbach, Katie Mak, Mona Turnbull & Scott Bennett*

Join our intrepid group of nine Toronto Camera Club members and family as we experience the scenic wonders of Patagonia. Encompassing portions of Chile and Argentina at the southern end of South America, it remains one of the most uninhabited regions on earth and home to an incredible diversity of scenery and wildlife.

Our journey began in Chile's bustling capital of Santiago, where we explored the city's downtown, parks, and museums. After a second day exploring the nearby coastal city of Valparaiso, we headed south to Punta Arenas, gateway to Torres del Paine National Park. Our base for five days, the stunning views of the Andes Mountains, glaciers, waterfalls and lakes proved to be a photographer's dream. Above, Andean condors patrolled the skies while extensive grasslands were home to pumas and llama-like guanacos.

Moving north into Argentina, the scenic wonders continued, from the dramatic peaks of the Fitzroy Range to the massive Perito Moreno Glacier. In addition, the culture and food in the various locations were fabulous additions to an already incredible journey. Finishing in Buenos Aires, we sampled more great food along with the city's cultural highlights. Care to tango anyone?



**Mona Turnbull** - Mona joined the club in 2013 after joining members on an African trip. She reached the Masters level at the Toronto Camera Club in 2024. Her interest in photographing horses started at an early age, when given her first camera in her teens. This interest changed to wild animals after the African trip. She now likes nothing more than to be out in nature and capturing the animals going about their everyday life. She finds catching those aspects and sharing them with friends who wouldn't ordinarily see them is rewarding. Capturing beautiful landscapes and flowers is also part of the fun. Lately, Mona has been trying other aspects of photography such as street and architecture with a little bit of creative thrown in.



**Katie Mak** - Katie started her photographic journey twelve years ago with a family trip to an African Safari. Although she knew very little about photography at the time, the drama encountered was overwhelming and wildlife photography has been her passion ever since. Her photography interest has widened over the years but sharing the drama and beauty of her ventures is still the focus of her work. Katie joined the Toronto Camera Club in 2014 and became a Life Master in 2021. She had won the titles of "FIAP Best Author" and "World Class Photographer" in the Toronto Camera Club's International Salon. She was also awarded the title "Grand Master-Silver" by the Photographic Society of America, as well as EFIAP/Bronze by The International Federation of Photography Art.



**Connie Lee** - Connie rejoined the Toronto Camera Club in 2022 when she moved back from Hong Kong. Since her retirement, Connie has reconnected with photography. Documenting the journeys through her lens and iPhone, Connie rediscovers the joy of capturing the moments from her adventures. Sharing the vision and learning from other people is inspiring and rewarding.

**Christopher Siou** - Christopher has been a member of the Toronto Camera Club for 30 years, serving as the club's Nature Chair and Weekend Outing Chair for the past 18 years. He also coordinates the Image Evaluation group and the New Members

Orientation. Christopher competes at the Masters level, he has the distinguished title of being the top award winner in the history of the Toronto Camera Club, and he is also a Past President of the club. Christopher has won awards in O3C (Ontario Council of Camera Clubs), CAPA (Canadian Association of Photographic Art) and International Salon competitions. He regularly judges O3C club competitions as well as lead workshops and presentations.

Christopher describes himself as a 'traditional' photographer, influenced by National Geographic style images, and his photography is mostly based on his travels. His six previous solo Public Presentations were on Utah and the Southwest, Greece, England, China, Morocco, and Antarctica. He also collaborated with a group of other TCC photographers in their presentation of Kenya in 2023.





**Dror Orbach** – Dror is a photographer with a great love of capturing moments in nature including landscapes and wild animals. He also has an interest in cityscapes and architecture.

Dror is currently exploring his perception and depiction of different lighting situations in his images. He also aims to show how the beauty of nature can be expressed through monochrome images.

Dror has been a member of the Toronto Camera Club since 2011. He is currently the club's Competitions and Awards Chair, as well as being a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and the Website Roadmap Committee. Dror participates regularly in club competitions at the Masters level and has won multiple awards over the years in the Toronto International Salon of Photography and the CAPA (Canadian Association of Photographic Art) Digital Salon.

Dror held two solo exhibitions at the Toronto Camera Club's Powell Gallery: *Exhilarating Alaska* in 2018 and *The Magic of Svalbard* in 2022. He has also participated in group exhibits every year since 2022 as part of the annual Contact Photography Festival in Toronto.

Dror sells prints of his photography in support of Youth Assisting Youth - a charitable organization providing youth mentors to younger children in need of support. To learn more about this, visit Dror's website: [www.drororbachphotography.com](http://www.drororbachphotography.com)

Other links where you can view Dror's images and contact him:

Facebook: [Dror Orbach Photography](#) page

Instagram: [@orbachdror](#)

Etsy shop: [DrorOrbachPhotos](#)

**Scott Bennett** - A member of the Toronto Camera Club since 1997, Scott is a widely published photographer and writer. Born and raised in Southern Ontario, the arts have always played a vital role throughout his life. After completing a 3-year course in Classical Animation at Oakville's Sheridan College in 1983, he worked extensively in the animation industry throughout the ensuing two decades. During this time, the purchase of a 35mm camera piqued an interest in photography, which soon became an obsession.

After 25 years in the animation business, he decided to pursue photography full-time and now contributes photographs and articles to publications around the world. His passion for photography, both above and underwater, taken him to some of the most exotic places on the planet, from the heights of the Himalayas to the depths of Indonesia's coral reefs and the African savannah.

Website: <https://scottbennett.smugmug.com>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/scottbennett362>



**Pakistan – Asia's Undiscovered Wonder** - Situated on the western boundary of the Indian subcontinent, Pakistan features a diverse range of attractions, from the spectacular mountains of the north to the culture heritage of the Indus River delta. Yet, unlike neighbouring India, international tourism remains minimal, with media reports of political unrest, terrorism, and other assorted mayhem enough to deter potential visitors. I first visited back in 2008 and was immediately captivated. While the country undoubtedly has its problems, the people are among the friendliest I have ever encountered. Returning in 2022, I was able to visit some new regions as well as some old favourites. Starting in Islamabad, my 16-day journey encompassed stupendous scenery at every turn, from the high-altitude desert of Skardu to the magnificent Hunza Valley. I finished in historic Lahore, renowned for its Mughal architecture and celebrated street food scene. From its urban settings to dramatic scenery, Pakistan provides a travel experience like no other.



**Andrzej Wodzinski** – Andrew is a Polish born, Toronto based, self-taught and award-winning photographer. Photography is his passion, and he is drawn to various genres of photography, especially black and white, high contrast and street photography. He also practices other genres: macro and studio, abstract, travel, nature, and landscape photography.

Andrew is a member of The Royal Photographic Society from which he holds the LRPS distinction. He also belongs to the Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA) and Photographic Society of America (PSA). Andrew joined the Toronto Camera Club in 2020 as a beginner and quickly moved to the Masters Division, having won numerous awards and competitions. He is the recipient of 2024 David Nicholls Memorial Award. In 2024 he won the Chairman's Award: Best TCC Author in the 131st Toronto Camera Club International. He is the recipient of the IAAP Brown and Gold Medals in the 2024 Brazilian International Photography Circuit. His images have been accepted in numerous international

photography salons around the world. Andrew currently sits on the club's Board of Directors, and he serves as Co-Chair of the Lecture Series Program and the Powell Gallery.

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/andrzej\\_wodzinski](https://www.instagram.com/andrzej_wodzinski)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552323607946>

**People on the Street – Near and Far** - Travelling and photography go together. You can photograph landscapes, cityscapes, nature, historical landmarks, and architectural marvels. You can also photograph people! From making candid, posed, or environmental portraits of people you pass by when exploring new, or not so new, cities, to photographing people going about their daily routines, enjoying celebrations, life and love, or quiet moments - this is an enriching experience that goes beyond photography. In fact, photography is just an excuse. The celebration of our common human condition is the goal. Join me on a short tour of major world metropolises and get a glimpse of people on their streets.



**Gareth Jones** – I strive to enjoy, explore, and balance life. I want to give people a breather from the stress of today's world – and I simply have to create! I see the world with all its wonders, big and small, and then I put my take on it. I simply love to create, imagine and capture what I see, what I think. My mind is full of images, they just have to come out and I love to share them.



My artworks are in private collections around the world and are sold on several web galleries, through my website or directly via my Facebook/Instagram pages. I have won several international competitions for both photography and digital art in both Canada and the United States, including multiple Gold Medals in the International Salon of Photography. I am also a regular speaker in Canada and the UK. I talk about 'The Challenge of Creativity', 'My journey as an artist' and 'What will I do next?'.

Gareth is the Chair of the Creative/Altered and the Monochrome Digital Competitions at the Toronto Camera Club. He is also the CAPA (Canadian Association for Photographic Art) representative for the club.

Website: <https://planetpal.viewbug.com/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/firstgareth/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCadZSwJK5AZo9vJuuS0RqeQ>

**Dreams- Deep in the Mind** - As most members know, I love to experiment with my photographs, often manipulating them into extreme abstracts, shapes or designs. I'm often asked where I get my ideas from, sometimes I'm even asked what's going on inside my head. Well, this AV submission is one answer – I'm constantly dreaming or day-dreaming when I'm in my creative zone. The concept of putting my images into a dream also allowed my imagination to be freed and I could play/enjoy/create very different transitions and colourings – whilst using some amazing music and sounds to maintain the abstract nature of dreams.

I think the quote I used from Van Gogh is a great reminder for all image making artists – let your dreams, ideas and thoughts fly. Then you'll be able to enjoy where they land. This show is an example of where my thoughts landed and where one facet of my artistic self is enjoying creating these artworks. As a sub-note: a lot of these images were created from photographs of household objects. Things like forks; chairs; light bulbs; glasses cases; patio heater; patio umbrella; floor mat; radiant heater; etc., etc., etc. The list never really ends! Cheers and enjoy dreaming your images!

**Kiril Rusev** – A wise man once said “Mountaineering is the hardest, most expensive, and most dangerous way to get to a place where you have no business being”. So, one of my two hobbies is mountaineering. The other is photography. I try to show viewers interesting places where most people wouldn’t normally go. But it is not just about mountains. In the process of reaching high mountain tops I inevitably travel to distant places and immerse myself in quite different worlds. I get to spend time and share a tent with local people, taste local food, visit local temples, learn about local history and culture. When I return, I try to make sense of it all through images.

I grew up in Bulgaria where spending two weeks in the mountains was a given for my family every summer. My father first took me hiking when I was seven and since then I never stopped coming back to the mountains. With digital photography, I embraced the Micro Four Thirds format and till today I shoot with Olympus cameras. I love the small size and versatility when every gram counts on a mountain side. One picture is rarely enough so I enjoy creating photo essays so people can have a more immersive experience.



I have been a member of the Toronto Camera Club since 2023. My essay **Space** won top award in TCC and silver in CAPA competitions. In 2014 I won the Toronto Star’s “Photographer of the Year” award for best portfolio.

**Space**- All the images in this photo essay were taken during a 3-week-long trip to the mountains of Bolivia in June 2023. A trip like this is multi-faceted and I came back with hundreds of photos of mountains, lakes, deserts, cities, villages, people and even some wildlife. But I was looking for a single theme that could bind together the experiences I had while being there. And I chose that to be “Space”. On one hand the theme is obvious -Bolivian Andes are so vast and feel almost empty. On a clear day you can see a mountain top standing some 200 km away from you across the desert. But on the other hand, it is hard to describe the feeling when you are standing on top of a huge mountain when it is cold and beautiful and pristine, and the air is scarce, and everything in sight is below you and there are only stars above you. If I must use an analogy, I’d say it’s like being in Space.

**Emptiness** - Ladakh is in the north-west of India. Geographically, culturally, and historically, it is closer to Tibet than to the rest of the country. Most of it is a high-altitude desert where vast expanses of dry arid land meet huge icy mountains and create an otherworldly feeling of emptiness. Emptiness is also a core Buddhist concept that refers to the inherent lack of essence of phenomena around us. From that point of view everything is as empty or as full as we see it.



**Mary Ann & Ray Anderson** – Traveling for 40 years together, photography has always been part of this couple's itinerary. The pair has visited over 45 countries. They are particularly attracted to independent travel and exploring less traveled parts of the world. Their curiosity is about the landscape and the culture of each country they visit. They extend their interest in people to learning about their religious practices and participating in their festivals and celebrations.

For over 25 years, Ray and Mary Ann have been producing multimedia presentations of their journeys. Their previous Public Presentation shows include India, Nepal, Burma, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Tibet, Indonesia, Turkey, Guatemala, Peru, Namibia, Iceland, Mongolia, and Bhutan.

Ray and Mary Ann have been members of the Toronto Camera Club since 1992. Among his many volunteer roles in the club, Ray especially enjoys being Chair of the Audio-Visual Competition. Mary Ann has volunteered for the Public Presentation for the several decades and has been Chair of this event for the past six years.

**Romania – Beyond the Dracula Myth** – We prefer to travel to locations off the beaten track and where there are few tourist crowds. But where would we find this in Europe? Romania was the answer. Romania is a magical land of castles, medieval bastions, rugged stone churches, and old-world villages filled with tradition and charm. The images and video in this show were taken on a 3-week road trip in 2023. Best part of Romania – the incredibly generous and hospitable Romanian people! Next best- travel in the country is surprisingly inexpensive!

## A Special Thank You!

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To our **Club Members** for their generous donations toward the Print Sale, Raffle Draws, and Door Prizes:

Alan Bell	Ali Soheil	Catherine AuYeung	David Hillock	Donald Agopsowicz
Dror Orbach	Felix & Yveline Rivero	Gerda Grice	Gareth Jones	
Ivan Saltz	Linda Rosen	Kathryn Moore	Kathryn Murray	
Margarete Brunner	Max Skwarna	Monica Dingle	Ralph Grose	
Ray Anderson	Scott Bennett	Victor Peters	William Reith	

To our **Volunteers**:

Kathryn Moore, David Hillock, Mike Fellhauer, Christina Nolan, and Ray Anderson  
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To the **Presenters** for sharing their photography and experiences.

To the **Audience** for their support of this Toronto Camera Cub fundraiser!