

PPCO

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CENTRAL OHIO

January 2008

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Newsletter**



HAPPY NEW YEAR

PPCO 2008 PRINT COMPETITION

Our Annual PPCO Print Competition

Monday January 14, 2008

Print Registration Starts At

6:30 PM

at

The Berwick Manor

3250 Refugee Road

Columbus, Ohio

Details on page 4



PPCO PRESIDENTS MESSAGE JAN 2008

Hello PPCO members!

The PPCO 2007 Christmas Party was so much fun that we didn't want to go home! The members were in a festive mood, the decorations were lovely, and the gift exchange was wild, and wooly, with beautifully wrapped, great presents! You guys are too much fun!

Thanks to everyone who helped with the party and for sharing the joy of the Holidays.

I hope all of you had Happy Holidays and a very Merry Christmas.

IT'S TIME TO DO SOMETHING NEW!

It is now that time of the year to look forward to a new page in your business, careers, journeys, adventures and personal lives. It is the appropriate time to think about setting new goals. I like to suggest setting goals which are outside your present "comfort levels." If we do the same old stuff, we will always get the some old results. By applying reverse logic, doing different stuff yields different results.

JANUARY 14 2008 PRINT COMPETITION

The PPCO print competition, which will be held on January 14, 2008, is an exciting and fascinating opportunity to learn the finer points of image making. Whether you realize it or not, print competition is like three seminars in one. Why? You have personal access to the wisdom, experience, knowledge, and mindsets of three different Judges. This is big!











Did you realize that comments' regarding the prints is really a seminar on lighting, posing, composition, presentation, image quality, impact, and more? Attending and entering our PPCO print competition is much less expensive than traveling to all these different types of seminars, and can be even more rewarding.

I strongly encourage you to enter prints! This is your opportunity to grow! This is a real benefit of PPCO membership.

If you don't enter, you don't give yourself permission to accept new ways of looking, and thinking about your own work. I know that for many of you, this can be outside your comfort zone, but there comes a point when it is time to take a chance and move beyond the boundaries of your box. I am often asked "how did you learn so fast?" I reply "print competition was the biggest contributing factor." Let it work for you and you will grow in a way that you can't derive from any other process.

In 2008, Elaine and I wish you health, joy, prosperity, New Years hugs and slushy stuff!

Robert Hughes

<i>PPCO Board of Directors</i>	
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<i>2007/2008 Calendar</i>
Sep. 17 David Ziser Seminar : It's about Time
Oct. 8 Matt Lydy "Digital Retouching - It's time to "face" it"
Nov. 5 John VanSteenberg "Saving the Family Wedding Studio: Digital Imaging Has Gone MAD & the Worst is NOT over yet!"
Nov. 11 & 12 Fall Two Day Conference - Hilton - Easton
Dec. 10 Members Christmas Party - Berwick Manor
Jan. 14 Print Competition - Judges Amy Mears, Darrell Moll and Ladd Scavnicky
Feb. 11 Round Table & Swap Shop Moderator to be Announced
Feb. 27 - Mar. 3 Mid-East States Convention – Dayton OH
Mar. 10 TBA
Apr. 14 Linda Durham
May 12 TBA

PPCO 2008 Print Competition Details

Monday, January 14, 2008 - Berwick Manor Party House

Categories: Wedding, Portrait, Illustrative, and Unclassified.

Classifications: Finished (8x10 - 16x20 meeting PPA Competition Standards) **The dimension of the IMAGE needs to be a minimum of 80 square inches.**

No Unfinished this year. So bring your best to be judged.

Cost: \$5.00 per print or 6 for \$25.00 - **6 print limit.**

Prints: **Titled 8x10 - 16x20 Mounted.**

No frames, transparencies, or albums.

Judges:

Amy Mears

Darrell Moll

Ladd Scavnicky

Judging will be based on PPA standards.

Please read the 12 Elements of a Merit Print (enclosed).

Also please print the enclosed label (one per print) and attach to the back of your print(s) in the top left corner.

PPCO members should **not permanently attach a form to a finished 16 x 20 print.**

If a form were to be attached it could be rejected as a Mid East-States entry. (no MES entry should show evidence of entry in another print competition.)

This competition is anonymous, so only you will know it is your print being judged. So don't be shy. Enter your best prints and see how you do.

The competition is a precursor to the Mid-East States competition in March.

Your Name

Attach this label to the back of your print in the top left corner.

You Must be a PPCO member in good standing to enter print competition.

Check Type of Entry

PPCO Photographer

PPCO First Time Entrant

Circle Correct Category

(P)ortrait

(W)edding

(I)llustrative

(U)nclassified

Title of Image

(Please Print)

Print #

SCORE

For Official Use Only

12 Elements of a Merit Print

The Photographic Exhibitions Committee (PEC) of PPA uses the 12 elements below as the “gold standard” to define a merit image. PEC trains judges to be mindful of these elements when judging images to the PPA merit level and to be placed in the International Print Exhibit at the annual convention. The use of these 12 elements connects the modern practice of photography and its photographers to the historical practice of photography begun nearly two centuries ago.

Twelve elements have been defined as necessary for the success of an art piece or image. Any image, art piece or photograph will reveal some measure of all twelve elements, while a visually superior example will reveal obvious consideration of each one. They are:

1. Impact is the sense one gets upon viewing an image for the first time. Compelling images evoke laughter, sadness, anger, pride, wonder or another intense emotion.
2. Creativity is the external expression of the imagination of the maker by using the medium to convey an idea, message or thought.
3. Style is defined in a number of ways as it applies to a creative image. It might be defined by a specific genre or simply be recognizable as the characteristics of how a specific artist applies light to a subject. It can impact an image in a positive manner when the subject matter and the style are appropriate for each other, or it can have a negative effect when they are at odds.
4. Composition is important to the design of an image, bringing all of the visual elements together in concert to express the purpose of the image. Proper composition holds the viewer in the image and prompts the viewer to look where the creator intends. Effective composition can be pleasing or disturbing, depending on the intent of the image maker.
5. Print Presentation affects an image by giving it a finished look. The mats and borders used should support and enhance the image, not distract from it.
6. Center of Interest is the point or points on the image where the maker wants the viewer to stop as they view the image. There can be primary and secondary centers of interest. Occasionally there will be no specific center of interest, when the entire scene collectively serves as the center of interest.
7. Lighting—the use and control of light—refers to how dimension, shape and roundness are defined in an image. Whether the light applied to an image is manmade or natural, proper use of it should enhance an image.
8. Subject Matter should always be appropriate to the story being told in an image.
9. Color Balance supplies harmony to an image. An image in which the tones work together, effectively supporting the image, can enhance its emotional appeal. Color balance is not always harmonious and can be used to evoke diverse feelings for effect.
10. Technical excellence is the print quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing. Sharpness, exposure, printing, mounting and correct color all speak to the qualities of the physical print.

11. Technique is the approach used to create the image. Printing, lighting, posing, film choice, paper selection and more are part of the technique applied to an image.
12. Story Telling refers to the image's ability to evoke imagination. One beautiful thing about art is that each viewer might collect his own message or read her own story in an image.

In 2007 I agreed to participate in a new and exciting project. Many of you have asked me about the new Teeny Tucker CD and I am including some information here. The CD is due to be released on, or about, the second week of January 2008.

I have included Teeny's article so you would have the background information and see why we felt so compelled to heavily immerse ourselves by donating a hefty portion of our life to honor these under appreciated and gifted artists.

Go to www.roberthughes.net and click on 'TEENY TUCKER BAND.'
Hope you enjoy the music ... Robert Hughes



The Two Big M's CD Cover © 2007 Robert Hughes

The Two Big M's

By Teeny Tucker

Big Mama "Willie Mae" Thornton and Big Maybelle "Mabel Louise Smith," were two of the most prolific, and groundbreaking, singers in the history of the Blues genre. Both born in the 1920's and both sang in Baptist gospel choirs which were located just a few miles from each other. This only proves that music is universal and without contributions from these two unique ladies, the world would have missed pure vocal talent that started from the mother's womb. It can't be taught, you can't learn it. It is only a gift from God.

Big Mama Thornton was born Willie Mae Thornton on December 11, 1926 to a Baptist minister and a gospel singing mother who no doubt passed on the gut fire talent to their daughter. During her career, she recorded with the Muddy Waters Blues Band and also recorded such great tunes such as: "I'm Feeling Alright", "Bumble Bee", "and "Big Mama's Blues" to name a few. She went on to record "Ball & Chain" with Lightning Hopkins and other Blues classics such as; "Hound Dog" and "Wade in the Water".

As a tribute, Robert Hughes a fine guitar player, blues historian, and world renowned photographer and I decided to undertake a "labor of love" to honor and pay tribute to these two great and talented women. The CD titled "The Two Big M's" song selections were based on countless hours listening to the material. For almost a year, we listened day and night, night and day until "the right choices" for this project were revealed. Jerry Leiber and Mike Stroller's "Hound Dog" written for Big Mama Thornton in 1952 was a must, one of Big Mama's first hits and the one that clearly put her on the map as one of the greatest R&B and Blues singers that ever existed. Three years later, Elvis Presley made "Hound Dog" a hit and was paid huge dividends, while Big Mama Thornton got a flat five hundred dollars for her version of the song. Another song I thought heavily upon recording was her classic "Ball & Chain" (written by Big Mama Thornton). This song was one that put Big Mama Thornton in the forefront with male blues singers. Big Mama clearly lead the path for future women blues singers and penned the song that inspired me to write the only original tune on the CD, titled "The Two Big M's." Later Janis Joplin, a rock and roll singer from Texas made the classic blues song "Ball & Chain" a hit. How wonderful to see that Big Mama inspired artists that were classified in other genres of music. Kudos to Janis Joplin!

I love Big Mama Thornton's rendition of "Bumble Bee" recorded with the Muddy Waters Band in 1966. It is a fun song depicting a man that is truly missed by his woman for his prominent manhood and how he can make a woman really feel like a woman. It is a great tune and one of my favorites chosen to go on this project. Some of the other tunes you will hear on this CD from Big Mama Thornton are, "Heavy Load", "Sassy Mama" and "Unlucky Girl." I feel I put my heart and soul into this project in order to pay admiration and honor to two of the greatest artists that walk among us. Although, there is really only one Big Mama Thornton, I would hope if she were still here and had to critique me, she would say well done my good and faithful servant to the Blues.

Big Mama Thornton Died on July 25, 1984 at the age of 57 in Los Angeles, CA, alone, penniless and under-recognized.

The other great blues lady on this project is Big Maybelle born Mabel Louise Smith on May 1, 1924 in Jackson Tennessee. She too, got her start in the gospel choir and later in her teens, she toured with the all female International of Rhythm and then the Christine Chatman Orchestra as pianist where she made her first recording in 1944. She proved she had what it took to make great songs. She rides in and out of a song using her husky unique tone effortlessly making a song a classic associated with Big Maybelle only.

Her big break came in 1953 on her first recording with Okeh Records with the hit song, “Gabbin Blues” followed by “Way Back Home” and “My Country Man.” Although, “My Country Man” is by far one of my most favorites of Big Maybelle, I chose not to do it on this CD because I did it on my last album, “First Class Woman.”

After listening to Big Maybelle’s song lists and a big push from Robert Hughes, I decided her 1955 recording of “Whole Lotta Shakin” produced by then, a young Quincy Jones and done so without much commercial success. Nevertheless, this song would be one that I would choose. Many times, I’d listened to Big Maybelle’s version and then go back and listen to the version of Jerry Lee Lewis a rock & roll singer who recorded it at Sun Records in 1957, placing the song as #3 on the Billboard, #1 on the R&B charts and #1 on the Country charts. In the end, we decided to add it to the project with a flavor and style of our own. Of course, input from Robert Hughes’s was to keep the sound close to the 50’s as much as possible. He put his guitar solo spin on it, capturing the sound that makes this song stand on its own. Whole Lotta Shakin is branded in the National Recording Reservation Board as culturally, historically, or aesthetically important, and/or inform or reflect life in the United States. How much more classic can Big Maybelle get? I hope everyone can enjoy the tribute on this one. Other songs selected from Big Maybelle’s collection are “Rockhouse”, “Ramblin Blues”, and “Saint Louis Blues.”

Big Maybelle died in a diabetic coma in 1972 in Cleveland, Ohio. Big Maybelle also died penniless and under-recognized. For this reason, I feel grateful to give honor where it is long overdue.

Players on this CD include:

- Teeny Tucker: Lead Vocals
- Robert Hughes: All Guitar Tracks
- Vernon Hairston: All Keyboards & Hammond B3
- Drums: Jeff Peters & Tom Sawyer
- Bass: Robert Blackburn
- Harmonica: David Gastel
- Background Singers: Mary Lusco-Ashley, Paula Brown. and Jackie Tate

Thanks to Robert and Elaine Hughes for all the support on this entire project.

Two Big M’s is due to release by the middle of January 2008. By all means, check it out. I think it is one of my best yet! This CD was long overdue, but the wait was worth it. ENJOY!

Best regards to blues lovers everywhere and a special thanks to all my fans!

Hugs!

Teeny Tucker

US Department of Transport announces restrictions for Li-Ion batteries

Press release:

PHMSA 11-07

Friday, December 28, 2007

New US DOT Hazmat Safety Rule to Place Lithium Battery Limits in Carry-on Baggage on Passenger Aircraft Effective January 1, 2008

Passengers will no longer be able to pack loose lithium batteries in checked luggage beginning January 1, 2008 once new federal safety rules take effect. The new regulation, designed to reduce the risk of lithium battery fires, will continue to allow lithium batteries in checked baggage if they are installed in electronic devices, or in carry-on baggage if stored in plastic bags.

Common consumer electronics such as travel cameras, cell phones, and most laptop computers are still allowed in carry-on and checked luggage. However, the rule limits individuals to bringing only two extended-life spare rechargeable lithium batteries*, such as laptop and professional audio/video/camera equipment lithium batteries in carry-on baggage.

"Doing something as simple as keeping a spare battery in its original retail packaging or a plastic zip-lock bag will prevent unintentional short-circuiting and fires," said Krista Edwards, Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

Lithium batteries are considered hazardous materials because they can overheat and ignite in certain conditions. Safety testing conducted by the FAA found that current aircraft cargo fire suppression system would not be capable of suppressing a fire if a shipment of non-rechargeable lithium batteries were ignited in flight.

"This rule protects the passenger," said Lynne Osmus, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) assistant administrator for security and hazardous materials. "It's one more step for safety. It's the right thing to do and the right time to do it."

In addition to the new rule, PHMSA is working with the FAA, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the battery and airline industries, airline employee organizations, testing laboratories, and the emergency response communities to increase public awareness about battery-related risks and developments. These useful safety tips are highlighted at the public website: <http://safetravel.dot.gov>.