

NEWSLETTER number 14

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A Message from the Regional Organiser, Robert Albright FRPS

Congratulations to all the Medal and Ribbon winners in our Annual Print Exhibition. I am very grateful to Ron Morgan who led the organisation of the Exhibition and The President of The Society, Professor Ralph Jacobson, who formally opened the Exhibition and presented the awards as well as several 'L' and 'A' Distinctions Certificates.

As it happened I had seen Ralph all over the preceding weekend at The Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester where he represented The Society throughout The RPS International AV Championships. I was one of four Jury Members from Italy, Switzerland, Wales and England. Reviewing the 92 sequences was a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding experience but exhaustion caught up with me the next day when I got several things wrong in the evening opening ceremony and found myself driving home in the wrong direction on a road I know well. I saw John Hankin at the Festival but it was a shame there was so little interest generally from Western Region members, despite the event being held in our region. With the new Photo Harmony category specifically aimed at photographers, I hope we will see many of your entries in Festivals and applications for Distinctions in the future. Don't be put off if you already have a high RPS distinction - the first application for an LRPS in Photo Harmony is from a member of our group with two FRPS Distinctions Qualifications already to his name.

In November we have the splendid Tony and Eva Worobiec lecturing on 'Fading Icons'. Bring money to buy their latest book! In December we may be able to combine a wine tasting with our usual pre Christmas meeting so let's see some more members at the Christmas Party!

I am working on putting together next year's programme. Expect some great events, notably Richard Sadler's lecture on 'Bill Brandt and the Missing Negatives' in September 2007.

This is our last Newsletter before Christmas and on behalf of the committee may I take this opportunity to wish everyone in the Western Region the Season's Greetings and a highly productive and healthy new year.

Victoria & Albert Museum 'Twilight' Exhibition

'Twilight – Photography in The Magic Hour' is a new contemporary photographic exhibition that opened at the V&A on October 10 and continues until December 17 2006. The exhibition features the work of international artist-photographers. A one-day symposium is being held in conjunction with the exhibition on November 25th; for more information visit www.vam.ac.uk/twilight. Why not combine this with a visit to the stunning Leonardo Da Vinci Exhibition, also at the V&A until January?

Snowdon Exhibition at the Chris Beetles Gallery, Ryder St, London SW1

Your Editor was fortunate to see this exhibition on its first day and was envious of the opportunities Lord Snowdon has had to photograph so many famous people. The 1967 image of Princess Margaret is simply delicious, those of Dali, Olivier, Stravinsky, Blunt and the Goons entertaining. Many of the exhibits are of ordinary subjects and a few would sit comfortably alongside those of Diane Arbus. Altogether there are 70 images, each with a limited, signed print run of 50 and priced around £1800 - £2000 each. Get your calculators out to appreciate what those numbers mean in potential sales!

RPS Western Region Programme - Meetings in 2006-7

November 12th - Lecture - Eva & Tony Worobiec FRPS - "Fading Icons"

December 10th - Members Day - Bring, show and discuss your work & enjoy the Christmas Party

January 7th - AGM+ Members' Prints

Check the web site for any last minute changes. www.rps-westernregion.co.uk