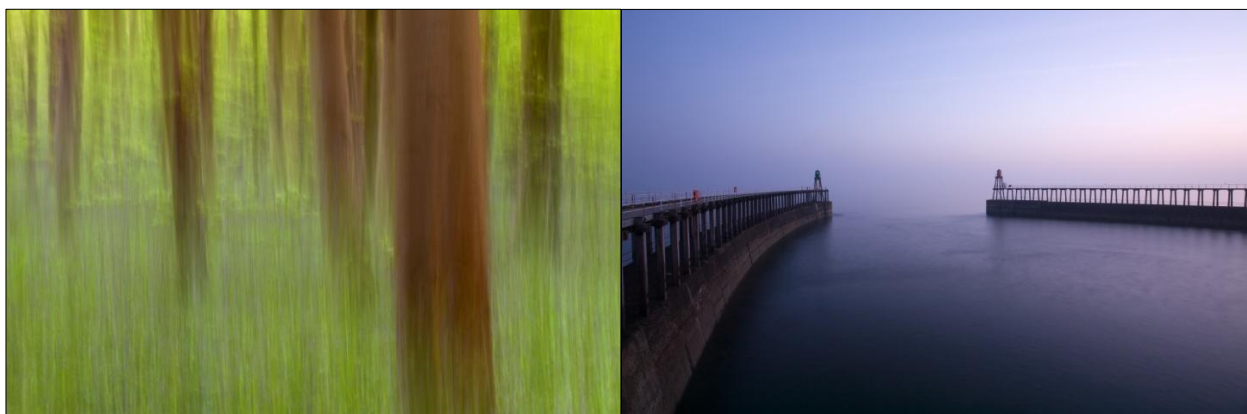


Astrid McGechan LRPS

Feel the Land: Landscape Photography and Emotion



I am a landscape photographer based in Surrey. Since 2010, I have regularly exhibited my work in solo and group exhibitions in the UK and in Germany. In 2013, I was appointed Head Judge of a corporate photography competition for a multinational client, headquartered in Beijing. My first book “The Elmbridge Hundred – A Visual Journey” was published in 2014 and I am currently working on a new book project to be finished by December 2016. My photographs have been published in the UK and Europe, and sold in the UK, Europe and US. I teach photography at the Riverhouse Arts Centre in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey and am a contributor to *Landscapes by Women*.

Landscape Photography and Emotion

Landscape photography and emotion go hand in hand.

When I started out in photography years ago, I did not think much about what I felt when seeing something I wanted to photograph: I just picked up the camera and pressed the shutter button to capture what I saw.

In 2010, I held my first exhibition, jointly with fellow landscape photographer Huw Alban. The strongest memory I have of that event is of a visitor, who told me that she was going through difficult times with her family. But looking at my photographs made her feel much better, they conveyed a sense of harmony, beauty and calm, she said. She returned twice over the following two weeks, each time silently taking in the work.

I realised then that being able to convey an emotion with my photographs is very important to me. So I started to try and be more aware of what I feel when exploring a scene, and determine what influence my state of mind has on the resulting photograph. Over time, this process has helped me to change the way I make my photographs, and, hopefully, to produce photographs that convey feelings and thoughts and thus evoke an emotional response in the viewer.

In this lecture, I will explain how I try to capture my emotions of the moment in a photograph. I will be showing a selection of my images to illustrate the various techniques that I have found helpful.

The lecture, which will begin with a short introduction of myself and how I got into photography, will take you on a light-hearted journey through my creative process, and should appeal to all levels of photographers, irrespective of their preference of subject matter.

Structure of Lecture

The lecture is structured to fit in with the standard camera club format of 1.5 hours with a break in the middle and time for questions and a round-up at the end.

Technical Equipment

I require a digital projector but will provide a laptop and laser pointer.

Fee

I currently charge a fee of £60 plus expenses, with mileage costs being claimed according to PAGB guidelines.

If you are interested in this lecture, please contact me with suggested dates and any other requirements you may have.

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