



NUUSBRIEF

BRANDPUNT

Uitgawe 42– Junie 2024

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Wenner van Mei se kamerafoto - Senior Ope - Leopard Portrait - Fotograaf Gerhard Potgieter



Wenner van Mei se kamerafoto - Senior Tema - Spitzkoppe - Fotograaf Gerhard Potgieter



Wenner van Mei se kamerafoto - Junior Ope - Olifante laatmiddag drink water - Fotograaf Sarie du Plessis





Wenner van Mei se kamerafoto - Junior Tema - Bergkwagga landskap - Fotograaf Sarie du Plessis



Wenner van Mei se selfoonfoto - Tema - Makro - Feathered dew - Fotograaf Lucia Hewitt



Wenner van Mei se selfoonfoto - Ope - Lovers Rose - Fotograaf Louis Mouton



Klubaand Kamera Fototemas

- Junie - Straat fotografie
- Julie - Stillewe
- Augustus - Panning
- September - Sport/Aksie
- Oktober - Voëls
- November - Die letter L



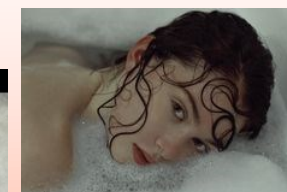
SALONNE

- 2024/06/01 Magalies salon
- 2024/06/08 PSSA Up and coming
- 2024/06/15 Tafelberg salon
- 2024/06/ 29 F - stop Kempton Park salon
- 2024/06/30 Amber AV salon
- 2024/07/06 Nelspruit salon
- 2024/07/15 Danube summer circuit
- 2024/07/20 Benoni salon



Selfoon Temas

- Junie - Modelle
- Julie - Glas/Glasballe
- Augustus - Skaduwees
- September - Die kleur wit
- Oktober - Vervoer
- November - Blomme



Kamerafotos 4

11 JUNIE op ZOOM - 19H00 -
TEMA - Straatfotografie
+ 3 KAMERA FOTOS (ope)

Naskrif.....SLUITINGSDATUM 9 JUNIE 23h59!!!!



KLUBVERGADERINGS 2024

Die fotos is almal van die internet afgetrek. Fotograawe onbekend.

Selfoonfotos 3

25 JUNIE op ZOOM - 19H00 -
TEMA - Modelle
+ 2 SELFHOONFOTOS (ope)

Naskrif..... SLUITINGSDATUM 23 JUNIE 23h59!!!!



VERJAARSDAE



Veels geluk aan ons lid wat in hierdie wintermaand verjaar. Mag dit 'n wonderlike dag en 'n mooi jaar vir jou wees.

Doreen Thomas 17 Junie





PSSA IMPALA LYS VIR DIE JAAR 2024 - Tot en met EDENVALE

Naam	Ster Gradering	Vorige Posisie	Huidige Posisie	Beweging in Posisie	PSSA Punte	Naam	Ster Gradering	Vorige Posisie	Huidige Posisie	Beweging in Posisie	PSSA Punte
Peter Thomas	10 Groot Meester Brons	18	17	-1	166	Marinda van Heerden	5	812	394	-418	12
Elsa van Dyk	10 Groot Meester Silwer	151	120	-31	56	Jan Roos	3	480	410	-70	11
Melandie Kleinhans	5	115	167	52	46	Gerhard Potgieter	4	556	527	-29	6
Nick van der Mescht	5	173	177	4	43	Estelle Mouton	3	609	667	58	3
Karin van der Mescht	6 Meester Brons	190	236	46	29	Irene Kok	2	787	841	54	1
Sarie du Plessis	3	231	253	22	27	Lucia Hewitt	2	806	862	56	1
Diane Goncalves	6 Meester Brons	265	280	15	23	Nico Putter	2	824	879	55	1
Albertino Goncalves	6 Meester Brons	328	324	-4	17	Trevor Borchards	4	849	903	54	1
Louis Mouton	3	367	377	10	13	Total Entrants	17		917		456

Saamgestel deur Nick van der Mescht

PSSA IMPALA LYS VIR DIE JAAR 2024 - Tot en met EDENVALE

Ander Klublede wat nie op die Lys is nie

Naam	Impala lys Klub	Huidige Posisie	PSSA Punte
Judy Joubert	Southern Suburbs	102	67
Micheal Feistel	Brandpunt	156	50
Ingrid Orrock	Bloemfontein	406	11
Gert de Beer	Centurion	301	20



Ons wil vir ons 17 deelnemers wat vir Brandpunt deelneem baie dankie sê.

Ons hoop om al ons lede binnekort onder Brandpunt se vaandel te sien deelneem indien moontlik. Al om die tweede jaar asb.

Daar is 'n plekkie in Photovault waar jy dit kan verander.

Julle kan sien dat dit 'n groot verskil maak op die punteleer.

Peter Thomas is ons groot stêr wat nou onder PSSA se top 20 val op 18 de posisie.

Hy is dus 'n 98 persenter op die oomblik om 18 de uit 917 deelnemers te kan staan.

Let op na Marinda van Heerden se ongelooflike sprong in punte met 418 punte. Fantasties!

Verder wil ons veral vir ons juniors erg aanspoor om aan soveel salonne deel te neem as wat moontlik is.

Ons seniors natuurlik ook. Ons is almal baie besig met privaat lewens, ons verstaan. Al doen ons net 2 fotos per salon, elke salon.

Met ons klubaande en selfoonaande word ons soveel wyser danksy Diane se reelings met welbekende beoordeelaars, spesiaal vir ons.

Kom ons wend daardie kennis aan, deur aan salonne deel te neem. Bietjie vir bietjie.

Karin

PSSA NATIONAL CONGRESS



PARYS
FREE STATE

2024
30 September – 4 October



Sien PSSA se webblad vir al die inligting.



Still Life Photography

Still life photography is an art form that involves capturing inanimate objects.

This can include anything from a bowl of fruit to a carefully arranged collection of antique tools.

The appeal of still life photography lies in its accessibility and its potential for immense creativity.

With complete control over all elements, from lighting to composition,

you can turn ordinary objects into something extraordinary.

Seeing everyday objects through an artistic eye is the essence of still life photography.

It's about finding beauty in the mundane and ordinary.

Essential gear

An entry-level mirrorless camera or DSLR will work just fine.

Paired with a close-focusing lens, they allow you to capture sharp images

of your subjects that you can edit, print, and hang on your wall.

A tripod is an important item. Even a slight camera movement can change the focus and composition, so a tripod will help streamline your workflow.

More importantly, it'll keep your camera steady, which is crucial for achieving clear, sharp images in low light conditions.

Other useful accessories include reflectors to reduce shadows and diffusers to handle too-harsh lighting.

That said, you don't need to go gear-crazy; the key is to understand that quality images don't necessarily come from expensive gear.

With the right basic tools, beautiful still life images are entirely within your reach.



Key still life photography settings

Manual mode is where you want to begin in still life photography.

A narrow aperture such as f/8 is a standard choice for still life photography.

It keeps the subject in focus, giving you the crisp details that'll make your still life images stand out.

As for the ISO: Keep it low to maintain the best image quality.

As long as you're using a tripod, shutter speed is less critical; you can slow it down without causing blur

Basic lighting for still life photography

Light is an essential component of still life photography, and many still lifes feature beautiful lighting arrangements (which often create moody, painterly effects).

But it's important to realize that *you don't need fancy lighting to create a stunning still life*. When you're starting out, use whatever light you have available, such as:

- Indirect light from a window
- A lamp
- A flashlight
- A candle



Don't just create your setup, take one shot, and call it a day.

Instead, try out different lighting effects! Use a curtain to block out some window light, then remove the curtain to let the light stream in. Shine a flashlight at your main subject, then try a second shot where the flashlight is positioned off to the side and shrouds your subjects in shadow.

Note that, if you're using lamps, flashlights, or candles, you will definitely need a tripod; indoor lighting won't get you a fast-enough shutter speed for handheld shots.

Still life photography composition

First, read about the rule of thirds and the rule of odds.

These will offer a fantastic compositional starting point for beautiful still life shots.

Second, just keep moving your items around.

As you create different compositions, here are a few items to keep an eye on:

- Overly empty gaps (you generally want to keep the entire arrangement balanced!)
- Busy areas (you don't want to confuse the viewer with *too* much activity)
- Movement between objects (aim to lead the eye from one object to the next)

Remember: A tiny tweak can make a *huge* difference.

So if an arrangement doesn't seem perfect, make a few changes.



1. Look at the work of great still life photographers

It's a valuable practice to study the work of great still life photographers online.

By observing their photos, you can learn about the different ways to arrange elements, and you can even find inspiration for new subjects.

Look at the world of painting as well. Masters like Cezanne offer a treasure trove of lessons on composition, balance, and the use of color. The way these painters arranged objects, used light, and chose colors can translate into unique insights for your photography. A painter's eye for composition can open new doors for your creativity.

2. Experiment with sidelighting

Sidelighting is a powerful tool in still life photography.

By ensuring that your light source is hitting the subject from the side rather than the front or back, you add shadows that improve a sense of three-dimensionality. The play of light and shadow brings depth and drama to an image, allowing ordinary objects to appear extraordinary. *Karin*

A 45-degree angle is often a fantastic starting point for sidelighting. It offers a balanced blend of light and shadow, producing a visually appealing effect. Realize that the angle of light can drastically change the mood and appearance of your photograph.

By embracing the experimentation and understanding how sidelighting works, you add an essential tool to your still life photography toolkit.

Bottom line: Whether you're using natural light from a window or an artificial source, sidelighting can become your go-to option for stunning still life shots.



Peter



3. Pick items that interest you

Ideal subjects are simply items that interest *you*, and they can come from anywhere, including:

- Around your house
- Flea markets and thrift stores
- Estate sales
- The grocery store
- The florist



Of course, the words “still life” generally conjure up visions of vases of flowers, pears on candlelit tables, old paper, and violins. And you can certainly capture beautiful still life shots by obtaining and arranging these “classical” items.

But you don’t *need* to spend time pursuing such images if they don’t interest you.

Instead, ask yourself: What is meaningful to *me*? What objects do I love?

Is there a story I would like to tell with my still life?

When picking still life subjects, here’s a piece of advice:

If you’re stuck, just find some items that are personal and important to you, such as:

- Family heirlooms
- Pictures containing relatives
- Books that you love

Then, after a bit of arranging, you’ll capture a still life that’s loaded with meaning!



4. Work with a theme

Still struggling to pick the right still life photography subjects?

Then try working around a single theme.

Themes are an essential aspect of still life photography that can add depth and coherence to your images.

They help you move beyond randomly selected objects and push you to think about the mood and meaning you want to convey.

Whether it's a color, season, or concept, a unifying theme can drive creativity.

For example, if you choose a theme around the color blue, you may gather items like blue glassware, a blue scarf, or blueberries.

The consistent color palette not only creates visual harmony but also allows you to explore various textures and shapes within a specific color family.

Themes also help in storytelling. A setup focused on a seasonal theme, like autumn, can evoke feelings of warmth, change, or nostalgia.

From leaves to pumpkins, selecting objects that resonate with the chosen theme helps in creating visually compelling stories that speak to the viewer.





5. Carefully select a background

The background can make – or break- your still life.

If you want great results,

you *must* choose your background with great care.

Specifically, *don't* choose a background that features distracting elements.

Avoid eye-catching colors that draw the eye, and if you use fabric,

make sure you iron it first (few things are more distracting than a wrinkled backdrop!).

Instead, keep it simple.

Fabric, cardboard, and existing walls often work great,

provided that they're relatively plain.

The goal is to emphasize your still life subjects

(so the viewer knows *exactly* where to look).

Also, experimentation is important!

Different background textures and colors

can complement your subjects in different ways, so it pays to test out a few options

before deciding on a final arrangement.

You may be surprised by the backdrops

that make your still life really pop.

And while I generally do advocate using a narrow aperture and a deep depth of field

when starting out, over time, you might want to try experimenting with focus and depth of field.

You can create a shallow depth of field effect – where you keep the front element sharp

and the background blurry – for more artistic shots.

It's a trick that can also come in handy if you like the background but find it a little too conspicuous.



6. Try light painting for creative still life shots

Light painting is a thrilling technique that allows you to “paint” with light.

It involves setting your camera to a long shutter speed,

usually in the range of 10 to 30 seconds,

and then moving a flashlight or candle around your subject

during the exposure.

The result can be mesmerizing.

One of the great things about light painting is that it enables you to

have greater control over your lighting without investing in

expensive strobes and softboxes.

You can create unique effects and highlights exactly where you want them.

All you need is a dark room and a source of light, such as

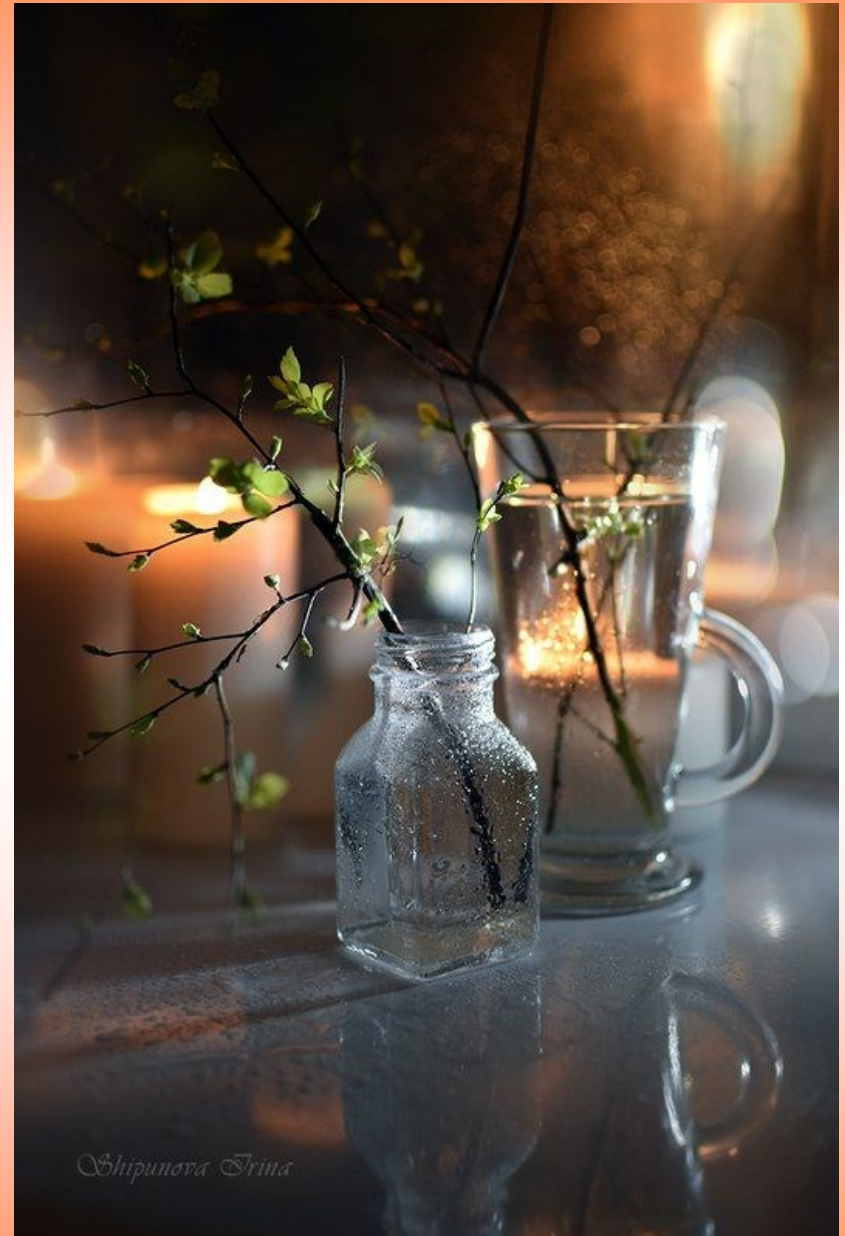
a flashlight, candle, or even a glow stick.

Experiment with different light sources, movements, and exposure times.

You’ll soon discover a whole new world of creative possibilities.

Light painting can add depth, character, and flair to your photos,

making it a valuable technique in your still life photography toolbox.



7. Consider using artificial lighting

Once you've mastered basic still life lighting using natural sources like windows or candles,

you may wish to explore artificial lighting for more control.

Studio strobes, speedlights, or continuous LEDs are common options, and each has its advantages.

For those just starting, speedlights can be an affordable choice.

They are portable and easy to use but still deliver excellent results.

Strobes, on the other hand, are more powerful and include modeling lights so you can see the lighting effect in advance.

Whatever your choice, softboxes are essential.

A bare flash will result in harsh and unflattering light.

Softboxes diffuse the light, making it softer and more pleasing to the eye.

They come in various sizes and shapes, allowing you to fine-tune the lighting effect to match your vision.

Artificial lighting may seem intimidating at first,

but with practice, you can use it to create stunning still life photographs.

From generating specific effects to offering complete control over the intensity and direction of light, artificial lighting opens up a new realm of creativity.

It's an investment not just in equipment but in expanding your artistic capabilities.



8. Shoot from different angles

The angle you choose to shoot from can dramatically alter the look and feel of your still life photograph.

While it's common to start with a standard frontal composition, experimenting with different angles adds richness and variety to your portfolio.

Moving to the right or the left, shooting from above or below – these choices offer new perspectives on familiar subjects.

Even slight adjustments in camera height can change how a setup is captured.

Higher angles can amplify depth, making objects appear more spread out, while lower angles can give a greater sense of intimacy or grandiosity.

Experimentation is key here.

There are no rigid rules, so feel free to explore various angles until you find what resonates with your subject and theme.

Try photographing a bowl of fruit from directly above

to emphasize shape and pattern,

or shoot a vase of flowers from below to give

it a towering, majestic appearance.

The creativity of angles is in your hands.



9. Make sure you spend time editing your still life photography

Post-processing can make a *huge* difference to your still life photos, so spend time editing your images in Lightroom, Photoshop, Capture One, or some other program.

Start out with basic adjustments, such as white balance, exposure, contrast, and saturation. Then, as you become more experienced, play around with more advanced options.

Consider doing HDR photography, where you take several images at different exposure levels then blend them together in Lightroom. Or use Photoshop to add a beautiful texture to your image for a painterly look.



Laat weet my indien julle enige iets spesifiek hier wil sien of geplaas wil hê! Stuur vir my fotos van julle uitstappies asb. Almal kan dit nie altyd bywoon nie.

Groetnis.

Redaktrise

Karin van der Mescht

