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# thewellspoint

March was a busy month, although still a cold one. All this cold had me dreaming of the warmer climates of Italy, where I will be teaching a [photo workshop](#) this summer based at [Al Vecchio Convento](#). Images from previous workshops in the magical village of Portico di Romagna, Italy, are interspersed throughout this newsletter.

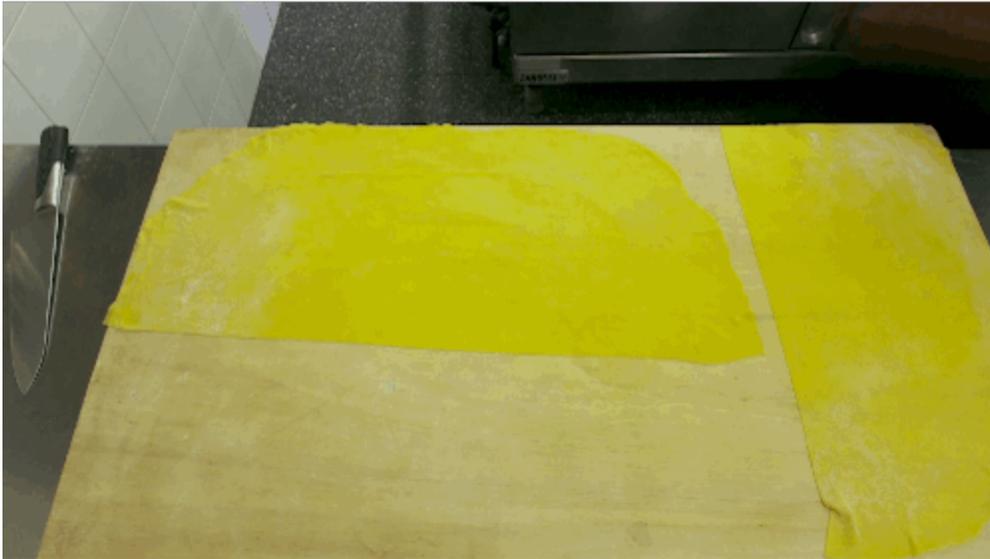
During March, I was a portfolio reviewer at the 33rd Annual Northern Short Course, attended by professional and aspiring visual journalists. In the beginning of April, I will be the keynote speaker kicking off a [Freelance-a-thon](#) at Penn State University, for students interested in freelance careers.



I was busy reviewing and applying for a number of grants/residencies, competitions. I submitted my work for the [Individual Photographer's Fellowships from the Aaron Siskind Foundation](#). I looked at a couple of other opportunities that every serious photographer should have on their radar, including the [Rosenquist Residency](#) and the [Eddie Adams Workshop](#).

I wrote for a friend's blog, [Mirrorless Nature](#) on the compact mirror-less cameras I use, titled: [Working with Olympus Mirrorless Cameras](#). I also prepared a couple of on-line portfolios of recent work from [Morocco](#) (where I will be leading a [workshop](#) later this year) and from my project in India on [houses being cut in half](#) to make room for highways

I joined the roster of creatives at [BAIZDON](#), which, according to [their site](#) "...is a new creative agency specializing in producing quality photography, customized publications and short movies for travel industry marketing. We are made up of a team of talented creatives with bags of experience in the luxury travel industry and suitcases full of skills in communication media. "



#### **RECENT BLOG ENTRIES:**

[Why listen to me?](#)

[Why would anyone do stock photography](#)

I am also the featured blogger for the month on [the Hunt's Photo and Video](#) blog, where I will be exploring [the production of photo-essays](#) for exhibition and publication. One blog entry will be posted each week during the month of April.

#### **NEWEST PODCAST:**

[Thinking about organizing the personal project](#)

My favorite kind of photography is the personal project (or photo-essay.) The thing I like the least about them is the time and effort required to keep such projects organized. But, I need to be organized in order to execute the projects efficiently, to promote the work to potential funding sources and exhibitors, as well as to have the same work reviewed and published. So I made this podcast explaining how I organize my personal projects.



## NEWS YOU MIGHT USE:

I am thrilled to be part of an interesting new publishing venture sharing high-level insights drawn from the in-the-field experience of 10 of the world's most celebrated outdoor photographers. As they say on their site "all 101 advanced visionary insights will quickly and easily integrate into your creative workflows to consistently create more evocative images... without you having to spend a cent on equipment or software." It is not just hype, and these are definitely not the typical basic tips you'll find on the web. The [introductory free e-book](#) contains a tip from each photographer along with a link to a corresponding video.

### Enshroud Your Subject

A simple yet powerful way to add drama, mystery and intrigue to your images is to photograph the scene through a hanging fabric.

This image taken of a sari cloth hung out to dry on the banks of the Ganges River in India, illustrates three factors required to make such an image successful.

Firstly, the lens is focussed on the cloth itself. It's important that the viewer can see the detail in the cloth.

Secondly, the sari is in the shade while the background buildings are illuminated by direct sunlight. This contrast allows enough background detail to show through the cloth to make the buildings discernible, while the shadow behind the cloth in the bottom third of the image blocks out any background distraction which in turn accentuates the detail in the sari.

Thirdly, the silhouetted figure of the man in the center of the image adds an element of human interest. By using a large aperture (f2.8) and focusing on the cloth itself, the silhouetted figure is softened to the point that while it is recognisable as a person, it does not compete with the fabric's detail.



Click on the video link above to hear David H. Wells share more insights behind this image.



David H. Wells is a freelance documentary photographer and photo-educator who specializes in intercultural communications and the use of light and shadow to enhance visual narratives.

His work has been featured in over fifty exhibitions and he has taught workshops at the International Center for Photography in NYC and at the Maine Media Workshops.



Connect With  
David H. Wells

Two useful articles on the all important pricing question were recently posted on

[Photoshelter](#) and [DIY photography](#). I encourage EVERY photographer to look at them. Even if you are not a professional you should know what your time and expertise are worth. That way you will not undersell the market out from underneath pros like me.



#### **BRAGGING RIGHTS:**

Jon Plasse, a long-time student is having an exhibition at the NY gallery, [Bosi Contemporary](#), of his work, [The Stadium](#), featuring photographs of the original Yankee Stadium. As they say on their site "The show's emotionally charged images highlight Plasse's frequent visits to Yankee Stadium in the last years of its existence and its demolition in 2009. Plasse returned to the site to photograph the current baseball diamonds that rest in the shadows of the new Yankee Stadium in 2013. The black and white photographs recall Plasse's own childhood memories of going to Yankee games with his father and recreate these moments from a childlike perspective."

#### **WORKSHOPS NEWS:**

While dreaming of warmer weather, in March I worked with the folks at CSU (California State University) Summer Arts program to finalize my role in their fascinating summer workshop [Photographic Storytelling with Light & Color](#). The class is two weeks and features four different instructors, which I think of as a great way for students to get wide exposure to a world of different photographic ideas, approaches, techniques. Though the workshop is organized by the California State University folks, the class is open to any interested photographers and takes place in beautiful Monterey, California.



If California in summer is not in your plans, other upcoming workshops include:

[Seeing like a camera](#) / JUN 16 - 20 / Montserrat College summer workshops, Beverly, MA

[Photographic Tools for Travel Photography](#) / JUL 7 - 11 / International Center of Photography , NYC

[Narrative Video: The Eastern Shore](#) (Maryland) / JUL 21 - 25 / Momenta Workshops

[The Humanistic Photo Essay](#) / AUG 24 - 30 / Maine Media Workshops

[The Tools of Travel Photography](#) / SEP 3 - 8 / Pacific Northwest Art School

[MOROCCO: A Visual Feast](#) / NOV 6 - 17 / Open Sky Expeditions

PLEASE consider joining me for one!

I hope you enjoyed my latest monthly newsletter. I welcome your feedback. If you know people who would be interested in getting these, updates, please encourage them to sign up.

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