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thewellspoint

Happy New Year 2011! I spent a raucous Christmas Eve in Sai Gon, Viet Nam, watching thousands of two-wheelers, driven by young Vietnamese (many wearing Santa Claus caps) pulsate, en-masse through the streets of the city formally known as Ho Chi Minh City. A week later, I spent a much quieter New Year's Eve in Hoi An, in central Viet Nam. I have been enjoying great food, photographing a lot and working on Photo Synesi, <http://www.photosynesi.com/> — our on line service providing aspiring photographers with in-depth feedback and advice from the world's best photographers and teachers.

Being in Viet Nam has been a great place to showcase Photo Synesi. Literally everywhere I go, including Hanoi, where I write from, I meet photographers who are hungry for useful feedback on their photography. The young female Vietnamese photographer I met with today was happy to talk about cameras, but what she really wanted help with was how to become a better photographer. She, like most photographers I meet, understands that critical feedback from other accomplished photographers is the key to that growth.



While abroad, I have watched the Photo Synesi community grow as more aspiring and established photographers share work. One of our reviewers, Rick Peterson — a pro based in Arizona, but working this week in Mexico — reviewed the work of

Lindsay, a self-described photographic beginner, who lives in Massachusetts. After listening to Rick's voice as he was reviewing her work (and reading his written comments) she wrote us, "... it is remarkably comprehensive and full of good advice."



Another reviewer, Michael Eudenbach — a Newport, RI based photographer — reviewed the landscapes/seascapes of Andrew from New England. Andrew wrote us, "The review was excellent as were Michael's comments regarding where to go next. I'm very satisfied with that. His feedback certainly gave me plenty to think about."



We built Photo Synesi as a way to share the “wisdom” (or in Greek, synesi) that veteran photographers have, and aspiring photographers want. The best way to appreciate the magic of a Photo Synesi review is to listen to a sample from a review by Martha Rial — <http://photosynesi.com/?rial-sample>. We think as soon as you hear Martha’s comments, you will understand the power of the feedback.

December, I also wrote and posted blog on [The Wells Point](#) entries titled:

- [A fifth photographer’s problem](#)
- [What is it about middle gray?](#)
- [Does the photography world need more ‘pros’?](#)

I also posted a new podcast in December:

* [“Some thoughts on stock photography”](#) where I answer a friend’s query about how she might get start doing stock photography. I use video screen-capture along with my narration to explain and show what I am talking about.

In December, I posted on the B&H InSights blog/site, which you can read at: <http://www.bhinsights.com/content/one-photographer’s-strategy-image-archiving-part-two-two.html>

Once I am back in the U.S.A. I will be picking up my schedule of travel for assignments, teaching and photographing for my ongoing project on the foreclosure crisis. In late February, I am teaching my favorite class, “Introduction to The Photo Essay,” at the Light Workshops in Los Osos, California, on the beautifully lit Central Coast of California. You can read more about that at: http://www.lightworkshops.com/digital_photo_essays.htm They are running a

promotional price on that class which expires January 14th. You can take advantage of that and read more about that at:

<http://lightworkshops.blogspot.com/2011/01/early-bird-price-extended-to-january.html>

You can always find my upcoming classes on the "workshops" page of my site: www.davidhwells.com/workshops/index.html I hope you enjoyed my latest monthly newsletter. I welcome your feedback. If you know people who would be interested in getting these, please encourage them to sign up at <http://thewellspoint.com/wp-login.php?action=register>

PS: The great photos you see in the newsletter are by some recent Photo Synesi customers, Josh Tripodi, Lane Lewis and Peter Norvig, from top to bottom.

Thanks,

David H. Wells

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