

February 2021 at the Wells Point

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February was cold, I'll admit, but otherwise, things were starting to feel more normal. The days were a bit longer, the temperature has been moving up slowly and despite a couple of snowstorms, spring is on the horizon. In February, we had our latest monthly online conversation, "Zooming with the Wells Point," where [Marky Kauffmann](#), a fine-art photographer, educator, and curator, discussed what inspires her to create feminist art and how she became an "activist" curator. If you missed the talk and you want to see her powerful presentation, send me a note and I will send you the link.



Our next free event is on Thursday, March 25 at 7pm, and will feature [Alanna Airitam](#), a fine art photographer. When I asked her about her presentation, she

wrote me:

"Focusing on the historical and contemporary narratives of representation, heritage, identity, stereotypes, and the erasure or manipulation of history through portraiture and vanitas still life subjects, I reference the long history of racial inequality and reframe these stories through hope, beauty, and honor. In a culture built on an increasingly fueled by lies, my role as a maker is to reframe these stories with truths about the collective American history as it relates the Black Americans and the relationship with this country. I do this through the medium of photography and other materials such as metal, resin, and hand-painted elements. The materials used in finishing my work are central to the stories I'm creating. This talk goes into my practice – the content, structure, and materials referenced and used in making my work."



To prevent Zoom-bombing and to keep the group manageable, the first 40 people who email me will be put on the list to receive the Zoom link and the password for

the presentation.

Speaking of presenting, [Annu](#) and I will be presenting together on Friday, March 12 at 7 pm as part of [Laurie Klein's series, Visual Visionaries](#). We will be premiering a new talk titled [Annu Palakunnathu Matthew & David Wells: Creative & Married](#). If you want to 'attend' be sure to sign up directly on [Laurie Klein's site](#). Some of our favorite images from that upcoming talk are interspersed throughout this newsletter.



In February, I learned I had won a small film award, being named Best Documentary Series Director at MinIndie Film Festival of Los Angeles, CA. Another of my films, [Sahro Hassan: Fashioning a Dialogue](#), was selected for the New York International Film Style & Fashion Festival. In both cases, my background in still image-making was very beneficial. With that in mind, I am thrilled to announce

that in April I will be teaching my online class [From Still Photographer to Filmmaker: The Basic Tools](#) for the [Santa Fe Workshops](#).

If video piques your interest, remember that as an experienced still photographer, you already have many of the skills necessary to be successful with moving images. You know how to compose a frame, use the best light available, and work with digital imaging technology. You just need someone to guide you through the transition from still photographer to filmmaker. My [upcoming class](#) is the perfect opportunity to receive that guidance and then you can dedicate the time to practice your new skills.



POINTS OF PRIDE:

I am very proud to note that one of my recent students making the transition from still photography to motion imaging, [Michele Curel](#), a Barcelona based

photographer turned filmmaker, is one of the winners of the [Best of ASMP 2020 Photo/Video Contest](#) for her lovely short film, "[Les Albatres by TRUDON.](#)"

WORKSHOP NEWS:



High on the list of things I look forward to in the year ahead is exploring places old and new. With that in mind, I hope you will consider joining me on one of my upcoming trips, which could be great places to practice your video making skills.:):)

NOV 6 – NOV 17, 2021 - [Morocco: A Visual Feast](#)

JAN 4 – JAN 18, 2022 - [South India: The Undiscovered India](#)

APR 10 – 21, 2022 - [Sicily: A Photographic Journey on the Island of Light](#)

I hope you enjoyed my monthly newsletter. I welcome your feedback. If you know anyone interested in getting these updates, please encourage them to [sign up for this newsletter](#).

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