

“Verticals must be vertical and horizontals must be horizontal.”

*(article courtesy Ruth Ball)*

Welcome to the world of Robert Royer's Architectural Photography as presented on Tuesday, February 19. Bob shared his knowledge of Architectural Photography by breaking his subject down into five categories: Commercial Photography, Real Estate Photography, Fine Art Photography, Black and White Photography and Long Exposure Photography.

Using examples of his own work, Bob defined Architectural Photography as the art and science of capturing images of buildings both inside and outside. He stressed the use of good photographic tenets, proper equipment and practice as being essential not only to Architectural Photography but to all forms of photography.

He compared Commercial and Real Estate Photography, explaining that Architectural Photography focus is more towards new buildings and can be post processed to present a pristine image while Real Estate Photography deals with what is there as best as can be done with no altering.

Fine Art Photography, while encompassing the same photographic rules, is more personal, further from reality and an expression of the photographer's imagination.

Black and white photography is a step further removed from reality, emphasizing the essence of the photograph. It is more dramatic, creating a more powerful mood.

Long Exposure is a further degree again removed from reality, in which it is possible to create artistic effects such as moving water, blurring clouds and making people disappear.

Bob recommends that when photographing architecture, to remember to explore the building from a distance to get an overall feeling before moving in for details, to try different perspectives by tilting your lens up and or down, to look for reflections and to find that which makes the structure unique.

Nothing comes easily and Architectural photographers fall prey to many kinds of problems, be they calculations, inconsistent light, noise, light leakage and/or equipment malfunctions etc. In order to master a skill or technique it is imperative to slow down, to practice, to block time to work every day or at least every week and to study the experts who have come before. It is only through practice, perseverance and determination that we can achieve our goals. We can see this in the high standard and quality of work which Bob has produced.

Thanks Bob, for sharing your knowledge and hard-earned expertise with the club members.