

Gaifos Gathering

14th November 2010

Thank you so much to everyone who came to our meeting on Sunday for a tremendous evening of photography. There was so much striking work shown and shared.

Here, for those who were unable to attend and as a record of those who did come, is a brief summary and relevant links for the presentations we saw and heard. Please pass on to colleagues and friends you think might be interested.

Jeremy Sutton-Hibbert

Jeremy showed us a slideshow of his recent work for Greenpeace about the shocking deforestation of Sumatra in Indonesia. We did not have speakers good enough to hear the soundtrack, so please do check out the full work on the website via the following links:

Sumatran work can be seen at:

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/multimedia/photo-essays/Saving-Sumatra/>

Papua New Guinea work from the Paradise Rain Forest can be seen here:

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/multimedia/photo-essays/Paradise-Lost/>

Daisuke Ito



Daisuke showed us photographs he took on his latest visit to Cuba, deepening and extending his previous work on the lives of the people around the Losolmo boxing gym in Santiago. These images add to an increasingly impressive body of work.

<http://saudade-foto.com/index.php>

Zaza Bertrand

It was our first time to meet Zaza and see some of her powerful photographs of teenagers in Panama. We don't have a link to these photos but you can probably get in touch via the following link:

<http://www.lightstalkers.org/zaza-bertrand>

Alexandra Huddleston

Alexandra, who also joined us for the first time, has just completed the Shikoku pilgrimage taking in 88 temples over the past 40-odd days on the island. She has yet to

develop the films but tonight she talked about her work on the traditional Islamic scholarship of Timbuktu and the pilgrimages she has made along the Camino de Santiago.

www.alexandrahuddleston.com

Ryan Libre



Ryan, an occasional visitor to Japan from his base in Northern Thailand, came from his exhibition at the Foreign Correspondents` Club of Japan (FCCJ) on life in Kachin State and the Kachin Independence Army. Yusuke Takagi, who joined us again, is also showing his moving work from Burma at the FCCJ right now. Rather than the Kachin Work, tonight Ryan showed remarkable scenes of religious devotion from the Vegetarian Festival in Phuket City.

Ryan talked of his involvement with the festival. An interesting discussion ensued about the choice between participation and documentation.

We moved on to see Ryan`s interesting work with Kachin community in Tokyo.

<http://www.ryanlibre.com/>

Please also visit FCCJ to see the exhibitions by both Ryan and Yusuke.

Ryan is offering a workshop while in Japan – if you know anyone who might be interested please forward the link:

<http://www.ryanlibre.com/photo-workshops-flash.html>

Nick Vromer



Nick is a freelance writer and former professional photographer. Tonight Nick showed us the online work in Japan made by himself and his wife Virginia Sorrells from their exhibition in Seattle.

The work was thoughtfully received. Great to see a different approach to photography given that most of the other work of the evening was in documentary vein.

An interesting exchange was initiated by Jeremy on the subject of William Egglestone's Kyoto pictures.

<http://www.virginiasorrells.net/>

Takashi Arai



Takashi brought some new daguerrotypes. It was interesting to hear his comments on the comparison with modern dags and those from the 19th century.

A round of intense examination of the daguerreotypes took place using Nick Vroman's black shirt. Thanks Nick!

<http://www.takashiarai.com/>

Mari Matsumoto



Thank you Mari, another first-time participant, for showing some of your striking portraits from Cuba. We hope to see at a more leisurely pace in future.

Next Meeting

It was such a good evening it was a shame to stop there. Sorry to those who did not get an opportunity to show their work. Please come back next time. Apologies also to all that I needed to close the gallery and prepare for my presentation for Zen Foto at the recently launched pechakucha breakfast meetings at Roppongi Hills the next morning.

Our next Gaifos meeting will probably take place in January next year. We will send out a notification during December.

Shashin Bonenkai

On the final weekend of 2010 we will hold the Zen Foto Shashin Bonenkai, which is open to all to exhibit a photograph of their choice. The format: one person one work, framed or otherwise, first come first served for wall space. To participate please bring a photograph on 24th or 25th December. For those interested in participating either as buyers or sellers we will also hold an optional auction of the works on display.

Finally, thank you to everyone for making the Gaifos gatherings in Zen Foto`s first year a continued success and inspiration!

Mark Pearson

Gwen Robinson

In doing this write-up I have picked up thumbnails from websites where available. We will distribute initially only to gaifos. If you prefer to make any changes to this document before wider release as pdf on the Zen Foto website please let us know.