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Embracing Simplicity



Embracing Simplicity: Introduction

Introduction

Examples

Thoughts

It's (Mostly) Not The Gear

Techniques



Embracing Simplicity: Introduction

Industry affiliations



ViewSonic®



Embracing Simplicity: Examples

Examples

For images visit
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Embracing Simplicity: Thoughts

Thoughts



Embracing Simplicity: Thoughts

Three key factors to embracing simplicity:

Mindset – ask why, what's the purpose, become one with subject

Gear – too much can get in the way

Photographic approach – techniques, familiarity, minimalism, playing

Photographic simplicity can be achieved through the use of minimalism,
clever composition and the use of natural elements and “effects”

Achieve photographic simplicity in a way that resonates with you!



Embracing Simplicity: Thoughts

Be open-minded / ready to evolve

Photograph what you love

Slow down and heighten your awareness of seeing

Beware of the photo challenges; can't force creativity

Accept imperfection

Why photograph? What is the story? Do you photograph for you?

Don't wait to start

Play with your creativity

Staying active / in shape / healthy state of mind

Spend more time with your subject, shoot less (it's not about quantity)



Embracing Simplicity: Thoughts

The pros also use the trash can

Reflect on, and learn from your own mistakes

Make the shot, don't take it; for an image to be more, give it more

Don't dismiss having your art liked by your friends and family

Make photos that the human can't see (more or less)

Photograph for yourself first

Don't obsess about reviewing photo technical details

Don't look for validation on social media



Embracing Simplicity: Thoughts

Goal is to make the viewer appreciate and connect with your image

Keep competitions healthy... you are competing against yourself as an artist

Where do you want your photography to take you?

Always be thinking of your next great shot

Some of your best images will be created at familiar places

Introduce calm.. the world is overly saturated and in your face



Embracing Simplicity: It's (Mostly) Not The Gear

It's (Mostly) Not The Gear



Embracing Simplicity: It's (Mostly) Not The Gear

You don't need the latest and greatest

Painters don't obsess about brands of brushes or canvases

Many features not used / cameras have been good enough for decades

You need gear that is comfortable for you to use

Don't over accessorize

A tripod is worth the effort; the "hassle" can take you to the next level

Don't let sensor aspect ratio or standards determine your crop

Try just using your phone

If you "need" to upgrade, don't forget the lenses



Embracing Simplicity: Techniques

Techniques



Embracing Simplicity: Techniques

Keep it natural; spend time but don't over process

Don't start with wide angle

Shallow depth of field can create dimension

Macro for isolating visual components

In-camera movement for simplifying complex elements

Vaseline, stockings, etc on UV filter

In the round

Pinhole camera / adapter lens



Embracing Simplicity: Techniques

In-camera movement - still need to focus and compose

Vignetting

Neutral density filter (5-10 stop)

Adding texture in software

Less is more; compositionally and when sharing