



METRO LENS

PSA METROPOLITAN CHAPTER

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The Ben Franklin Bridge, which joins Philadelphia and Camden, is blue. But the magic of the setting sun turns its lines and patterns rusty gold.

Photography and text by **Valentina Sokolskaya**



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Kah-Wai Lin, PPSA

Meet the Executive Committee – Chairman



Kah-Wai Lin, PPSA

I am originally from Malaysia, but I have lived in other parts of the world since 2001. I attended medical school in Ukraine and graduate school in Sweden. Since 2012, I have made my home in New Jersey, USA. Specializing in fine art architecture, landscape and travel photography, my images and articles have appeared in numerous publications and exhibitions and have received many awards.

I started photography when I was 15, and I took up photography more seriously when I was a PhD student in Sweden. I was very much engaged in photographing architecture. At the same time, I operated a company specializing in architectural photography and virtual reality tours.

I have always been in love with nature and I wanted to capture the beauty of nature in ways that preserve the spirit arising from the scene. Since I moved to the USA, I have been fascinated by the unique American landscapes that have now become my main source of inspiration.

My passions in landscape and travel photography lead me to teach and share my knowledge with others. Currently, I operate a company that specializes in photography education. I am also active in serving the photographic community. I am the Star Ratings Director of the Nature Division and Chairman of Metropolitan Chapter, Photographic Society of America; and I am the US representative of Global Photographic Union (formerly known as UPI).

Today, I continue to follow my passion to explore and discover. As H. Jackson Brown Jr. said, "Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."



Meet the Executive Committee – Vice Chairman



Guo Jiang Ou, EPSA

My passion for photography sparked, when I was young, while I was traveling across China. Even though I was inadequately skilled at the time, I enjoyed taking pictures of landmarks and sights. When I immigrated to the United States in my twenties, I tried to put the passion behind and focus instead on a college education. With a master's degree in computer science, photography could play no part in my career. But knowing this did not discourage me from taking pictures. In fact, I managed to retain my passion for photography throughout these years.

When my life was finally stable in the US, I returned to traveling. During these trips, I practiced photographing while exponentially enhancing my skills. Although I had no formal training, I managed to educate myself through books in the library and later from forums and tutorials on the internet.

I have been a PSA member since 2008, and obtained my EPSA distinction in 2013. In past years of the International Photographic Exhibition, I have won multiple awards, including the PSA Gold and FIAP Gold. Currently, I am also president of Photographic Salon Society of New York.



Meet the Executive Committee – Secretary



Mohammad Ali Salim, MPSA

Mohammad Ali Salim has been a member of PSA since May 1, 2009 and received his MPSA in 2013.

Salim has been a photographer for over 42 years. His interest in photography was piqued in 1972, but did not start to really develop until he learned to process black & white images in the “Basic Course” at The Begart Institute of Photography in Bangladesh in 1974. He received his diploma in Professional Photography from the New York Institute of Photography in 1995. He served as the Secretary General of The Bangladesh Photographic Society (BPS) for three terms (1988-1990).

He entered many photo exhibitions and was listed in PSA’s “Who’s Who” in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 as a Top North American Exhibitor. His star ratings include, PID Galaxy 7, ND Galaxy 1, PTD 5*, PJD 4* and PPD 3*. Salim won over 200 awards and currently has close to 2900 acceptances. He has served as a jury member in several PSA recognized exhibitions. His travel article was published in the September 2013, March 2014 and October 2014 editions of the PSA Journal. Salim has been serving as an Americas Star Rating Director for PSA’s Photo Travel Division since June 1, 2015.

In addition to his recent MPSA, Salim has gained the following distinctions: MFIAP (Master, FIAP) in 2013; EFIAP/p (Excellence FIAP Level platinum) from FIAP in 2014; Hon. FBSPA (Honorary Fellow from Bangladesh Society of photographic Art) in 2014; ARPS (Associateship from Royal Photographic Society) in the UK in 2013; AIIPC (Associateship from India International Photographic council) in 1990; ABPS (Associateship from Bangladesh Photographic Society) in 1987.



Meet the Executive Committee – Treasurer



David Anderson

Having been raised in Rochester, New York – home of such photographic legends as the George Eastman House, Eastman Kodak, and the Rochester Institute of Technology - I seem to have gotten by osmosis my early bent for the arts: drawing, pottery, photography, graphic arts, and architectural drawing.

I followed the directive to “Go West, young man, go West” with school and work in western Pennsylvania and Chicago, then a move to Tucson for full-time employment at the University of Arizona. Although I pursued film photography, with the ubiquitous bathroom darkroom and Beseler enlarger, I had to focus on my family and professional career to the detriment of my artistic side.

I finally moved back East following a divorce, remarried, and adopted two delightful daughters from Hungary. Now semi-retired after a 40-year career in educational measurement, I am able to spend more time on my interests in reading and photography. When my interest in photography resurfaced and my film photography equipment was dusted off, I traded for a hot-shot digital camera and several excellent lenses.

My life-long love of graphic design led me to focus on contrasts, shapes, movement, edges, harmony, patterns, and the juxtaposition of the obvious with the unfamiliar. I strive to illustrate these within the context of the transient nature of the physical world. My images have been included in several curated gallery exhibitions and private collections in the Princeton NJ area where I live with my lovely (and tolerant) wife and two adult cats.



UPCOMING EVENTS

1st PSA-MET National Photographic Contest

Closing date: 18 October 2015

Enter at: <http://www.psa-met.com/#!npc/c1e2n>

Judging for 1st PSA-MET National Photographic Contest

Date: 25 October 2015

More information coming soon!

1st PSA-MET General Meeting/Photographic Seminar/Inaugural Ceremony/Award Ceremony for National Contest

Date: 15 November 2015

Venue: Confucius Plaza, Chinatown, New York

More information coming soon!

PSA-MET Seminar Series – “A Photographer’s Footsteps in Singapore for the Last Half Century” by Lip-Seng Tan, FPSA, MPSA

17 January 2016

More information coming soon!

1st Metropolitan International Photographic Exhibition (PSA 2016-023)

Closing date: 23 January 2016

Enter at: <http://www.psa-met.com/#!mipe/c104v>

Judging for 1st Metropolitan International Photographic Exhibition (PSA 2016-023)

Date: 31 January 2016

More information coming soon!

Opening ceremony and exhibition of 1st Metropolitan International Photographic Exhibition (PSA 2016-023)

Date: 16 April – 8 July 2016

Venue: Millstone River Gallery, Princeton Photography Club, New Jersey

More information coming soon!

CHAPTER NEWS



June 7, 2015 – First Organizational Meeting

On June 7, 2015, we held the first organization meeting at the Princeton Public Library, New Jersey. The meeting opened with a welcome from the chairman, Kah-Wai Lin, PPSA, followed by an introduction to the PSA Chapter by vice chairman, Guo Jiang Ou, EPSA. Then Kah-Wai gave an overview of the Chapter organization. We then made the final decision to name our Chapter as PSA Metropolitan Chapter (PSA-MET), and voted for the logo, and discussed the general organization of the Chapter, (i.e. the executive committee, financial planning, Chapter activities, publicity, membership, risk management program, and the roles of Chapter working committees – website committee, exhibition committee, program committee, social media committee and newsletter committee). Next, Mohammad Ali Salim, MPSA led the discussion about articles of association. Kah-Wai then announced the activities plan for 2015-2016. Finally, the petition letter was signed by the Chapter executive committee.

June 7, 2015 – Official Approval of PSA Metropolitan Chapter

On June 16, 2015, just about a month after the idea was initiated and just a week after our organizational meeting, Kah-Wai Lin, PPSA received an email from Nan Carder, EPSA – “Good News.... The motion for the new PSA Metropolitan Chapter to become a PSA Chapter has been approved”. PSA Metropolitan Chapter was now official!

MEMBER NEWS

Jay Brandinger

June 2015 – Jay Brandinger recently published a photo essay “Howell Living History Farm: Volume II, Sustainable Agriculture – 1890-1910”. The book is on sale at the Howell Farm and on Amazon.com. It was announced in the August Howell Farm Messenger: *“Gift Shop Book Arrival! The list of Howell Farm summer reading options just got better! The Friends of Howell Farm gift shop located in the Visitor Center features a new book by Dr. Jay Brandinger of Pennington: “Howell Farm: Sustainable Farming in the Years 1890 -1910.” Dr. Brandinger is a volunteer who has studied and photographed the farm for the past 5 years following his retirement as the director of the New Jersey Commission on Science and Technology.”*

August 2015 – Jay Brandinger received Best in Show at the 97th Mercer County 4-H Fair for an image of Howell Farm.

Huzhong Cai

May - July 2015 – Huzhong Cai received multiple awards at the international photographic exhibitions, i.e. PSA gold medal and FIAP gold medal at Ecological Truth 2015; PSA gold medal at Virtual Image 2015; PSA gold medal at Raptors at Risk 2015; PSA gold medal at Tour 2015; PSA gold medal at Indian Photo Art 2015; PSA gold medal at DPA 2015; FIAP gold medal at JCM 2015; and FIAP gold medal at Pathshala 2015.

Xinxin Liang, EPSA

May 2015 – Xinxin Liang received the EPSA (Excellence) for achieving 700 or more acceptances supported by Star Rating certificates from one or more PSA Divisions.

Kah-Wai Lin, PPSA

May 2015 – Kah-Wai Lin received the PPSA (Proficiency) for achieving 288 or more acceptances supported by Star Rating certificates from one or more PSA Divisions. Kah-Wai also received the distinction titles of Hon.PESGSPC (Honorary Fellow) from Pascal English School and Greek School Photographic Club, Cyprus and Hon.FARGUS (Honorary Fellow) from Argus Photographic Society, Romania.

July 2015 – Kah-Wai Lin received a gold medal at 4th Jodhpur International Photographic Circuit 2015.

Valentina Sokolskaya

June 2015 – Valentina Sokolskaya received the PSA Star 1 in Photo Travel Division.

If you have any good news to share with us in future issues of Metro Lens, please submit the information to

psa.metropolitan@gmail.com

1st PSA-MET NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST 2015



ORGANIZER

PSA Metropolitan Chapter
Exhibition Chairman: Theresa Hood
Website: <http://www.psa-met.com/#!npc/c1e2n>
Email: psa.metropolitan@gmail.com

CALENDER

Closing Date: 18 October 2015
Judging Date: 25 October 2015
Notification Date: 28 October 2015
Catalog Upload: 8 November 2015
Exhibition Date: 10 November 2015
Award Send Out Date: 22 November 2015

THEMES

Open Color; Open Monochrome; Nature; Photo Travel

FEES

Non-PSA-MET member: 1 section: US\$6; 2 sections: US\$10; 3 sections: US\$15; 4 sections: US\$20
PSA-MET member: 1 section: US\$3; 2 sections: US\$5; 3 sections: US\$7.50; 4 sections: US\$10

AWARDS

Total of 180 awards will be conferred. Awards for each section include:
1 gold medal; 1 gold medal for PSA-MET members
3 silver medals; 2 silver medals for PSA-MET members
15 bronze medals; 3 bronze medals for PSA-MET members
15 HMs; 15 HMs for PSA-MET members

AWARD CEREMONY

Awards will be presented at the PSA-MET general meeting and inaugural/award ceremony on 15 November 2015. More information will be posted on PSA-MET website soon.

NATIOANL CONTEST CREDIT SYSTEMS

Awards and acceptances earned in the national contest will counted toward the PSA-MET national contest credit systems for national exhibition distinction titles. For more information, see next page.

Distinction Titles for PSA-MET National Photographic Exhibition



1. PSA-MET distinction titles for National Photographic Exhibition are earned through the accumulation of credit via the quarterly contest and national contest.
2. Quarterly contests are organized 4 times per year, and it is open to all PSA-MET members. Credit will be given as followed:
 - Gold - 5 points
 - Silver - 4 points
 - Bronze - 3 points
 - HM - 2 points
 - Acceptance - 1 point
3. National Contest is organized once per year, and it is open to US resident only. Credit will be given as followed:
 - Gold - 10 points
 - Silver - 8 points
 - Bronze - 6 point
 - HM - 4 points
 - Acceptance - 2 points
4. The following title will be awarded:
 - **Associate, Metropolitan National Photographic Exhibition (A.MAPE)**
A.MAPE will be conferred when 50 points or more are earned. A certificate will be awarded.
 - **Senior Associate, Metropolitan National Photographic Exhibition (SA.MAPE)**
SA.MAPE will be conferred when 100 points or more are earned. A certificate will be awarded.
 - **Fellow, Metropolitan National Photographic Exhibition (F.MAPE)**
F.MAPE will be conferred when 200 points or more are earned. A certificate and a bronze lapel pin will be awarded.
 - **Senior Fellow, Metropolitan National Photographic Exhibition (SF.MAPE)**
SF.MAPE will be conferred when 500 points or more are earned. A certificate and a silver lapel pin will be awarded.
 - **Master, Metropolitan National Photographic Exhibition (M.MAPE)**
M.MAPE will be conferred when 1000 points or more are earned. A certificate and a gold lapel pin will be awarded. M.MAPE holder will have the life-time fee waive for PSA-MET national contest.
5. The rules are subjected to change upon approval of the PSA Metropolitan Chapter's executive committee.

MEMBER SHOWCASE – Xinxin Liang, EPSA

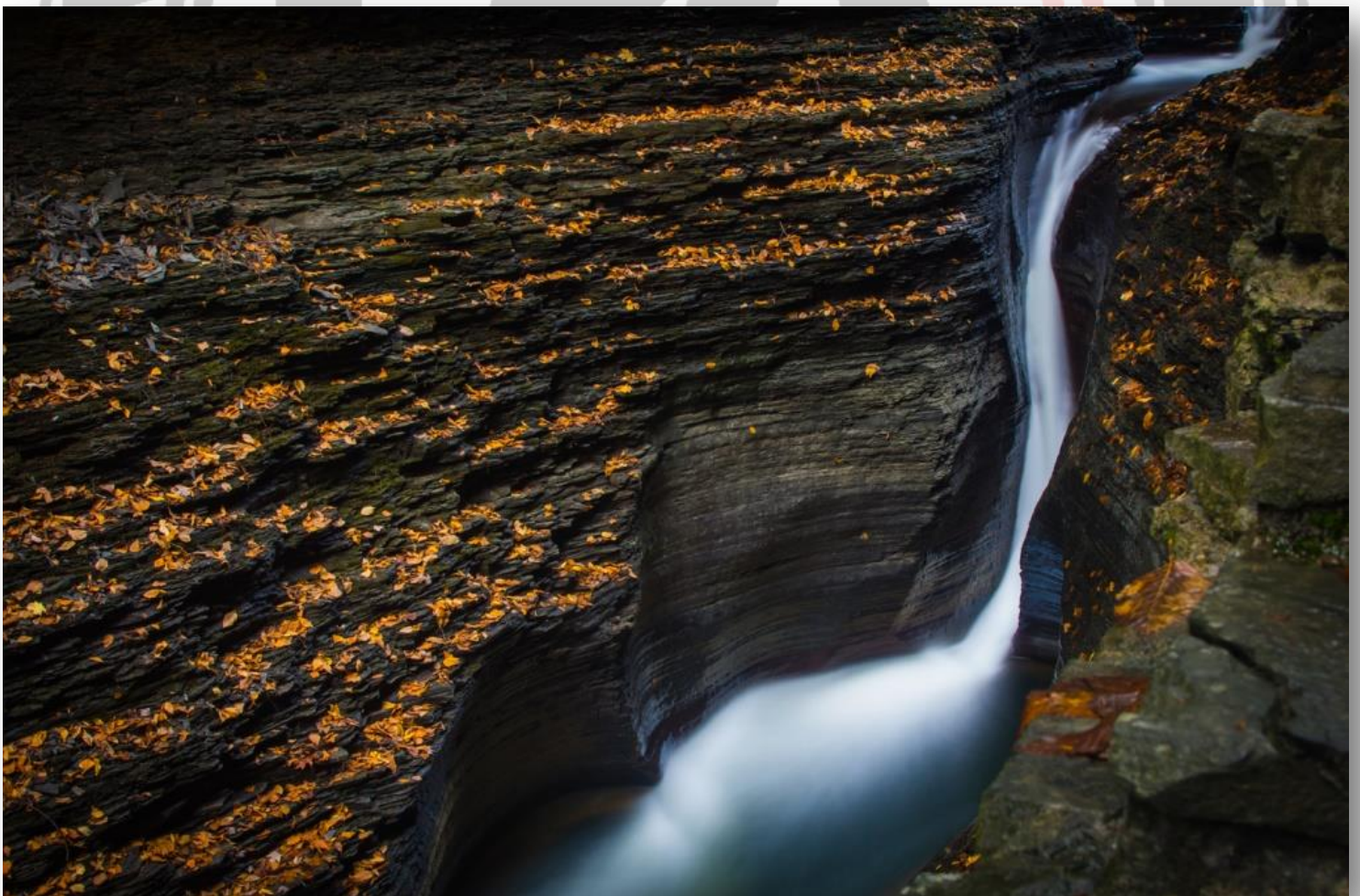


Xinxin Liang is a graduate from Guangzhou Art College. She is currently a pre-school art teacher in New York City. Xinxin's talent in art and photography is strongly influenced by the artistic *atmosphere* in her family as both of her parents are artists as well. Xinxin has been practicing photography for 27 years and she has won many awards at the international photographic exhibitions and contests. Xinxin received the distinction title of EPSA (Excellence) in 2015. She is also the holder of Hon.FPSSNY (Honorary Fellow, Photographic Salon Society of New York) and FPSNY (Fellow, Photographic Society of New York).



Currently, Xinxin is the honor & awards director at PSA Metropolitan Chapter; the director & chairman of examination board of Photographic Salon Society of New York; and the salon chairman of Photographic Society of New York.

The photographs below are examples of Xinxin's work.







Register PSA Conference Today at:

<http://psa-photo.org/index.php?2015-psa-conference>

SUPPORT US!



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<http://www.psa-met.com/>



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