

3D News

From the Stereo Club of Southern California

Volume LIII #4

December 2008

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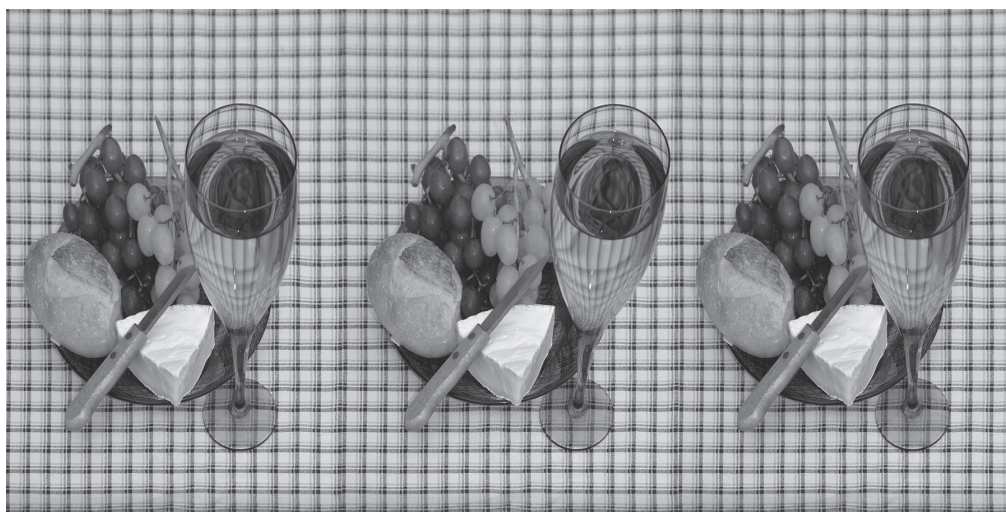
Holiday Greetings from 3D Central

by Barry Rothstein, SCSC President

Greetings all and hope your holidays are fun, fine, filling and free of fears. Paraphrasing FDR, we have nothing to fear but retinal rivalry, windows violations, bad lighting and poor synch. This is for many of us one of the all time scariest and strangest times in our life, heavy with uncertainty in our economic situations. Isn't it nice to have the absolute certainty of knowing that we'll be seeing some great 3D this year and in this and coming years.

As later on in this newsletter you'll find Part 3 of my guide to producing phantograms, I'm taking the easy road of just a few words and a picture for this section.

Happy holidays all!



Cross eye view

Parallel View

The Stereo Club of Southern California was founded in 1955 to promote the art, enjoyment and science of stereo photography. Meetings normally include 3D slide projection and are held monthly. Visitors are always welcome. Annual dues are \$30/single or \$40/dual (send to Membership Director). The 3D News is sent monthly to all members. Annual subscription for those not wishing to participate in club activities is \$20, and foreign subscriptions are \$25 (send to Treasurer). Everyone is encouraged to submit stereo-related news items, art or photos and articles. Deadline is the 25th of the month. Send to: annaglyphic@gmail.com.

December, 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Calendar of Events

December 18, 2008	SCSC Banquet at Taix Restaurant 1911 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026 (more information below)
January 15, 2009	3rd Club competition and the PSA Sequence competition showing
February 7, 2009	Hollywood Exhibition selection
February 19, 2009	Hollywood Exhibition slide show
March 19, 2009	4th Club competition and slide show (to be announced)
April 16, 2009	PSA Traveling Competition and slide show (to be announced)
May 21, 2009	5th Club competition plus TBA slide show
May 23, 2009	6th (ever) 3-D Movie/Video Competition. High Noon.
June 18, 2009	Movie night

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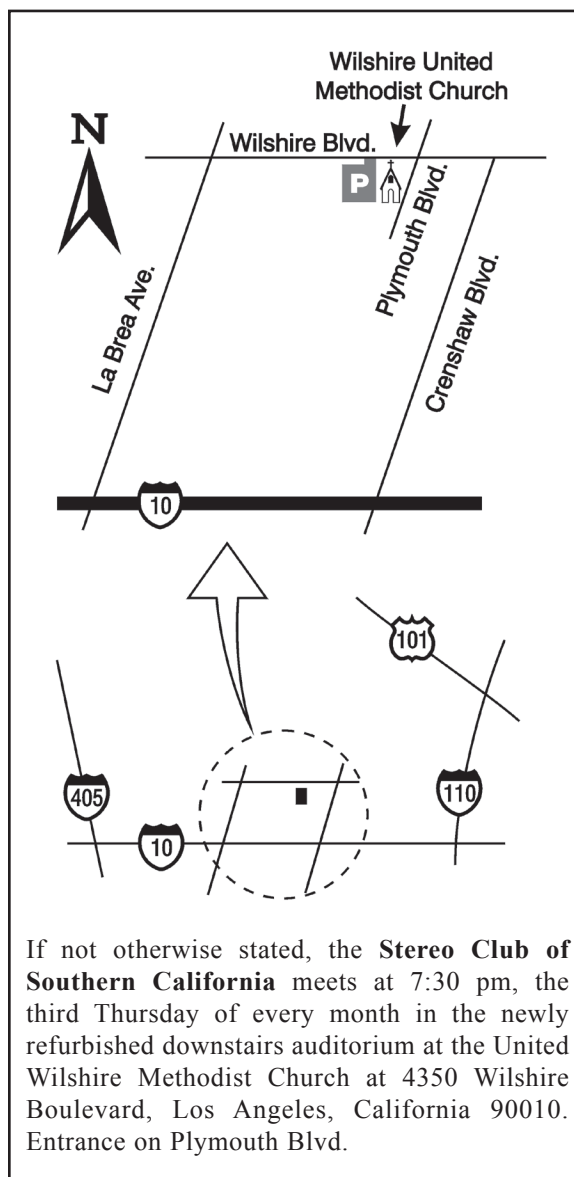
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If not otherwise stated, the **Stereo Club of Southern California** meets at 7:30 pm, the third Thursday of every month in the newly refurbished downstairs auditorium at the United Wilshire Methodist Church at 4350 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90010. Entrance on Plymouth Blvd.

Interested in a personal- ized Stereo Photo Maker and Photoshop Workshop given by lifetime member, Oliver Dean?

If you are an SCSC member in good standing, just call Oliver at (310) 635-2400 or send him an e-mail, including your phone number, at 3dimages@sbcglobal.net, and he will arrange for a mutually convenient time for a free (!) personalized workshop as a membership benefit.

It's Not Too Late to attend the SCSC Holiday Banquet!

Date: Thursday, December 18, 2008

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Taix's French Restaurant
1911 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Price: \$35 at the Door (by check, please)

Menu Choices (served with soup, salad, dessert, plus coffee or tea):

- Beef Bourguignon
- Boneless Chicken Diable
- Pasta Monegasque

Program: Travels on Next to Nothing:
A 3-D Travelogue Starring Underwood &
Underwood's James Ricalton

New Members

Jed Weintrob
Beverly Hills, CA

Kenneth Nakada
Los Angeles CA

Melissa Bouwman
Long Beach, CA



Charles Ziarko relaxes before the meeting



Lynn Wyett, Jim Long and Claudia Kunin share a pre-competition laugh



Jack Laxer and Andrew Gage discuss the merits of blue-cube flash



Perry Hoberman and first-time guest Melissa Bouwman operated the controls on the TDC Vivid projector. Melissa subsequently joined the club.

Looking for a Job in 3-D?

*20th Century Fox seeks
3 full time staff openings and
3 freelance openings available
Positions are located in CT*

STEREOSCOPIC TD (#87)

Department : TD - Stereoscopic

Description: A Stereoscopic Technical Director is responsible for the design and implementation of the technical and artistic aspects of stereoscopic computer image creation. He/She is responsible for the "look" of computer generated images, including but not limited to camera setup, camera staging, compositing and shot finishing.

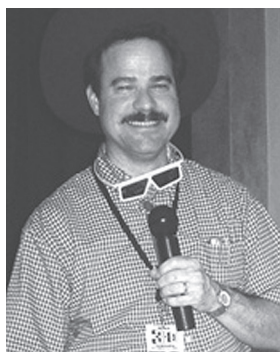
Responsibilities:

- Give regular updates to the Stereoscopic Supervisor and Production Supervisor on the progress of work in production.
- Work with fellow team members in designing technical approaches to projects, sequences, or shots
- Attend regular departmental meetings to ensure all technical issues in production are addressed.

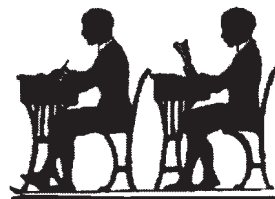
Qualifications :

- 4+ years of production experience working on feature films or visual FX.
- Demonstrated expertise in one or more of the following areas: Lighting & compositing, procedural animation, effects rigging & animation, strong visual acuity & depth perception, camera & shot staging.
- Demonstrated expertise in one or more of the following programming/scripting/shader languages: Perl, Python, MEL, RenderMan RSL, GLSL, HLSL, CgFX, or similar shading language.
- Demonstrated expertise in script debugging methods and practices.
- Strong experience with the UNIX or Linux operating systems.
- Significant production experience with one or more major animation applications (i.e. Softimage, or Maya).
- Production experience with one or more major compositing applications (i.e. Shake, Nuke, or Toxik).
- Stereography or Cinematography experience is a plus.
- Excellent communication and organizational skills
- Be able to work as member of a team.

PLEASE NOTE: For consideration, please submit resume to: ffe.resumes@fox.com



News and Notes from the SCSC Clubhouse



by Lawrence Kaufman
President, National Stereoscopic Association

IMAX Documentaries in 3-D

Once again as part of the Contemporary Documentaries series presented by the Academy Foundation and the UCLA Film and Television Archive, there will be a large format night. This year on December 3, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the IMAX Theater, California Science Center in Exposition Park, two Giant Screen films will be presented - "Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs" and "Dinosaurs Alive."

Do-It-Yourself Is Still The Best Deal

With so many clubs and stereo members setting up their own dual digital projector systems, news of what was called the World's First Home 3-D Projector by one Gizmodo (The Gadget Blog) article was not surprising. The JVC DLA-RSA was called this in a November 5th Yahoo posting.

This new set-up had been seen at CEDIA (the Custom Electronics Design and Installation Association) 2008, the largest expo of home theatre gear in the world, held in Denver, Colorado in September. John Hart had seen it and gave it a positive review on the 3DTV yahoo list. He reported that the JVC rep said 3-D setups were about \$1000 more (presumably for the retarders and mounts).

In November in Southern California the EHx, Electronic House Expo was close enough for me to visit. The trip was prompted by the news release of the demo and JVC Professional Products announcement that they had reached an agreement with Sensio Technologies to offer a high-end 3-D TV display solution to the consumer market.

As I entered the Long Beach Convention Center and took a short trip up "Demo Alley," I saw the sign announcing the 3-D Demo - including 3-D Glasses taped to the sign to catch your attention. The Demo was inside a room sponsored by AVAD. I was told the demo would start again in about ten minutes. The small group of us, myself and

a half dozen others, who were probably all home-installers were shortly ushered into the theater-like set up. We were told we would see two demos. The first was a large screen TV set up with a fabulous sound set up, including speakers all around the room. We saw part of "Live Free or Die Hard" (2007) AKA "Die Hard 4." There were lots of blowing up sounds and sequences and the entire audience loved the demo. We were told the set up retailed at \$100,000 - but the good thing was that the installers could do the entire installation in less than one day.

We were told to swivel our chairs around and look at the rear of the room, where an eight foot rear projection screen would show the 3-D demo. The demo looked very nice, with a loop provided by Sensio, with three short clips; Beowulf, CG boxing and an nWave underwater segment.

The 3D D-ILA High Definition Projection Demonstration System included:

- Dual DLA-RS2 1920 x 1080 Projectors
- Full HD Resolution in Left and Right Eye
- Passive Circular Polarization Method for Stereoscopic Viewing
- (2) RSVP2 Reference Series Digital Video Processors
- 8 Foot Wide Stewart Filmscreen Rear Projection Screen
- 3D Decoder and Content Supplied by Sensio
- Cardboard circular polarized glasses, including fingerprints were provided.

The 3-D demo loop was shown without sound. At the end of the demo, we were told that the projectors cost \$65,000 each. There was a pregnant pause after which the demonstrator commented that the 3-D set-up would cost about the same as the previous demo. One audience member quickly stated - "but without sound."

So AVAD was quoting the price of the projectors at \$65,000 each (\$130,000 for two.) Two doors down JVC had their own demo room, so I checked it out and asked

about the 3-D projector. They had a DLA-RSA on display with an anamorphic lens attached. I attempted to verify the price with the JVC rep, who stated the 3-D system was exclusive through AVAD.

The manufacturer's suggested retail price for the JVC RS2 is \$7,995, so \$65,000 for the 3-D version does seem like quite a mark-up!

2008 3-D Films

In 2006 we saw seven new 3-D films and we only received eight new 3-D films for 2007. For 2008 the count grew only slightly to ten.

1. U2 3D
2. Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert
3. Dolphins & Whales 3D: Tribes of the Ocean
4. Sun 3D
5. Wild Ocean 3D
6. Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk
7. Mummies 3D: Secrets of the Pharaohs
8. Journey to the Center of the Earth 3D (Journey 3D)
9. Fly Me to the Moon
10. Bolt

We also were treated to a Missy Elliot 3-D Music Video on M-TV from Disney and the fabulous and fun Toy Story Mania - 2008 ride attraction at Disney parks. Many more 3-D conversions are being planned in addition to a One minute Giant Screen Theater logo film in 3-D that is now available from Graphic Films.

U2 3D Wins Best Musical Film Award at MTV Latin America's Video Music Awards

National Geographic Entertainment's first major international release U2 3D, a 3ality Digital production, received the Best Musical

Film award at the recent Los Premios MTV Latin America Video Music Awards. Launched at 2008's Sundance Film Festival, U2 3D has grossed almost \$20 million worldwide and continues to captivate audiences throughout Latin America. It will premiere soon in Japan and other international territories as well as continue limited engagements in the U.S. and Canada.

Filmed in South America during U2's Vertigo Tour, U2 3D is the first live-action movie ever shot, produced and exhibited in digital 3D. The film captures the intimacy between band and audience in a unique, visceral way and establishes a new standard in 3D digital technology.

3-D TV again in February

On Sunday, February 1, 2009, NBC will broadcast the Super Bowl halftime entertainment in 3-D. Save your glasses, because they can also be used on the Monday, February 2, 2009 episode of "Chuck," which will air partially in 3-D.

3-D Magazines

- WWF special collector's edition – 3-D. The greatest photos of all time in 3-D (some converted by out own Ray Zone!)
- Guinness Book of World Records 3-D

With 3-D conversions provided by David Burder, the 2009 edition of The Guinness World Records, must be one of the largest ever circulation of hard bound annu-als, to feature over 20 3-D full color anaglyph conversions.

NASA Image Archive

Don't forget that NASA has started a huge online image archive. There are also a lot 3D stereo/ anaglyph images available. Search for e.g.: stereo, anaglyph, and you'll find a lot 3D stereo images. <http://nasaimages.org/>

Disney's California Adventure Update

Currently California Adventure is showing Muppets & It's Tough to be a Bug in 3-D – plus the new 3-D Toy Story Mania ride. Disney is unveiling a 1920's Theme for California Adventure, the \$1-billion effort to revive the park will try to re-create the era when Walt Disney arrived in Hollywood. Disney's California Adventure is poised for a \$1-billion makeover that's designed to give the troubled theme park the main thing it lacks -- an emotional connection to keep people

coming back.

The sweeping overhaul will transport visitors to the California of the 1920s, when Walt Disney first arrived in Hollywood. In the same way that Disneyland's Main Street evokes Disney's hometown of Marceline, Mo., a refocused California Adventure will follow the young animator's journey to Los Angeles.

Disney's sizable investment, to be spent through 2012, comes atop the initial \$1 billion the entertainment giant spent to build the park, which opened in 2001, and \$300 million more put into new attractions such as the Twilight Zone Tower of Terror and Toy Story Midway Mania.

Like Sleeping Beauty's castle in Disneyland, California Adventure will feature a towering structure that recalls Hollywood's golden era -- a re-creation of the Carthay Circle Theatre in Los Angeles where Disney premiered the movie "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" in 1937. The theater is the centerpiece of the new entrance, which will be redone to resemble the Los Angeles of old colored postcards. Even the Red Car trolley that recalls the old Pacific Electric Railway will rumble and clang along Buena Vista Street, conjuring up the bygone era and winking at Walt's love of trains.

Similarly, the Paradise Pier will take on a nostalgic seaside amusement park vibe, with glittering lights and new boardwalk games incorporating a mix of such classic and contemporary Disney characters as Goofy, Dumbo and Woody's horse, Bullseye, from the Disney/Pixar animated film "Toy Story 2."

One of the major new attractions for Paradise Pier will be the World of Color nighttime display of water effects, lighting and music to bring new energy to the pier -- not to mention 1,500 fountains. A new Little Mermaid ride will plunge visitors into Ariel's undersea world of the 1989 animated Disney film.

The most anticipated addition to the park is a 12-acre Cars Land that will bring to life the town of Radiator Springs, the setting for the 2006 Disney/Pixar animated film "Cars," with three new attractions including the thrill ride Radiator Springs Racers.

International Stereo Exhibitions

It seems logical that the perfect plan is to enter your better slides into the SCSC stereo competitions every other month and from there pick your best images and enter them into the international exhibitions. It gives me a reason to keep trying to take better stereo

pictures and it's a lot of fun competing. Most exhibitions are PSA sponsored and I have the chance to win awards and get 'credits' for my acceptances. I would really like to see more of our members entering.

The Photographic Society of America (PSA) is an organization that puts a "seal of approval" on certain stereo exhibitions. PSA has other functions also, plus branches for all photographers. Visit the PSA website at: <http://psa-photo.org/>

If you are not a Photographic Society of America (PSA) member, you should really think about joining. Members receive the monthly PSA Journal full of photo tips, information on upcoming exhibitions and other helpful advice. PSA approved means that acceptances earned in these exhibitions count towards PSA Star ratings and the PSA Stereo "Who's Who" list (for PSA members).

The PSA Stereo Division's website: <http://www.psa-stereo.org> has a number of current Exhibition entry forms. Closing dates and contacts for upcoming Stereo Exhibitions:

- January 21st, 2009- 54th Oakland International: Stereo Slides, Prints and two Electronic:

John Ballou
231 Orchard Rd.
Orinda, CA 94653
E-mail: 52ndstereo@comcast.net
Website: <http://home.comcast.net/~52ndstereo/>
Fee: \$7.00 US

- Feb 1st, 2009 – 51st Hollywood - Stereo Slides, Prints and Electronic:

Ed Ogawa,
8763 Reading Ave.
Westchester, CA 90045
e-mail: ed5ogawa@earthlink.net
Entry form: <http://www.psa-photo.org/>
Fee: \$8 US

- March 20, 2009 – 29th Southern Cross International - Stereo Slides, Stereo Electronic

Andrew Read, email: mad3d@bigpond.com
P.O. Box 2578
Carlingford NSW 2118, AUSTRALIA
Fee: slides-\$8.00 U.S., electronic - \$5

- April 30, 2009 – The 6th Ever 3-D Movie/ Video Competition - 3-D video or 3-D movies

John Hart,
3-D Video/Movie Competition
8730½ Wyngate Street,
Sunland, CA 91040

Shooting and Processing Phantograms -- Part 3

by Barry Rothstein

This is the last in a three part series on shooting and processing phantograms. The first segment dealt with shooting objects on a tabletop. The second was on shooting outdoors or in other surroundings, and also included verticle (wallmount) phantograms. This part will deal with processing them in Photoshop CS. From what I understand any version from Photoshop 7 up has the needed perspective crop tool.

If you've been careful in the setup and execution of your shots, this is by far the easiest part, simple and formulaic. I'll go through the steps with a recent nature shot, using picture frame sides for reference, so adjust the words in this tutorial to suit whatever you used as a rectangular reference.

Start by loading the original left and

right images. You will work each of these independently, correcting for perspective and size, doing exactly the same thing to each image. There are two steps in this process. Let's suppose we start with the left image.

Step 1: Crop out everything except your reference frame

Make the image larger to fit in the screen (Ctrl 0). To widen the working space for the image, grab and drag one or both edge of the image. Using the Crop tool (third one down on the left) at first click on the bottom left corner of the reference frame, drag to the top right corner and let go (which corner you start with and end with doesn't matter so long as they're diagonal opposites). In doing so you've selected what for now is a rectangular area of the image. The bottom of the rectangle should be fairly close to the corners of the bottom of the reference frame, and the top of the rectangle will be considerably outside the corners of the reference frame. The selected rectangle should have a square node in each

corner and you'll also see center nodes. The portion of the image not included within the selected area will darken. (Illustration 1)

Near the top of the screen a properties bar for the Crop tool will appear, including a checkbox for Perspective. It is essential that you check the Perspective checkbox. You only need to do this once, as it will stay checked in all your workings unless you at some time uncheck it.

Place your cursor over each corner node, click and drag it to the corners of the reference frame. Then zoom in by hitting Ctrl + two or three times, so you can get a close view of each corner and refine your positioning of the node. Once you've got all four corner nodes placed perfectly into the corners (Illustration 2), hit the ENTER key. Everything outside of the selected area will disappear leaving you only the reference frame and what's inside it. The size and shape of the resulting image could be very odd, overly long or wide. Expect this, it's no problem.

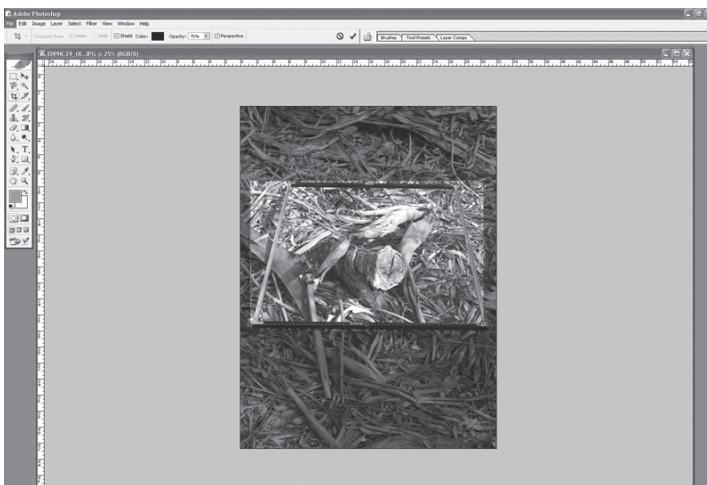


Illustration 1: Initially define the crop area



Illustration 2: Refine the crop area to corners of reference frame

Step 2: Resize the image to its actual proportions.

From the selections at the top, choose Image and then Image Size (Illustration 3). At the bottom left is a checkbox for Constrain Proportions. Uncheck this (make it blank). Then in the Document Size area, enter the size of your actual reference frame. Below you can enter whatever resolution you want. If your reference frame sides were large, i.e. 48" x 60" and you choose 300 dpi, it will take a considerable time to render this and save it to a very large file size. Make the resolution adequate for good print quality at the size you expect to print.

Next, do exactly the same thing with the other image. After this you should probably Save As both the left and right altered image, careful to do so with a different

file name. Always keep the original images intact.

Congratulations. You now have a phantogram stereo pair. If you want to make an anaglyph from them, here's a fairly quick approach. Thanks to Ray Zone for teaching me this.

Producing an Anaglyph from a Stereo Pair

Open the Channels window by selecting from above Window and Channels. You'll see rows labeled RGB, Red, Green and Blue. You'll see columns with eyeballs (which channels you wish to see), pictures, color selections, and shortcuts. One at a time select each of the left and right images by clicking anywhere on it. Click on the word Red in the Channels window. Then click on the eyeball box to the left of RGB. By doing so for each

image you will have selected the Red Channel, but to see all channels (Illustration 4). Having done so with both images, next click anywhere on the left image to select it. From the choices at the top, click on Select and then All (Ctrl A). Using the Move tool (arrow icon, top right) click anywhere on the left image, hold down, and drag it onto the right image (Illustrations 5 and 6). Now working on the right image, continue to drag it so that it covers the entire image. You should see a dotted line all the way around the image. Effectively what you have done is to leave the blue and green channels in the right eye shot as they were, but replace the red channel of the right shot with the red channel of the left shot. Voila, an anaglyph. The last step is to select RGB in the Channels window and then using the Rectangular Marquee tool, crop out the reference frame. Enjoy and share you phantogram. Say WOW!



Illustration 3: Resize the image to original proportions

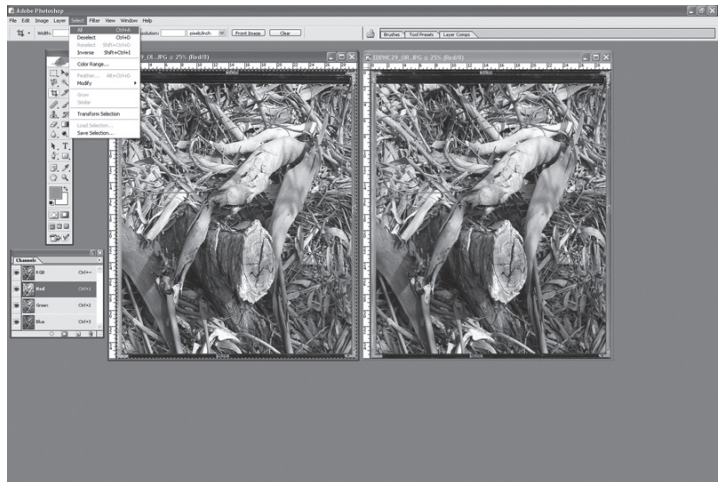


Illustration 4: Select red channel & see all in both images



Illustration 5: Drag the red channel of left shot to right image



Illustration 6: Red channel of left shot replaces red channel of right shot

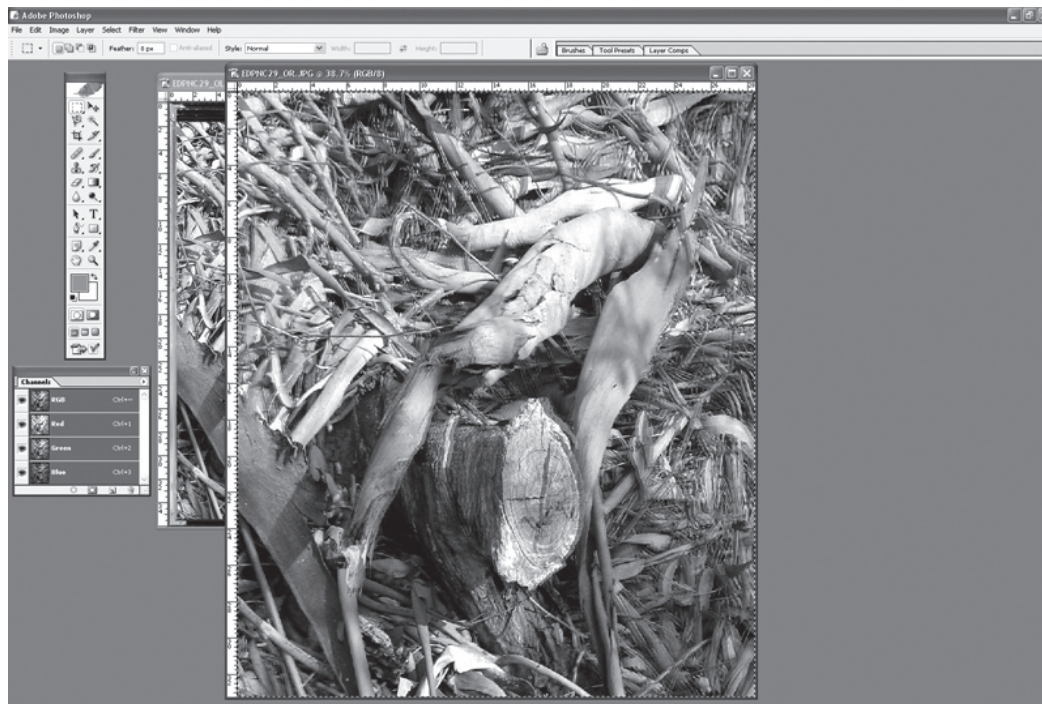


Illustration 7: Reference frames cropped - final image

Competition Heats Up for November Entries

This month there were 22 current date entries, of which only one had two stereo pairs instead of three. In addition, there were two make-ups for September consisting of three stereo pairs each. The standings are very close, especially in the Contemporary A Group, in which the highest five have two ties and only three points between the first and fifth place.

Many thanks go to our three judges, outstanding orchid stereographer Jim Comstock, the multi-skilled NSA Honcho and past SCSC President, Lawrence Kaufman, and his talented, 3d-photographing sidekick, Cassie Kaufman, all of whom had to perform double-duty acting also as judges for the Inter-Club Competition Judging arranged by Ray Zone to take place immediately after our own club competition. But extra thanks are due for Ed Ogawa, who set up and ran the TDC and twin Carousel projectors; for Eric Kurland, who set up and ran the digital entries on the club's new digital projectors; and for Susanne Kerenyi, whose invaluable help at the scoring table made it possible to complete the evening's chores on time.

The HM's and Awards came out as follows:

Legacy Category -- B Group:

- AWARD -- "Sedona -Tree in a Rock" by Andrew Gage.

Legacy Category -- A Group:

- AWARD -- "Rebekah & Flowing Red" by Abe Perlstein.

Contemporary Category -- B Group:

- HM -- "Olivet Flying" by Susanne Kerenyi
- AWARD -- "Coloring between the Lines," by J. Claire Dean
- AWARD -- "Building Materials, Case Study 29," by Jim Staub

Contemporary Category -- A Group:

- HM -- "Happy Halloween," by David Kuntz
- HM -- "Snail Trail," by David Kuntz
- HM -- "A Gull on the Edge," by Susan Pinsky
- HM -- "With the Greatest of Ease," by Abe Perlstein
- AWARD -- "Bubble Fount," by Franklin Londin
- AWARD -- "Honolulu Skyline," by Jim Long
- AWARD -- "Little Venice 2," by David Starkman
- AWARD -- "WaGromit36," by David Starkman

Modified Category -- A Group:

- AWARD -- "Maine Coastline" by Jim Long

CGI/Art Category:

- AWARD -- "Ring Lake," by Robin Burks

If you missed making an entry this month or last month, remember that you can do make-ups during any of the subsequent competitions in either January, March, or May.

Please note this correction to last month's "BEGINNERS PLEASE NOTE": There were very few entries in the B (for "Beginners") group in any of the categories. You probably can rack up some HM ribbons or awards if you enter! Any entry you make in any competition is eligible for the up to 5 images you can resubmit in June for the Image-of-the-Year Awards (this is a correction to the eligibility statement made last month in the 3D News). And if, with a make-up, you enter 3 images per competition for all of the competitions, you will be eligible for participation awards in the summer of 2009! Why not give it a try? If you need help preparing your digital images, contact Oliver Dean at (310) 635-2400, or at 3dimages@sbcglobal.net, to arrange for a free hands-on workshop!



Competition Judges Lawrence Kaufman, Cassie Kaufman and Jim Comstock

Standings as of the November 20th Competition

"Points" represent the sum of the total scores of all images entered to date. When Judges enter images in other months, they may enter make-ups for the month they judged, or they can accept for the judging month a total corresponding to the average of each monthly score they received during months they entered (a "prorated" score). This means that, unless the judge elects to submit make-up entries, a judge's score for the month he or she judged may not be permanently determined until the scores for May (the last month) have been tabulated.

"MU" = "Make-up Entry" **POINTS FOR**
 *** = Judge in this month **Sept Nov Total**

Legacy Category -- B Group:

	Sept	Nov	Total
Gage, Andrew	60	59	119

Legacy Category -- A Group:

Kaufman, Lawrence	65	65*	130
Perlstein, Abe	64	60	124
Hart, John	58	57	115

Contemporary Category -- B Group:

Staub, Jim	68 MU	65	133
Dean, J. Claire	62	63	125
Kerenyi, Susanne	62	59	121
Kurland, Jodi	63	58	121
Hart, John	57	59	116
Wise, Ron**	39	43	82

Contemporary Category -- A Group:

Comstock, James	66	66*	132
Perlstein, Abe	66	66	132
Kuntz, David	65	66	131
Starkman, David	61	70	131
Londin, Franklin	62 MU	68	130
Pinsky, Susan	64	64	128
Kaufman, Lawrence	62	62*	124
Zone, Ray	60	61	121
Kurland, Eric	61	59	120
Long, Jim	56	63	119
Rothstein, Barry	61	58	119
Burks, Robert	-	61	61
Drandell, Marvin	58	-	58

Modified Category -- A Group:

Long, Jim	76	73	149
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CGI/Art Category -- A Group:

Burks, Robin	-	47	47
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Some wonderful images were submitted this month, but I noticed several with window problems that probably lost a point or two for their makers.

Oliver Dean, Competition Chairperson