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Celebrating our 50th anniversary in 2017
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Photography Month Maryam Monsef MP / Mayor Bennett, City of Peterborough 9  
Photography Month Everywhere! Selwyn/Northumberland County/Trent Hills 10  
SPARK Organizing Committee 11  
Sponsors, Funders, Donors, Patrons 13  

## SPARK Showcase Exhibit

The Loss of Innocence, the Birth of a Nation 16  
Message from the Festival Director Robert Boudreau 19  

## SPARK Emerging Photographers/Emerging Curator

Peterborough Arts Alumni Photographers curated by Erin Burke 22  
The Over Exposed Exhibit curated by Erin Burke 23  

## SPARK Themed Juried Exhibit

Shadows 2016 Themed Juried Exhibit Results 25  

### Featured Exhibits

Bill Hornbostel Ganaraska Art & Framing 27  
KAGS Kawartha Artists Gallery & Studio 28  
Roz Hermant Christensen Fine Art 29  
Gary Mulcahey Ah! Gallery 30  

### Exhibits Individual

Robert Boudreau 32  
Greg Burke 33  
Roy T. Bowles 34  
Barb Callander 35  
Sharon Canzi 36  
Linda Cardona 37  
Cindy Conlin 38  
Tanya Couch 39  
Mark L. Craighead 40  
Tony Crocker 41  
Peter Curley 42  
Mike Gaudaur 43  
Margaret Hamilton 44  
Cydnee Hosker 45  
Patrick Jilesen 46  
Robert Laycock 48  
Bill Lockington 49  
Shannon Loughrey 50  
Wayne Paget 51  
Ken Powell 52  
Christopher Thorpe 53  
Mike Towns 54  
Nancy Westaway 55  
Lise Varrette 56  

## Exhibits Group

The Absolute Eye Collective 57  
Barker / Brittain / Colley / Versteeg 58  
Laura Berman / Mary Weilandt 59  
John Charlton / Lori Gillespie / Norma Keith 60  
Peter Clute / Ann Hilborn 61  
Kawartha Camera Club 62  
Lakefield College School Camera Club 63  
Michael Harris / Dianne Lister 64  
Anna McShane / Tara Molson 65  
Peterborough Photographic Society 66  

## Community Exhibits

A Way Home Peterborough (Yes Shelter) 68  
B.I.A.P.R. (Brain Injury Association Peterborough Region) 69  
Peterborough Pollinators Group 70  
Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Art & Healing Program featuring photos by Staff & Doctors 71  
SPARK/New Canadians Centre Newcomer Children’s Photo Project 74  

## Student Exhibits

Greg Ramsay Fleming College 75  
Stephanie & Vanessa Kraus University of Ottawa & St. Peter CHS 76  
Peterborough Alternative & Continuing Education (PACE) 77  
Digital Photography Students Thomas A. Stewart S.S. 78  
Film Photography Students Thomas A. Stewart S.S. 79  
Trent Visual Arts Network Trent University 80  

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From the Permanent Collection

Steven Vero, In the Garden, 2015, oil on canvas. Photo courtesy of the artist.

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In April, during SPARK 2017, Wayne Paget will be exhibiting his photographs from Canada’s North at Two Dishes Cookshop (corner of Charlotte & Bethune).
April 1, 2017

I would like to extend warm congratulations to the SPARK Photo Festival as we get set to celebrate the 5th anniversary of this annual exhibition of art and culture in Peterborough.

Every April, the SPARK Photo Festival gives art lovers from around the region a chance to celebrate photography, and the artists, dreamers, innovators, storytellers, professionals, and enthusiasts behind the camera lens.

This year, those who come out to enjoy the many exhibitions that span our community will have the opportunity to get a view of the world from the perspective of some of our youngest newcomers. In partnership with the New Canadians Centre, SPARK has launched the Newcomer Children’s Photography Exhibit, which gives young newcomers the chance to explore their new home and share their perspectives.

With an eye on the past as we work together in forging our future, this year the Peterborough Public Library will also be home to a Showcase Exhibit on World War I. This exhibit will honour the experiences of the brave men and women who fought to safeguard the peace and the freedoms we all enjoy today.

The SPARK Photo Festival is a proud example of the longstanding, thriving arts community we have in Peterborough, and I encourage everyone to come out and enjoy the many exhibitions distributed throughout the city.

Truly,

Maryam Monsef
Member of Parliament, Peterborough-Kawartha

WHEREAS

April will mark the arrival of numerous photographic exhibits, artists, workshops, lectures and other related events and activities in locations throughout the Peterborough Region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Daryl Bennett, Mayor of the City of Peterborough, do hereby proclaim April 2017 to be Photography Month in the City of Peterborough. I encourage all citizens to participate in the various events and exhibits throughout the community that celebrate photographic art.
On behalf of members of Council, staff and the residents of the Township of Selwyn, I am pleased to extend greetings to the organizers, participants and guests of the 5th Annual SPARK Photo Festival.

The SPARK Photo Festival gives art lovers from around the region cause to celebrate photography. The success of the festival over the past several years is a clear demonstration of the thriving arts community in our region and a testament to the hard work of its enthusiastic volunteers.

The Council of the Township of Selwyn is proud to officially declare April 2017 as photography month in the municipality. We are proud to support the SPARK Photo Festival and know that it contributes to the strength of our community, making it a great place to visit and live.

Once again, on behalf of Council, staff and residents, we wish the SPARK Photo Festival best wishes for a successful and memorable event!

Sincerely,

Mary Smith
Mayor

---

On behalf of members of Northumberland County Council, I am very pleased to extend greetings to the organizers, participants and guests of the 5th Annual SPARK Photo Festival, being held April 1 - 30 of this year. We welcome you to our community.

The Festival’s celebration of photography, artists, dreamers, innovators, storytellers, professionals and enthusiasts behind the camera lens is a truly unique and inspiring event. We are thrilled that several Northumberland County locations are being featured this year. Northumberland is home to many thriving and talented artists of all types, and we welcome the opportunity for these individuals to share their skills through the SPARK Photo Festival.

I encourage everyone to participate in this unique festival and enjoy the images and imagination on display thanks to the stellar featured photographers.

Once again, on behalf of Northumberland Council, our residents and businesses, best wishes for an outstanding and successful event.

Sincerely,

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SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks to Jennifer Jones and all the staff at the Peterborough Public Library for facilitating the use of the library for the presentation of the 2017 SPARK Showcase Exhibit.

SPARK would like to recognize Henry Clark, Alan Wilson, and everyone on their committee for their efforts in organizing the Trillium Tribute Memorial Service to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge. The SPARK Showcase exhibit will provide context and background for those attending the ceremony. Join us at the exhibit reception after the ceremony for a warm beverage and snacks.

SPARK recognizes and thanks the City of Peterborough for their support for the Newcomer Childrens Photo Project and their leadership in making Peterborough a truly inclusive, welcoming city.
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In 2017, Canadians everywhere will mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation. It will also be a time to remember another occasion of national pride and nation building, the 100th anniversary of significant World War 1 battles, most notably those at Vimy Ridge (9-12 April 1917) and Passchendaele. While Canadian leadership and tenacity played a key role right through to the 11 November 1918 armistice and beyond, it was success at Vimy in 1917 that marked a coming-of-age in terms both of Canadian self-awareness and the respect it earned from others.

Canada was drawn into WWI simply because it was a British dominion when the “mother country” declared war in August 1914. However, when the war was over Canada sat at the table with the big powers when the Treaty of Versailles was signed in June 1919. Canada had paid a high price for this. At the end of the war, total casualties stood at 67,000 killed and 250,000 wounded, out of an expeditionary force of 620,000 people mobilized. To this, of course, we could add the 9,000 casualties of the December 1917 munitions explosion in Halifax. Even the casualties of Peterborough’s Quaker explosion of 1916 should be tallied, because they resulted from efforts to squeeze out more war-time production. Throughout the entire 1914-1919 period, men and women from Peterborough and the Peterborough area did their part—from the first enlisters in 1914, to those who died in Germany, England and elsewhere while waiting for demobilization in 1919, to those who suffered for the rest of their post-war lives.

Though the course of history has since shown that WWI was a misguided and short-sighted struggle, the recognition it earned for Canada and for Canadians has been of lasting value. This SPARK Showcase Exhibit seeks to pay tribute to the many thousands of innocent Canadians.

Continued on Page 17
The Loss of Innocence, The Birth of A Nation

Remembering 1917 and the Great War 1914 - 1918

On the home front: Red Cross volunteers in Peterborough produced some 50,000 pairs of socks which were sent off to the front. (PMA, Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images 2000-012-003771-1)

soldiers, nurses, and others on the home front as well as abroad—whose sacrifices made this possible. Through the use of Roy Studio and other portraits, the exhibit emphasizes the roles played and hardships faced by these individuals, in particular ones from our own community and region.

An overview of the war period as a whole will provide context. However, this exhibit does not dwell on the causes of war, or the detailed ebb and flow of fighting, or on the specifics of weapons development, or military tactics—all subjects dear to some hearts. Individual people from this area and elsewhere, especially the ordinary ones, provide much of the focus. The 1917 events are disproportionately represented, but this SPARK Showcase is meant to honour all those who participated and sacrificed during the Great War.

The exhibit draws heavily on materials of the Peterborough Museum and Archives (PMA), especially the Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images. This year again, SPARK is pleased to be using historical images. By supporting the digitization of archival materials, we once more are doing just a bit toward preserving Peterborough’s past and making it more accessible. The Showcase Committee appreciates the efforts of PMA archivist Mary Charles in locating and arranging for the scanning of Roy Studio glass-plate negatives. Some of the 100-year old images have held up better than others, but all are a window into the past and into the world of the WW1 participants.

To provide the broader context, the exhibit uses official war photographs from Library and Archives Canada, the Canadian War Museum, and Veterans Affairs Canada, which are now in the public domain. Other materials come, for example, from the Trent Valley Archives as well as other sources. Generally the contextual photos are smaller in size, so that the portraits are placed in a framework but not overshadowed.

The SPARK Showcase Committee would like to emphasize that this exhibit is not meant to be exhaustive, but aims to be a lead-up to more comprehensive and diverse explorations that we expect others will undertake in 2018, the anniversary of the war’s conclusion. We hope that exhibit visitors will draw on our materials and research hints and will themselves examine other, more detailed aspects of WW1. In this way, they too can acknowledge Canada’s transition from innocence to nationhood.

Continued from Page 16

Exhibit Curated by
the SPARK Showcase Exhibit Committee:
Garry Barker
Greg Burke
Andy Christopher
Jennie Versteeg

With Special Thanks To
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Remembering 1917 and the Great War 1914 - 1918

Above: Canadian nurses voting at a French hospital, Dec. 1917. Presumably they helped re-elect PM Borden so that conscription would be enforced. (Collections Canada, Mikan 3623046)

Left: Farmer Bruce Graham: drafted after Borden’s 1917 re-election, despite food shortages here and earlier Borden promises to exempt farm labour. (PMA, Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images 2000-012-002752-1)

Private Edgar Mowry: died of shrapnel wounds at a Passchendaele Casualty Clearing Station, 3 November 1917. (PMA, Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images 2000-012-01481-1)

Private Charles McCusker: born in Massachusetts, farmed in Millbrook, parents on Bolivar St; died on Vimy Ridge, 9th April 1917. (PMA, Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images 2000-012-014823-1)
In 2017 SPARK will mark its 5th anniversary as an arts festival celebrating the photographic medium! In many respects, SPARK is just like any five year old child, and is growing up. We like to try new things.

Have you noticed that this 5 year old, is becoming more independent and self-confident, more aware of the other? You will as you explore the photography, exhibits, programs and projects at this years’ festival.

SPARK is proud of programming in partnership and association with community organizations.

In the fall of 2016, following the vision of volunteer Dave Beamer, we created SPARK After Dark, which brought dozens of photographers, artisans, musicians, indigenous singers and drummers together throughout the galleries of the Canadian Canoe Museum. This fundraising event was a first for the museum and a first for SPARK, and as logistically complicated as organizing the festival itself.

In 2016, we worked with the New Canadians Centre to develop the Newcomer Children’s Photo Project, resulting in an exhibit of the children’s photography at Brant Basics. Currently, SPARK is working with Lindsay Stroud of Peterborough GreenUp on a new program called SPARK SPiN to develop cycling routes, guided and self-guided, between the exhibit locations as a way of connecting physical activity to arts activity. The first 3 routes will be unveiled on March 31 just in time for SPARK 2017. A big shout out to Scott Murison of Wildrock for the “scratch” to cover the start-up costs of this program.

In development is “Help-Portraits: A portrait for those who need it,” a project to honour Canada’s 150th on or around July 1. Working with professional photographers, stylists, and make-up artists, the idea is to provide up to 40 families with a free professional portrait session and print, all in one day. SPARK will work with local support groups to ensure we help those most in need. If interested, please get in touch.

I can’t say enough about the support SPARK has received from the local business community. As exhibit venues, advertisers in this catalogue, sponsors, patrons, donors, they have been outstanding in their support of SPARK. If you see them in this catalogue, purchase their goods and services. They are your neighbours. The City of Peterborough helps us create an arts festival that is about inclusion and celebration, cultural, economic, and community development.

People upload an average of 1.8 billion digital images every single day. Does a photo festival even matter? As a species are we just image obsessed, super creative, or is something else going on? I believe there is.

In December 1972, the year I started as a student at Trent, NASA released a photograph of earth known as the Blue Marble. That Apollo 17 mission was the last time any human being took a photograph of the whole planet from space. As a depiction of Earth’s frailty, vulnerability, and isolation in the darkness of space, the image changed the way humankind viewed the planet and our place on it as a species, creating a wave of environmental awareness and activism that continues to this day.

On September 2, 2015 Turkish photographer Nilüfur Demir released a photograph of the body of three year old refugee Alan Kurdi. Her photograph altered indifference to the refugee crisis. With unprecedented generosity and kindness of spirit, people across Canada did something for humankind. Sadly, it is not over.

As an artistic media with agency for social change, photography has no equal. The photographs at SPARK might never become icons but do change our small corner of the planet for the better, gifting us a sense of place and self, and for many, a sense of purpose. Photography as an art medium with meanings not yet fully explored or realized, is still a youngster. Welcome to the exhibits of SPARK 2017. Robert Boudreau
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JULIE DOUGLAS is a photo-based artist based in Peterborough, Ontario. She completed her Bachelor of Fine Art in Photography at OCAD University in 2014, and previously studied Photo Arts at the Haliburton School of The Arts. The subject of Douglas’ work focuses on the beauty found in often overlooked or off-limits areas, and examining the ephemeral and transient nature of these spaces. She looks to share the stories and anecdotes of lives past through her photography, and to document the ever-changing landscape. She has exhibited her work as part of the 30 Under 30 show at the John B. Aird Gallery in Toronto, RMG Exposed at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa, among many others.

www.juliedouglas.com
julie@juliedouglas.com

PATRICK STEPHEN is currently completing an undergraduate degree in architectural design at the University of Waterloo. He is the owner and operator of “Stephen Digital”, creating commercial photography and films for businesses. Patrick’s work ranges from the studio and still-life to landscapes and architecture. In late 2015, his work was exhibited as part of the Peterborough Historic YMCA Photo Contest. In past years, his work has also been selected to be among finalists in the SPARK Photo Festival Juried Exhibit.

www.stephendigital.com
Stephendigitalphotography@gmail.com

The SPARK EMERGING PHOTOGRAPHERS(s) EXHIBIT will feature a group of photographers with roots in the Peterborough community — PCVS alumni who attended the historic downtown school. Photography that has piqued their interest since high school, whether it be film or digital, career based, or strictly recreational will be showcased. This year’s exhibit aims to recognize local student graduates, their continued interest in the medium, and the lasting influence and inspiration of the teachers of this area’s arts programs.
KATE FEARNALL is a Graphic Designer at Lululemon and Freelance Photographer who grew up in the land of the Great Lakes and now resides in Vancouver, British Columbia. After graduating from the PCVS Integrated Arts Program in Visual Arts, Kate moved coast to coast, pursuing her academic studies at four Art and Design Universities across North America. In 2014, she participated in an exchange study at the Maryland Institute College of Art and fell in love with film photography and letterpress all over again. Much of Kate’s work reflects her love for travel and the great outdoors. Kate’s photographs have been featured in multiple outdoor companies such as Sanborn Canoe, Norquay Co, and Forest and Waves.

www.katefearnall.com
www.36-exposures-blog.tumblr.com

The OVEREXPOSED EXHIBIT
Current photography from city-wide secondary school students will also be shown at PACE @ PCVS. SPARK is partnering with local teachers to provide students with an exhibit venue in which to exhibit their work in public, and receive recognition for their thoughts, insights and unique points of view. On opening night, work submitted to the juried student exhibit will be judged for prizes. The photo above, by Lauren Kenzora from TASS, won first place in the 2017 SPARK Poster Contest and is an example of current student photography.

CURATOR BIO
Erin Burke is currently studying visual arts at the University of Victoria. Long time rugby enthusiast, her ambition is to enhance youth lives through both art and physical activity. New to SPARK, she hopes to gain experience in the arts community in her hometown.
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The theme of the 2016 SPARK’s annual juried exhibit was Shadows.

A shadow is a region where light from a light source is obstructed by an opaque object.

If you had to photograph shadows, what would you photograph? This was the challenge.

A maximum of 30 images from all submitted are chosen by a panel of expert judges to be printed, matted, and framed by SPARK for this exhibit. The images on this page are the Shadows awarded entries.

2016 & 2017 Juried Exhibits Sponsored by

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The theme of the 2017 Juried Exhibit is Framed. All selected images will be printed on an HP Designjet.

Exhibit Committee: Theme, Exhibit Curation, Image Preparation, Printing, Installation, Logistics & Promotion
Randall Romano, Allen Rothwell, Tom Cookson

Judges: Rick Bell, Charles van den Ouden

Draw Prize: fireklix imaging & design
Frame Assembly: Peer Christensen

SPARK would like to thank HP for sponsoring the 2017 Themed Juried Exhibit including all awarded prizes.
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“Down the rabbit hole” – that is the most concise summary of Bill Hornbostel’s path into photography. While he had studied painting and drawing as an undergraduate at Bard College, his path veered into the study of history, and subsequently meandered into teaching and editing. He exchanged the brush and canvas for the camera in that time, but it was only after a stint in graduate school that he made a concerted effort to dive into photography properly.

In this endeavour, he has been largely self-taught, but he still recalls his earlier artistic training in his use of the camera.

The current series of work is aerial infrared studies. The false colours created in digital infrared photography serve to remove the landscape images from the everyday, placing them into the surreal or even abstract. Other recent work is in black and white architectural studies. These are created with a bent toward minimalist composition and the use of long exposure to heighten the contrast between static structures and changeable weather conditions. Other projects have included the use of infrared photography in landscapes, landscape images of Northern Ontario, and studies of the shore of Lake Ontario in winter.

He has exhibited in locales such as the Colborne Art Gallery, the Art Gallery of Northumberland, and the Visual Arts Centre of Clarington. He has also exhibited in events such as The Artist Project, the CONTACT Photo Festival, the SPARK Photo Festival in Peterborough, and The New Art Festival in Ottawa.
Kawartha Artists Gallery

Art Photography & Reference Photography

The Kawartha Artists’ Gallery and Studio (KAGS) was created in 1990 by artists, for artists, aspiring artists and those interested in the arts. Our members work in a wide variety of media and styles. KAGS has also had a strong history in Photography.

We have a unique gallery and studio entirely run as a co-operative by volunteers. KAGS is a non-profit organization funded and managed by its 100 plus member artists.

The gallery has exhibitions throughout the year. Members and non-members can rent the gallery for individual or group shows. In May we hold our “Best of High School Show” to celebrate works created by the art students. The studio is currently used for workshops and weekly drop in art sessions, and is also also available for use by other art groups.

This year, our first to participate in SPARK, will feature member artists’ photography in two categories. Category one is Art Photography and category two is Reference Photography with the Painting it inspired.

We are excited to be part of the wonderful Festival of Photography that SPARK 2017 is and look forward to welcoming all SPARK visitors to KAGS.
Artist Statement

I believe it is in our nature to keep a record of what we have done, where we have been and what we have seen. The camera was developed for this express purpose, allowing us to document flashes of life quickly and exactly. As an observer, I am drawn to forms in nature and the figure within that space. These are often the subjects of my photographs.

Our memory bank, like the camera, records poignant ideas and events, that either consciously or unconsciously take root and follow us. Yet, time has the ability to change, erode and manipulate them, distilling them down to something far more simplified and pure.

I have been exploring these ideas in my work using subject matter that is familiar. Rather than dictating what is to be the perceived truth, I use different techniques to create a doorway that allows the viewer to follow their own personal narrative in their search for a truth that is implied, yet makes sense to each individual.

It is rare that photographers have the opportunity to get our hands into the work. As an art-maker, I have been pushing beyond the boundaries of what is viewed as traditional photography to make photo-based work that is photographic at its core but explores what can be beyond as well. There is an implied truth to a photograph. Photos used in compossed pieces create a new and interesting relationship between the viewer and the image. It encourages us to believe in a possible future.
Ah! Arts and Heritage Centre of Warkworth presents Farmer: Portraits of Family Farms in Northumberland County, a new body of work by photographer Gary Mulcahey. This work focuses on documenting the Canadian sub-culture of farmers on family-run farms. In this series of portraits, the subjects are photographed in their own environment, capturing them at time in Canadian history that is pivotal not only to their industry but also to their culture.

“Farmer: Portraits of Family Farms in Northumberland County”, explores the imprint of the worked landscape on the faces of the people that have stewarded the land for generations. This project is a significant shift both creatively and technically in Gary Mulcahey’s practice. Gary Mulcahey, Brian R, 2015

**Bio**

Gary Mulcahey is a full-time practicing photographer. His current professional focus is to build a body of work in documentary photography. His work since 2012 focuses on portrait photography in the field documenting people in their rural, remote and indigenous communities. The portraits aim to photographically and artistically place people in a physical as well as a social and historical context. The resulting images highlight the interaction of culture, industry, geography and lived community experience that is imprinted on their faces.

Gary’s work also intends to show the diversity of the subjects. In recent years he has pursued photographic projects in Honduras (Comayagua) and Peru (Amazon and Tributaries).

“What I hope my photographs show is that each person’s portrait has a story to tell and that story is unique within their larger culture and physical environment. My aesthetic objective is for the viewer or audience to first become conscious of the subject in the image rather than the photographic medium itself. I aim for the audience to see the person not the picture.”

Gary Mulcahey
Whatley Technical Supplies Inc.
71 Princess Street, Peterborough Ontario K9J 1A5
www.whatley.ca sales@whatley.ca

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Join Us For SPARK Photo Festival Reception
Anna McShane / Tara Molson
Thursday April 6th, 2017, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

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139 Hunter Street West
downtown Peterborough
705-775-4000 hobarts.ca

*Source: Open Table 2016
The most common grid that photographers use to organize a composition is the rule of thirds. The number of units within a grid however depends on the complexity of the subject matter. The more complex the subject matter, the more versatile the grid needs to be. A more complex grid may have units that vary in both size and shape. Grids need not be made up of straight lines in box-like shapes although that is what we commonly think of as a grid. In many of the images in Grid Studies, the grid sits on top of the image as an integral part of both the composition and the subject matter. The photographs come from a variety of on-going documentary projects I have been working on: the Baseball Diamond Series, the Rodeo Chap Books, the Watertower Diaries, to name a few. Bringing the grid to the forefront is like a magician showing you the trick behind the magic. Because the venue is a bookstore, the images are printed as a series of triptychs on a simple grid. Doing so allowed one image to inform another and create a crude sort of narrative movement or a storytelling. I consider this work to be sketches of a potential exhibit and not a final, fully realized exhibit.
While memories and one's memory can prove to be unreliable, images, regardless of time passed, often remain vividly familiar. In the case of photographs, we are ultimately looking to the past. Photographs give us something to hold on to and show us what we have chosen to remember. Somehow, for that instant, as one steps behind the lens of a camera and makes the decision of what to frame within the viewfinder and what single instance to release their finger on the shutter release, they are in complete control of what this reality should be and how it will continue to be relived through the reinforcement of memory. Perhaps there is an image here that evokes in you a souvenir of the past.

This year marks my fifth year as a SPARK exhibitor and will be exhibiting for five Saturday's in April.

**Artist Statement**

I purchased my first serious camera in 1980 and began a journey which continues to combine the mind’s eye of a curious observer with a passion for the natural world.

Regardless as to how I capture an image, it is the sense of satisfaction that is achieved through the sheer enjoyment of the adventure and challenge of accessing and entering a scene as observer. Photography has given this "escape artist" a way out.
I find pleasure in watching all creatures and feel that they are my friends. Birds bring a special joy because of their variety, beauty and varied activity. Hence the title *Friends with Feathers*.

Most of the photos in this exhibit were taken on or near our one-acre lot on Lake Katchewanooka. This illustrates my motto: “Enjoy the beauty and pleasures in your own small world.”

I have enjoyed photography all of my life, first using my families simple cameras to photograph livestock and farm settings. While in Alaska during military service in the 1950s I bought a 35mm camera and learned many photographic techniques from comrades who were experienced photographers. The isolation and absence of other outlets gave time and space for much photography.

Following my retirement as Professor at Trent University I moved to digital equipment and began editing photos on computers.

I photograph many subjects - people, animals, landscapes, buildings, flowers, insects, etc. However, taking pictures of birds is a special interest and presents special challenges. A photographer must put oneself in the habitat of birds, have camera ready each instant, watch patiently for a bird to take a photogenic pose and snap quickly to catch the image before it changes. He or she must also have the patience to discard the thousands of photos which are not interesting and the eye to select those that both express beauty and show character.

I hope the photos exhibited here bring others some of the joy I get from my *Friends with Feathers*.
“We do not inherit this land from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.”

Haida Saying

“Haida Gwaii, the islands of the People, sits equidistant from Luxor, Machu Picchu, and Timbuktu. On the map, where every islet and scrap of land inhabited sits in the shadow of somebody’s national flag, and is named after a monarch or politician, Haida Gwaii are shown as the western most extremity of Canada.”

Robert Bringhurst

Haida Gwaii is an archipelago located 130 kilometers off the northern British Columbia coast. For the Haidi people, marine and land environments are inseparable. The artificial boundaries between earth and ocean exist only on a map. The Haida culture is intertwined with all of creation in land, sea, air and spirit worlds.

This year my SPARK exhibit focuses on the beauty of the Haida Gwaii archipelago. On the eve of Canada’s 150th birthday, join me at Peterborough’s Frameland Frame It 4U to celebrate the cultural diversity of this great land.
Sharon Canzi has chosen her family business Best of Hearing Centre, which is very close to her heart, as her venue. Sharon has been hard of hearing for years and feels that her hearing loss has heightened her photographic and artistic vision and strengthened her intuition. She loves nature and strives to evoke emotion and feeling with her photographs. Sharon is now working in mixed media and is combining her photography with her art. Sharon has been honoured to have her work presented in the Heritage Tree Book and in a local calendar to name a few. Look for the yellow awnings at Best of Hearing Centre and stop in to see more of Sharon’s moving infrared art as well as beautiful photos of her vacation in Iceland where she used to live. She is grateful to be participating in the SPARK Photo Festival and thanks everyone for their hard work and contributions.
Individual Exhibits

Linda Cardona

Floral Elegance

Empress Gardens
131 Charlotte St
Peterborough
705 876.1314
rnixon@aoninc.com
www.empressgardens.ca

Hours
Daily 11 am to 7 pm

Linda Cardona
Peterborough
705 772.5564
lindacardona@sympatico.ca
facebook.com/LindaCardonaPhotography

Reception
Sunday April 23
4 pm to 6 pm

Artist Statement

From early spring to the end of fall, our garden is a paradise of ever changing beauty. The flowers look different in the morning, mid-day, and evening as the light changes from early morning glow to harsh overhead light to the warm tones of the calm golden hour before sunset. The flowers provide a series of contrasts. We have delicate and bold, intricate and simple, repetitive and unique, vivid and pastel. There are a vast array of patterns, designs and shapes. We conservatively have over 100 different flowers in our garden. As a photographer, gardens provide inspiration, opportunity, challenge and always, a learning experience.

I have been working on this exhibit for a year. I started in the spring of 2016 earnestly taking pictures of tulips, daffodils and hyacinths – working my way through the summer and fall towards a collection of thousands of images.

I have learned to observe the light as it completely changes the colours, textures and tones of the flowers in the images. It becomes essential to take the time to study the flowers and capture all possible angles in order to get interesting and unique perspectives. It is often surprising to see which shots are the best.

I have created a multitude of effects with my flower photography, from the pure traditional look to the extreme avant-garde. Once again, I dedicate my flower exhibit to my husband Chris, whose time, energy and creativity result in the bounty and splendour of our garden.
I've always had a love for photography. Since I was 16 years old and able to afford my first camera, I have truly enjoyed capturing beautiful moments to remember and share.

It was very exciting for me to be able to work on my photography full time once I retired two years ago. Whether it is a long exposure landscape shot capturing cloud movement, or photographing a playful wildlife pose, I am always at my happiest when walking about looking for a memorable image to capture.

Lately I've been fascinated with owls and I am constantly on the search for them to not disturb but to photograph from a distance. They are wonderful to photograph, especially in flight.

I'm very excited with what the future holds. There is so much to see and share!

Cindy Conlin
Artist Statement

Tanya Couch is an amateur photographer who lives in Peterborough and who travels every chance she can get. The images in Contemplation were taken during a trip to Central Asia and reflect her interests in Buddhist imagery and the natural world.
Mark L. Craighead

New Gods

Working as a photographer for over 20 years, Mark L. Craighead recently discovered a facet of photography that allows him to tap into his inner child and just have fun. Action figure photography gives him the opportunity to create tiny worlds and moments, mixing some of the greatest characters from pop culture, some not so great, and some completely obscure, in ridiculous situations from his imagination. It is his great pleasure to share them with you.

With this new series, The New Gods, he’ll be exploring how characters from contemporary pop culture are positioned to replace the heroes and villains of classical mythology and religion.
As most of us pursue jobs and careers, our lives move farther from the natural world. Entertainment technology takes us farther away from it. Early retirement, 18 years ago, has allowed me to spend more time with nature, and use my cameras to record what I see.

My photographic interest began at about age 11, with black & white film, a pre World War 2 Zeiss Ikon camera, and my father’s home basement darkroom. The tools have changed, and some of the process has changed, but the beginning and the end goal are the same. We still use a camera to make an initial exposure and then turn that image into a photographic print that best shows what we saw, and want others to see.

I invite you to look at some of my prints of Ontario's native birds, over an excellent cup of coffee, and perhaps lunch or dessert, at this local cafe.
IS PHOTOGRAPHY AN ART FORM?

This is one of the most provocative questions that has plagued photographers and the art world for a long time. A photograph captures a moment in time in its actuality, whereas something like a painting or drawing, however accurate, is essentially a rendering of whatever the artist chooses to see. If I put myself in the shoes of a traditional artist and envision a scene in front of me, I am free to decide what elements I include or exclude on the canvas. If there are elements that I deem not conducive to the overall effect, I will simply leave them off the canvas or add another element as I see fit. As a photographer I do not have this luxury. Once I determine the outer borders for my frame I must include everything that is in that frame, for better or worse. As a journalist this produces a true full representation of all the elements that are in front of me and that I will then show to my viewers, but as an artist I have the option to decide what elements I wish to manipulate. So how does this differ from a traditional artist? Many people in the art world have been battling with this question for ages. In the days of film and before, images were very difficult to manipulate in any great scale but in the digital age it seems anything is possible.

Because my background was built on studio portraits and wedding photography I never really had to think about this issue. For years I have been shooting landscapes, nightscapes, waterscapes etc. and provided faithful representations of each. Lately, my creative side has been trying to free itself from the confines of tradition. Over the years I have found many programs that will emulate a traditional art form, some adequate, some rather atrocious. While the effects might look OK on some level, this is not what I would consider to be real art, but more a plagiaristic style of art. A photographer uses light as his paintbrush and to that end I have expanded my horizons to incorporate the manipulation of light at its basic level.

I have taken a well-rounded collection of my favorite photographs taken over the years and manipulated the spectral highlights to present a more ethereal mood to this presentation. I realize some people will have vastly different viewpoints on this, some positive, some negative, but my ultimate goal is to have the doors of communication opened for all to voice their opinion. I look forward to hearing all your comments.
The world is charged with the grandeur of God. My goal as an artist is to seek out the beauty that has been packed in to the natural world and draw attention to it.

Years of study and training have instilled in me a visual awareness of the world around me. Quality and direction of light, highlights and shadows, lines, forms, and textures, subjects and backgrounds. These are the fundamental elements of composition and design. I notice these things in my surroundings - constantly.

Experience on over 80 photo safaris in Kenya over the past 15 years has refined my photographic vision and technique. Tack sharp, beautifully lit animal portraits are no longer enough for me. I now endeavour to capture intimate interactions between animals, a striking posture, a gesture, direct eye contact. This adds emotional impact to any image.

An animal’s environment is a critical part of who they are, but I choose to minimize the distracting elements of the African bush and include just enough of an animal’s surroundings to suggest where it is. I often desaturate colours and blur backgrounds in order emphasize the subjects in my compositions.

I take great artistic liberties with my photo art images. I will manipulate pixels, add graphic elements, enhance textures, paint in tonalities, clone out distractions, and gradually craft the image I want to share with my audience. I want to show them wildlife in a way they have never seen it before.
In the photography world, there are so many options with regard to equipment, editing software etc. to choose from with a wide range to suit most any budget. For me, I’ve come to the conclusion that I’m happy with my little point and shoot camera, my Canon EOS T3i, my iPad, and my cell phone. My philosophy is simplicity, so as not to take away from the pleasure I get just composing and shooting what I see. Since taking up photography, I see the world with much more appreciation for colour. Although I greatly appreciate black and white photography, I can’t imagine living a world solely in black and white.
Cydnee Hosker has been working in art education in the Peterborough area for 30 years. Although she has primarily been involved in secondary school visual arts education, she has provided workshops in the community and has taught at Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Cydnee considers herself a painter. She has been a part of several group and solo shows in the area and has exhibited her work at various cafes, shops and galleries including ARTSPACE, The Art Gallery of Peterborough and The Hamilton Gallery of Art.

Eight years ago, she found herself standing at the front of a photography class for the first time. Although it was a challenge, it quickly became a labour of love. The result of this new found relationship sparked her fascination with alternative photographic processes. The cyanotype, pinhole, caffenol, and polariod transfers are some such processes that enable a seamless connection to other avenues of expression through image manipulation and the fine arts.
I got into photography only about 5 years ago, when I received a camera as a Christmas present. Thanks to that gift I was able to find my passion. Growing up in the country, I had always loved the outdoors and being in nature, I even studied it in school where I majored in Biology and Environmental Sciences, but I soon discovered that I’m a much better photographer than I am scientist.

There is nothing I love more than exploring new areas and photographing them to share with people. Even if it means getting up at ungodly hours. I do hope that my photographs can help people appreciate nature a bit more, and maybe make them want to get out there and enjoy it too. Especially when Peterborough and the Kawarths have so many beautiful spots.
Proud to sponsor the 5th SPARK Photo Festival

We are looking for volunteer photographers in Peterborough and Kawartha Lakes

peterborough@snapd.com
Like most people, I’ve had a camera of some kind in my hand all my life but it wasn’t until I started to make black and white prints in my own darkroom that photography really came to life for me. Other than being dependent on Kodak and Ilford to supply the raw materials, I was in control of the entire process and valued the quality of my printmaking.

In the 80s and 90s I made black and white prints using larger negatives. I took extension courses at Ryerson (Advanced printing – Michael Torosian, Large-format – Peter Lindsay) and attended several workshops with Howard Bond in Ann Arbor. I abandoned my darkroom when I moved to Trent Hills around 2004. Although I miss the magic of working in the darkroom, I’ve made an enthusiastic conversion to working digitally.

I enjoy working with colour, but more recently I find myself going back to monochrome prints and I’m working on scanning and printing many of the negatives that were never printed in the darkroom. I also find that I frequently want to convert my digital colour images to black and white. I’ve done that with some of the prints in this show.
Individual Exhibits

Bill Lockington

East Coast Travels

Artist Statement
During 2016, I enjoyed two separate trips to Fogo Island, Newfoundland and Labrador. One trip in June was made in conjunction with my work with Community Foundations of Canada, and the other as an invited artist to the Tilting Feile Festival in September. Fogo is like a microcosm, a world unto itself – fiercely independent and yet so typical of the character and cultures of this wonderful part of Canada. I hope you will enjoy my images of the landscapes, people, and cultural activities of Newfoundland and particularly this part of Canada that everyone should visit.

Bio
Bill Lockington, a co-founder of SPARK, has been a life-long photographer who teaches, exhibits and is a frequent contributor to periodicals and publications. His work is exhibited in the traditional forms of framed prints and large canvases in a number of private and corporate collections and in self-published photography books. He has participated in numerous workshops with, among others, noted Canadian photographers Freeman Patterson, Andre Gallant, Lyle McIntyre and Dennis Minty. Today Bill teaches digital photography and image editing, through the Art School of Peterborough, and has taught at Fleming College’s Haliburton School of Fine Art. Travel strongly influences the subject matter of his photography. He enjoys macro work and the pure creative side of the photographic medium. Favourite thoughts on photography are “there are always pictures in the pictures” and “your best pictures are those right around you”.

Ashburnham Ale House
128 Hunter St E
Peterborough
705 874.0333
www.ashburnhamalehouse.ca

Hours
M to F 11 am to 11 pm
Sat & Sun 9 am to 11 pm

Bill Lockington
Peterborough
705 742.1674 x219
wlockington@llf.ca
www.wslphoto.com

Reception
Sunday April 2
3 pm to 5 pm
We all search for something that brings comfort to our lives. We find solace in various mediums; for myself, I find solace in photography, and specifically birds.

Being born and raised in the Peterborough area, I continue to find this my favorite place to explore my photography options. This area has many seasonal and migrating birds so the photography possibilities are endless but challenging.

So far my photography has mostly focused on wildlife and nature. This passion for nature, which began with observing Moose in Algonquin Park, has evolved over the years from observing to photographing, which has brought me here to my very first exhibit “Solace of Birds”.

To be able to capture a photograph of a bird in that split second is exciting, invigorating, but very challenging.

If I can invoke a feeling of peace, beauty, or just plain “Aww” in a photograph then I have met my goal.

Hopefully you too, will see some Solace in my bird photographs.

I would like to thank the Greenhouse on the River for allowing me to launch my first SPARK Photo Festival exhibit at their greenhouse. I feel we are a great fit as most of my photographs for this exhibit have been taken along the Otonabee River, right outside their business.

Thank You
Shannon Loughrey
I really enjoy this evolutionary art form, primarily because there is no end to learning techniques and technological advancements. Shooting where I am is what I do, and was very fortunate to spend two months in our Canadian North during this past year. That opportunity was due to a call for Denturists to provide professional services for our Inuit neighbours and I was able to make the time for such an adventure. I offer thanks to friends and family for motivating me to join SPARK once again to share the work I find simply fun to do. And to the ladies at “The Two Dishes Cookshop” on the corner of Charlotte and Bethune for hosting my Northern exhibit. Please visit their restaurant you won’t be disappointed with the food and the photographs.

Wayne Paget DD
Ken Powell

Mammals & Reptiles From Around the World

My favourite magazine when growing up (it still is today) was National Geographic. In my wanderings around the world I realize I have been strongly influenced by the skilled photographers that brought me the “big five” from Africa, caribou and moose from Canada, Asian water buffalos, South American lizards, tortoises from the Galapagos, alligators from Florida, polar bears from the Arctic, and whales from the Antarctic. (OK, from everywhere.)

My theme this year will present some of my favourite images from the animal kingdom (versus plants, fungi, bacteria, etc.) specifically animals designated as vertebrates (versus the phylum invertebrates, arthropods, etc.) and focusing on the two classes designated as mammals and reptiles.

There are over 5000 species of mammals (which includes carnivores, e.g. lions and bears; cetaceans, e.g. whales, dolphins; marsupials, e.g. kangaroos; artiodactyla, e.g. camels, antelopes; perissodactyla, e.g. rhinos, horses; rodents and small animals) and 10,000 species of reptiles (turtles, crocodiles, snakes, lizards, etc.) My selection of just over 40 photos is rather modest, but does reflect my attempt to explore the possibilities.

While it is a greater challenge to photograph wild animals, I find it also interesting to capture good images of domesticated animals, such as horses, camels, sheep, cattle, etc., and I’ll include some of these in the exhibit. Fun fact: only about 25 animal species are domesticable.

In previous SPARK exhibits I have presented images from other animal classes, both birds and fish (and the underwater world). In pursuing these images, a delightful thing happens. As one gets to know more and more about the subject, that knowledge begets admiration – a great outcome from the process of creating photography.

Kenneth Powell
Peterborough
705  745.7481
kpowell30@cogeco.ca
www.powellphotography.ca

Reception
Tuesday April
7 pm to 9 pm

Canadian Canoe Museum
in the Community Room
910 Monaghan Road
Peterborough
705  748.9153
carolyn.hyslop@canoemuseum.ca
www.canoemuseum.ca

Hours
M to W, F & Sat  10 am to 5 pm
Th  10 am to 8 pm
Sun  noon to 5 pm
I am an award winning mixed media artist with a distinguished career in the broad field of design and an arts education from NSCAD (Nova Scotia College of Art & Design). My artwork in the past has been both two and three dimensional, and is in collections across Canada. My current mixed media work focuses on presenting photography that more closely matches the way we see landscapes with our eyes. Perhaps mischievously, I embellish these scenes with soaring, hand painted crows.

My approach to image making is strongly influenced by the prominent British artist, David Hockney, whose studio was just up the road from where I once lived. I’m fascinated by his research and writings, regarding the impact of the camera/optical aids that, from the 15th century onward, spawned the single vanishing point approach which now dominates Western art.

My photographic landscapes are wide horizontals providing multiple vanishing points, approaching a truer realism. My Square series focus in on a single point of interest. The resultant photography is giclee printed on archival canvas, stretched and mounted in a shadow frame. At that stage I set to work with paints in my studio. Each picture is brought to life with frolicsome crows. For me it is most enthralling to imagine how they’d interact with the land forms in my compositions.

Christopher Thorpe

I am an award winning mixed media artist with a distinguished career in the broad field of design and an arts education from NSCAD (Nova Scotia College of Art & Design). My artwork in the past has been both two and three dimensional, and is in collections across Canada. My current mixed media work focuses on presenting photography that more closely matches the way we see landscapes with our eyes. Perhaps mischievously, I embellish these scenes with soaring, hand painted crows.

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Christopher Thorpe
Mike Towns has spent his lifetime enjoying amateur photography. Stemming back to the early 70s when he bought his first Hasselblad, capturing everyday moments through a lens has been his means of appreciating and participating his rural community of Douro, Ontario and the surrounding area. He rarely attends gatherings without his camera in hand. Over the decades, Mike made his livelihood as the 3rd generation owner of P.G Towns & Sons General Store along side his wife Rosemary. He recently published two collections of written oral history accompanied by photography (both his own and those shared by friends and family), While Mindn’ the Store and I Mind the Time. The anecdotes of the book are inspired by Mike’s years as a storekeeper and small rural business owner, listening to the stories and lore told by the customers that came in the doors. In his retirement, community members have continued to share their stories with Mike to make these books possible.

**Mike Towns**

P.G. Towns Business Building
297 County Road 8
Douro
416 564.7276
nancy.m.towns@gmail.com

**Hours**
T, W 8 am to 6 pm
Th, F 8 am to 7 pm
Sat 9 am to 5 pm
Sun 10 am to 4 pm

**Receptions**
Saturday April 15, 11 am to noon
Saturday April 22, 4 pm to 5 pm

*Please note: While we have every intent of having the store open by April 1, if the store is not open, the exhibit will be displayed in the storefront windows. Please drop by for a look.
Glaciers are such fascinating phenomena as they, like ribbons, snap, crack and roar, carving the landscape below them toward the water. In these photographs, recorded in Argentina and Chile, one can see the dramatic colour. Often the glaciers grumble dark and moody; but when the sun emerges they become brilliantly alive. The exhibit will present to you *The Colours of Ice*.

As I am currently travelling in Australia, I am unable to access my files. On the catalogue page I am showing you a selection of photographs taken around the world. My exhibit however will feature photographic prints of glaciers and ice.

Nancy Westaway is a retired professional photographer who established two businesses in Toronto. Nancy and her husband have recently moved to Peterborough and continue to explore the world they live in.
Lise Varrette was born in North Bay and raised in Ottawa. Lise attended the New England School of Photography in Boston, MA. She has resided in Toronto, New York and Los Angeles and now considers Warkworth her home base with her partner, two dogs, and two cats.

“Until one has loved an animal, a part of one’s soul remains unawakened.”

Anatole France
Absolute Eyes

The Absolute Eye Collective
Director: John McQuade

“I think if you can turn off the mind and look only with the eyes ultimately everything becomes abstract” – Ellsworth Kelly

AbsoluteEye (www.absoluteeye.org) is an approach to photography that begins with the gap of perception: there is no preconceived filter of interpretation to frame a sense of the visual world. Without this contextualization the perceived world becomes an abstract manifestation of visual forms. Here the chaos of visual forms can be appropriated in creative photographic images that issue as abstract art.

This exhibit - AbsoluteEyes – has fun with the way of Absolute Eye: here the resource – direct seeing – becomes the image topic: absolute photo images of eyes.

John McQuade is a director of Absolute Eye and Nalanda Miksang Photography International. He has been teaching this form of photography for many years and has established teachers throughout North America and Europe. He has published Looking and Seeing: Introduction to Contemplative Photography and a second volume: The Heart of Photography will be published in 2017.

In the summer and autumn of 2017 he will present three workshops at the Haliburton School of Art and Design.
Images B4

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W & F 10 am to 5 pm
Sat 10 am to 4 pm

Garry Barker
Peterborough
gajbarker@yahoo.ca

Steve Brittain
Toronto
sbrit51@gmail.com

Ralph Colley
Selwyn
ralph.colley@sympatico.ca

Jennie Versteeg
Peterborough
versteegjen@bell.net

Reception
Saturday April 8
1 pm to 3 pm

Clockwise from top left: G. Barker, Window Light | S. Brittain, Indian Caravan | R Colley, Winter Farm | J. Versteeg, Egg Cups.

Garry Barker
After years of an on-again/off-again relationship with taking photos, a chance conversation changed everything and I became immersed in photography—reading, taking courses, and experimenting with equipment. Since that time, photography has become a large part of my life. For this my fourth SPARK exhibit, my focus will be on images illuminated with window light and images where there is low light or very little light.

Steve Brittain
My photographic interests are diverse, include both colour and black and white, and are stimulated by my travels. I graduated from Humber College for Photography and have worked as a stills photographer in the television and catalogue industries, have been an AV technician in news and entertainment programming, and have produced a photo-documentary of the “Beaches” of Toronto. This will be my fourth SPARK exhibit.

Ralph Colley
I have been involved with photography for many years and have exhibited images throughout Peterborough and Lakefield. This is my fifth consecutive year exhibiting at SPARK. I have had images published with The United Church of Canada as well as with The Anglican Diocese of Toronto.

Jennie Versteeg
SPARK year five already and we’re still going strong! Nature continues to be my primary inspiration but this year I will also exhibit some urban items and still lifes. No artistic philosophy... I’m just pursuing photographic opportunities as mother nature sends them my way and as aspects of the city strike my fancy, then curating my output to fit our specific exhibit space.
Laura Berman: The Nature of Reality

My work explores ways of seeing and interpreting the natural world through the intersection of photography and painting. This convergence is a natural outgrowth of my early training as painter and more than twenty years as a landscape designer and photographer.

I go beyond the photographic capture to experience and re-envision the world as a synthesis of what I see and what the camera records. The exploration of the visual beauty of nature—of flowers, trees, insects and landscapes, the luscious and sensuous colours, shapes and textures, the complex ways in which it all interacts—provides me with an infinite source of imagery.

By blurring the line between painting and photographic realism I want to offer the viewer the opportunity to see beyond the expected and illuminate a more emotional nature of reality.

Mary Weilandt

Extensive travels provide me with plenty of opportunities to explore and photograph the world around me. Nature and the natural world are my primary fascination.

With my photography I am also able to support the Warkworth- and Trent Hills Community and Northumberland County through brochures and posters. These include published images in support of “The Bridge Hospice”, the “Communities in Bloom” project and travel and advertising publications.
John Charlton | Lori Gillespie | Norma Keith

Group Exhibits

John Charlton's return to public exhibition, entitled “Autumn Simplified,” focuses on the light, form and colours of Autumn somewhat at the expense of detail, resulting in images which are almost painterly in appearance.

Lori Gillespie's first public exhibition is a memory board of images entitled “Haunted Madison”. These evocative photographs mix elements of past and present in an effort to suggest a narrative that slips easily between reality and the subconscious.

Norma Keith is an accomplished photographer who's images embrace her passion for nature's beauty with photos in this exhibition displaying portraits of wildlife and rural landscapes, each rendered in black and white.

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16 Queen St
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705 653.0388
snapshotsphoto@hotmail.ca
www.campbellfordbia.ca/snapshots-photo-video

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John Charlton
near Village of Warkworth
John Charlton Photography
john.charlton@gmail.com
www.spiritofthehills.org/project/john-charlton/

Lori Gillespie
Cramahe Township
Lori Jane Photography
lori.gillespie@xplornet.com
www.spiritofthehills.org/project/lori-gillespie/

Norma Keith
Baltimore
905 342.1055
norma.keith49@gmail.com
www.spiritofthehills.org/project/norma-keith/
To enter a meadow is to enter a world rich with subject matter for the photographer: fascinating plants and flowers, amazing insects, mammals large and small, colourful birds, amphibians and, no matter the season, so much more.

A meadow is beautiful, diverse, constantly changing, but always welcoming.

The meadow calls
Its sweet refrain.
Can you hear it beckoning?
Leave behind cemented world,
Harsh sounds, selfies, trumped-up truths.

The meadow calls
Its sweet refrain.
Can you hear it beckoning?
It will not judge
Nor control;
No pompous fanfare as one draws near.

The meadow waits patiently
For you to enter in;
A world of magical marvels
To discover at each turn.
The meadow soothes, rejuvenates
Heals the tired soul.

The meadow calls
Its sweet refrain.
Can you hear it beckoning?
Come, be made whole;
Peaceful reprieve at last.

We hope that you will gain a greater appreciation of this marvellous habitat as you view our photos.

Ann Hilborn and Peter Clute
The Kawartha Camera Club was formed to provide photographers, new and experienced, from Peterborough and the Kawartha area, a resource to learn basic and advanced skills required to create more compelling photographic artwork with a balance of a technical and hands-on approach in a fun and social atmosphere.

Our Goals

Community Involvement
Photographic Education
Forums for members to present their photos
Promote a fun and social environment
Group Exhibits

Lakefield College School Photo Club

Canoe And Paddle
18 Bridge St
Lakefield
705  651.1111
canoeandpaddle@gmail.com
facebook.com/canoeandpaddle

Hours
Sun to W  11 am to 11 pm
Th to Sat  11 am to midnight

Lakefield College School Photo Club
Lakefield
705  652.3324  x358
www.lcs.on.ca

Reception
Sunday April 9
1 pm to 3 pm

Camera Club Exhibitors
Alek Boisjoly - Grade 11
Olivia Gao - Grade 12
Niah Graham - Grade 10
Keira McCloskey - Grade 10
Sophie Milburn - Grade 11
Paul Runza - Grade 9
Teea Wang - Grade 9
Laura King - Instructor
lking@lcs.on.ca
Tayler Morencie - Instructor
tmorencie@lcs.on.ca
Emily Pederson - Instructor
epederson@lcs.on.ca
“The people who are absent are the ideal; those who are present seem to be quite commonplace.”

- Goethe

What happens when humans construct environments, wear things, inhabit spaces and, then, remain outside the frame of the photograph?

A person-less photo invites story-telling, and invokes mystery, the layering on of memories. It can be inviting or troubling, create a sense of anticipation, loss, or nostalgia.

“Sight Unseen” invites the viewer to complete the chapter, to make tangible that which is absent.
Anything awesome and wonderful

Anna McShane is a wildlife and landscape photographer from Lindsay, Ontario. Her goal is to capture incredible moments of Mother Earth’s natural beauty. In her unique way, Anna surrounds herself with the warmth of her environment. In the shadows of her subjects, she captures the essence of a moment in time. Ultimately, Anna’s creative snapshots help people to feel empowered, opening their hearts to let love in.

Anna invites you to view her collection hosted at Celtic Connection in Lakefield, Ontario.

Tara Molson

Tara Molson’s first camera, bought to capture travel shots on a university exchange in Scotland, was the Canon Power Shot A2400.

Photos featured at the SPARK Photo Festival 2017 were all taken with that gem of a camera. She captured the magic of the Highlands, featuring shots of Dornoch Beach near where she lived and landmarks like the Old Man of Storr.

Tara has graduated to a Nikon and captures everyday fun with her husband and two wee lads in all their glory.
The Peterborough Photographic Society celebrates its 34th anniversary this year. The club was formed to encourage and develop the photographic skills of its members with an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship and support of people with similar interests. These objectives continue to guide the club. This is a great club for both beginner and experienced photographers. We hold our meetings on the first Tuesday of each month from September through June at the Lions Centre. The first part of each meeting is reserved for presentations on photographic subjects by either outside speakers or club members. Following a break for refreshments, the second part of our meeting is used to display members’ images within various categories and during this time members are free to ask questions and make suggestions regarding the images. We also go on outings each month to interesting photographic venues giving members a chance to capture and compare images from different perspectives, as well as an opportunity to exchange artistic and technical photographic information. We have a monthly newsletter, The Viewfinder, which keeps us abreast of club activities. The current and recent issues are available on our website. We are always happy to welcome new members. Detailed club information can be found on our website or send an email to: info@PeterboroughPhotographicSociety.com.
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A Way Home Peterborough

Shot: Youth lens on homelessness

A Way Home Peterborough is a community collaboration strategizing to end youth homelessness. The experts in this work are youth experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. Unfortunately, their voice is rarely given a forum or listened to. Too often they are on the other side of society’s lens and are judged, ignored, or exploited.

This “Photo Voice” project aimed to create a meeting place for youth to use the common language of photography to express their different experiences of homelessness. Youth were given cameras and a mission to show Peterborough what homelessness means to them. The photos they shot were then reviewed and selected by their peers for inclusion in this exhibit.

This exhibit honours the resiliency of youth who are homeless or precariously housed and explores their diversity of experience. The broader aim is to start a community conversation and inspire action to end youth homelessness in Peterborough. Watch for A Way Home Peterborough’s catalyst event mid-May 2017.
Brain Injury Association Peterborough Region (a registered business name of Four Counties Brain Injury Association) has been operating since 1988.

B.I.A.P.R. supports individuals in Peterborough, City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton, and Northumberland counties. The association has evolved into a dynamic agency that provides a range of supports to a clientele with diverse and complex needs. B.I.A.P.R. services are designed to form the basis of a comprehensive model of community support service delivery.

The ABI Adult Day Services offered in Peterborough and the City of Kawartha Lakes (Lindsay) are geared to adults with brain injuries with varied needs and capabilities. B.I.A.P.R. is able to provide productive and meaningful activities for all participants. Photography provides our members a new and exciting way to communicate when finding words may be difficult.

2017 will be the fourth year that B.I.A.P.R has participated in the SPARK Photo Festival. Each year more and more of our members are involved in photography. Members look forward to showcasing their work in April during the Festival. Positive self-esteem is evident on the face of a member when they share their photograph(s). Through the lens of a camera they are able to capture images that are meaningful to them and share these with the greater community. This chance to engage in their community beyond B.I.A.P.R.’s doors is an opportunity for all our members to interact with people in new ways.

We continue to be involved in SPARK Photo Festival because photography and the images shared through our members’ eyes can transcend the challenges of living with an Acquired Brain Injury.

We look forward to sharing our images with you again this year.
Peterborough Pollinators

Making the Invisible Visible

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4 Stops on Bolivar & Park St

Walk/Cycle (in this order)
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(2) 356 Park St N
(3) 438 Park St N
(4) 654 Park St N

Hours
24/7 Outdoor Exhibit

Peterborough Pollinators
705 768.8795 (starting point)
bwolfe@mac.com
Facebook/.com/PtboPollinators

Drew Monkman Great Spangled Fritillary on Purple Cone Flower
The sky drew my attention throughout 2016. Here it sits above the water, dark and menacing, putting out wispy fingers to test the briny depths.

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LAWRENCE HUFF | RAWNEASY@GMAIL.COM | 705.772.6702 | LAKEFIELD
The Newcomer Children’s Photography Project began in July 2016 and this year wraps with a SPARK/New Canadians Centre community exhibit.

The project is designed to inspire young people to explore and connect with Canadian culture, language, and the environment through hands-on photographic instruction and activity.

Each child was loaned a camera to record their activities, friends and family, or any other subject they are interested in documenting.

The children and their parents received instruction in camera operation, basic photographic principles and composition, and visual literacy by SPARK volunteers during a four week summer camp.

After the summer, the group met once a month to review the most recent photos they had taken.

A preview of this exhibit was also shown during ReFrame.

The project will continue with a second summer camp scheduled to start in July, 2017.

Acknowledgements
Carol Lawless, NCC, Peterborough
Abeer Al-Salihi, NCC, Peterborough/Cobourg
Robert Boudreau, Erin Burke, SPARK
Dan Boudreau, Reau-Bot Prod., Videographer
Simon Bell, Focus on Nature, Guelph, for sharing teaching methodologies & FON instructor training
Mike Bolan, Doc Filmmaker, for his generous donation of over 60 used frames and glass
City of Peterborough, Municipal Immigration Project Grant

Photographer : Amjad
Photographer : Ghaith
Photographer : Sami
Photographer : Zeinah
Photographer : Ibrahim
Photographer : Raneem
My theme is *Nature's Pure Beauty* for one simple reason: It’s the most literal yet honest name to reflect my environment. Beauty is all around me in some way shape, or form almost every day. Nearly every time I grab my camera and head out the door I can see examples immediately present, be they birds, bugs, flowers or otherwise. Even in winter, a season I personally have no use for, the world around me can seemingly transform in beautiful ways. Everything you will see here was taken at my home, a place truly in the country where nature can thrive and shine. Were it not for that environment I wouldn’t even have these pictures. So while this is a direct ode to nature it’s also an ode to the world directly around me. In each shot I did my best to do justice to that beauty. In each picture’s name I highlighted the positive traits I could see, both for the subject itself, and as a reflection of nature’s contribution. Those contributions ranged from adapting a creature to survive all the way to how two can care for one another in an unforgiving world. Though nature isn’t limited to just those contributions these examples are my way of appreciating them in the purest form: unaltered RAW photography. You read right, everything you’re seeing is real, no Photoshop, no filters, no fakery, just pure beauty captured straight from nature itself and displayed for your viewing pleasure. I’d like to maintain this as the theme of my specific exhibit.

With my work I try to convey the idea that great imagery depends on the photographer’s skills behind the camera, not what skill they have as an editor. I’m always thinking about and question whether I’ve done justice to the subject(s) of my images, but I do my best regardless. With all my imagery I try to communicate to my audience the simple yet ignored idea that everything and everyone is perfect as nature made them. Animals/landscapes don’t hide behind makeup and false faces. Hence why I feel they’re the best models. I find using directly exported JPEGS printed to glossy paper as a medium helps convey these ideas because it maintains my no editing stance while naturally reflecting the colours that make the subjects pop. I create my work primarily for my own enjoyment as a passion and hobby. My motivation is as always to better myself and my artistic style with practice.

**Bio**

I am a hobbyist photographer and have been since 2010. I’ve always had my love of photography but it didn’t really evolve into a major part of my life until I took a GNED course as part of my college semester called Digital Imagery which opened my mind to the wonder of DSLRs. Before that I was your average digital shooter with a little compact camera and a phone. When it came time for the course I trained on my dad’s Nikon D50 and got my first DSLR - the D7100 in late 2013. I primarily shoot subjects such as flowers and birds, but will shoot anything that happens to interest me at the time. I prefer shooting macro though I’ve no aversion to shooting portraiture or anything else at this time. I just enjoy shooting overall, the subject itself is secondary to the experience of photography itself, and my efforts to do said subject justice.
Dreams of Beans Café
138 Hunter W
Peterborough
705 742.2406
dreamsofbeans@gmail.com
facebook.com/dobcafe

Hours
M to F 7 am to 7 pm
Sat 8:30 am to 6 pm
Sun 9 am to 4 pm

Stephanie Kraus
Peterborough
kraushaus@nexicom.net

Vanessa Kraus
Peterborough
kraushaus@nexicom.net

Reception
Sunday April 23
1 pm to 3 pm

Artist Statement
Though we both had cameras as kids, both of our interests in photography grew from taking Communications Tech classes in high school. We learned the same lessons in composition, progress and editing, but from there developed very different styles and approaches to our photography. One likes to control her shots and set up detailed, creative shoots; the other prefers to capture scenes as they are and pick out their details. We often shoot at the same places, both at home and around the world, and always come away with completely different images. However, we still learn from each other, swapping techniques and equipment and ideas when it comes to shoots. Many people say that siblings don’t see eye to eye, and this is certainly true for us; however, our differences lead to creativity rather than conflict. Have a look and see for yourself.

Stephanie Bio: The first camera I ever got was a tiny little point and shooter, and the only thing I ever took pictures of were toilets. My vision since then has changed significantly. I first started shooting seriously in 2014, in a Communication technology course at school. My teacher thrust a Nikon in to my hands and said “Learn what you can, research what you don’t know.” I didn’t listen to him and I just started shooting.

Vanessa Bio: I have a photographic ‘day job’: I’m the official photographer for the University of Ottawa’s Quidditch teams. While sports and event photography has its own perks and challenges, I always enjoy stepping back to my original love of nature photography and portraiture. I’d already taken a digital tech course in high school, but a school visit from the incredible Peterborough photographer Jennifer Moher made a lasting impression on me.

Read our full bios on www.sparkphotofestival.org
“If you really knew me you’d know that...”

It seems that after 4 ½ years some people still don’t know very much about us here at PACE (Peterborough Alternative and Continuing Education). This photography project aims to acquaint people with who we are and all the amazing things that happen here. The photos included in this exhibition will be humorous, touching, surprising, and authentic – a glimpse into our lives – as curated by the visual art students. We invite you to come and visit this warm and welcoming place and find out for yourself what we are all about.

Here are some facts:

We have grown consistently since the opening of PACE@Peterborough Collegiate on September 10th, 2012. We offer a day school program as well as Adult Correspondence and E-learning through Continuing Education. We welcome more than 350 students in our day school alone. We serve people interested in completing their high school diploma or those who are looking to upgrade for employment, post-secondary or apprenticeship purposes.

Here’s a sample of what we offer:

• Alternative day school program for students 16 to 18 (referred by their high school) and adult learners 18 plus. We offer core subjects such as English, Math and Science as well as Phys Ed, Art, Construction, and a Foods program which provides a hot lunch each Friday for our school community

• Dual Credits offer students the opportunity to obtain a secondary school credit and college credit simultaneously. Courses may include manicure, carpentry, mechanical trades, and makeup artistry

• School for Young Moms

• Assorted Literacy and Basic Skills upgrading

• Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (you may be eligible to earn high school credits for life experience)

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CAPTURE the MOMENT
Photography is about capturing a moment or telling a story. It’s a way to express yourself or provoke emotions in others. In the Grade 11 Digital Photography program at Thomas A. Stewart, the students learn the technical aspects of taking photographs, then combine their skills with the elements of design to create a variety of interesting and appealing images.
Students embark upon an exploration of traditional and alternative photography and darkroom techniques, as they explore the world through the camera lens.

The images they make embody the spirit of the beginning and end of a five month relationship - their first experience of a pinhole camera - and culminates with what they consider their best work.

Students first work with a cardboard box, making a pinhole image (oddly, not being able to see through the lens at all!). What emerges is a surprise, an initial realization of their search for interesting subjects full of contrast and natural design.

Subsequently, upon experiencing reality through the viewfinder of a 35mm camera, they navigate their way through a world of image and sensation, gaining greater autonomy and more fully informed control over the final photographic product.

Look at Things Differently suggests the notion of going on an adventure, a discovery of the world, a searching out of the extraordinary in the ordinary, arriving at a place, coming out on the other side with newly discovered vision, experience and confidence.

Ultimately, students emerge from the film photography class having observed, absorbed and processed the potential unconventional beauty of a street corner, an abandoned yard or a secluded figure with a newfound understanding of the form, content and significance of the everyday.
Trent Visual Arts Network TVAN
Trent University

Lady Eaton College
Trent University
Junior Common Room
1755 West Bank Drive
Peterborough
705 748.1011 x1322
lindsaymorris@trentu.ca
www.ladyeatoncollege.com

Hours
M to F 7 am to 10 pm

Trent Visual Arts Network
Peterborough
tvan@trentu.ca
www.facebook.com/groups/trentvisualartsnetwork

Reception
Tuesday April 4
Starts 7 pm

Trent Visual Arts Network (TVAN)
“Bringing Artistic Minds Together”
The motto of the TVAN is “Bringing Artistic Minds Together” and this drives what we do as a group of students at Trent University. Throughout the year we organize free workshops and events in disciplines ranging from film to sculpture and everything in between. Using these activities, we provide a platform for artists in the Trent community to share their passion with each other and with peers who have yet to discover their inner artist. We also hope that these artists can share their love of art with the greater Peterborough community. SPARK has played an important role in this outreach and we are confident it will be as enjoyable this year as it has been in years past.

Participant Photographers
Hamza Khattak
Jessica Sitko
Eliza McColl
Berfin Aksoy
Elijah Gwayumba
Nathaniel Hackett
See the SPARK TVAN webpage for individual artist bios.
At Trent University, we spark the fires of knowledge in our students, encouraging them to challenge the way they think about the world and learning itself.

We are proud to be associated with the SPARK Photo Festival since its inception. Congratulations to all the exhibitors, including those from Trent University!
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Index of Advertisers (SPARK Sponsors *)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advertiser</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Peterborough Examiner *</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough DBIA *</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage Engineering</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenhouse on the river</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naked Chocolate</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough Museum &amp; Archives</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleming College - Haliburton School of Art &amp; Design</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christensen Fine Art *</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Showplace Performance Centre</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Gallery of Peterborough</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirit of the Hills</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPARK SPIN</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Peterborough Waste Management Division</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paget Denture Clinic</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kawartha Dairy</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russelle Used Car Solutions</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough Airport</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmhirst's Resort</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Peterborough, Arts, Culture &amp; Heritage Division</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dreams of Beans</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough Inn &amp; Suites *</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Dishes Cookshop</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough City Council</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough County</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knock on Wood</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPARK SPIN</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Main Ingredient</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angels of Flight</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakefield College School</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabricland</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPARK Showcase Exhibit Reception</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLF Lawyers *</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam’s Place Deli</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reframe International Documentary Film Festival</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currie Tire Limited</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monkman, Gracie &amp; Johnston Insurance Brokers</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worldwide Pinhole Photography Day</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kawarthaNOW.com *</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildrock *</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP Graphic Arts *</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AON The Gardens of Peterborough</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whateley Technical Supplies Inc.</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Laura Hudgins Dentist</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celtic Connection</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobart’s Steakhouse</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SnapD Peterborough *</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pammett’s Flowers</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough Chiropractic Group</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough Photo Service</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough Subaru</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fontaines Source for Sports</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough Farmer’s Market Vendors</td>
<td>72-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving Media*</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vincent Press</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trent University</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.W.Chappell &amp; Son Moving</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sterling Pools</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unicell Storage</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterborough Refrigeration</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Toy Shop</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frameland Frame It For U</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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