

**Lewis Katz**

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## **ABSTRACT PHOTOGRAPHY : A Personal Journey**

What is abstract photography? Just an out of focus image - hardly! Abstract photography can take on so many different forms its hard to pin down an exact definition. That is what makes it so fascinating. In this presentation I will cover and discuss the many forms of abstract photography and the techniques used to create them. Simplicity, composition, angle of view, lighting, harmony and most importantly mystery. I discuss how to create effective abstract images using everyday objects, using design elements, using macro lenses, shooting through objects, capturing motion, playing with lighting and how to create a home studio to create and capture abstract images.

### **Bio**

Photography has been part of me from a young age. An early memory of my Dad is him looking down through the viewfinder of his twin lens reflex camera. He soon graduated to a Konica rangefinder that was constantly by his side. I vividly remember the slide shows of family vacations as well as more private moments shared by my parents. My first camera was the Olympus Pen F half frame beauty and I soon moved through the full line of Olympus OM models. Fast forward to the digital cameras and images of today. I still shoot Olympus but have added a Nikon to the bag.

Emotive displays were not commonplace in my home growing up. The camera and the image became an outlet for suppressed feelings as well as for artistic expression. Many years after college I lived in southern York county Pennsylvania and its rural beauty. Although I had been out west as a teenager it was here that I truly discovered landscape photography. Through my career in the travel industry many other trips followed including visiting most of the major National Parks.

After moving to Baltimore in 2001 I discovered and joined the Baltimore Camera Club. I was quickly in awe and humbled by the talent and more importantly I found the companionship of fellow members which is so important to me to this day. The Baltimore Camera Club remains an integral part of my photography life. I have been honored and have received many awards from the competitions at the club.

Teaching photography is another essential component of my photography life as I love sharing my passion. I currently teach for the Johns Hopkins Odyssey program, the Capital Photography Center of DC and for private students as well. I live for those aha moments that only teaching can provide.