



## September 2024 Newsletter

What defines your photography? Is it the gear you use? Winning a club competition? Getting loadsa FB likes? Whatever floats your boat I say, no snobbery here. Photography is a very personal form of expression and some people practice it very much for themselves, others very much for the public display. Ultimately though there is some degree of interaction, and that is true for each of us individually and collectively. At the recent Documentary Photography Awards open night in Stirling I met some members of the Stirling Photography Festival, and although none of them are RPS members, they share a lot of our ideals, and were a great bunch, very helpful when we were hanging the DPA images, very free with their time, and very supportive at the Open Night. So, now it's our turn to reciprocate and go to some of their events. Here's the Festival link:

<https://www.stirlingphotographyfestival.co.uk/>

And there is genuinely something for everyone, so see you there. Roots & Rituals is this year's theme.

## Monthly Competition

Food was the topic, and our tasty winner is...Cook At Work, India by Andrew Flannigan ARPS.



You can almost smell the curry and spices.

September's topic is Travel, so get your hollybob pics ready..

<https://rps.org/regions/scotland/scotland-monthly-competition/>

Send entries to Ken, sized at 1000px wide, by as many pixels as you want tall, via [scotlandweb@rps.org](mailto:scotlandweb@rps.org)



Littoral Concretion  
- Mairi MacAulay ARPS

RPS Scotland



24 Exhibition



## **Photoforums and An Advisory Day - Something for everyone**

Thank you to all of you that completed our questionnaire, it has been very helpful in allowing us to plan events that should meet YOUR needs. These events are DEFINITELY NOT just of interest to members wishing to achieve distinctions, we believe that all photographers will enjoy them!

### **Photoforums.**

At these events the discussion is led by the participants. Some people use them as stepping stones towards a distinction, gaining support and advice; others bring us examples of new techniques that they want to develop, or projects that they are working on. They are great ways of developing insight into how others see the World! The days are fun, supportive and interesting, everyone present is welcome to offer comments. Those that bring work probably gain most, but if you don't have anything that you would like to share then come along and join in the discussions.

We have two photoforum events open for bookings now (Nairn and Dumfries) in October and November

<https://rps.org/regions/scotland/photoforum/>

We will be adding at least one other event for early in 2025 in the central belt.

### **Advisory Day (5<sup>th</sup> April 2025)**

The advisory day is a more formal event, photographers who feel that they are well on the way to presenting a panel for a distinction bring work to show. Critique is given by supportive and encouraging current panel members.

Whether you are bringing work or thinking that maybe you would like to in the future, or just interested in listening to knowledgeable feedback on photographs, you are bound to gain something from the day. If you haven't previously curated work into a panel, or book or exhibition the feedback on the panels will be especially interesting. We are very grateful to James and Hazel Frost, Mick Durham and Paul Mitchell who will be providing advice, which means that we are in a position to offer the following categories:-

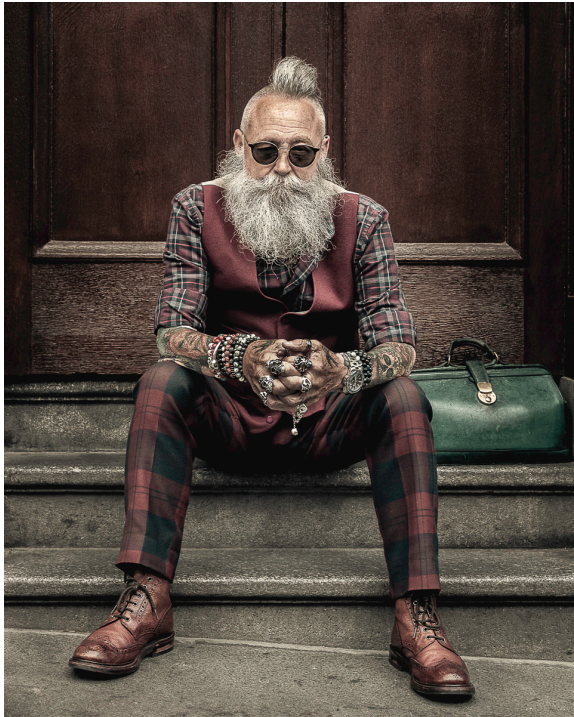
1. LRPS (PDI only)
2. ARPS in Landscape, Visual Art, Documentary, Applied, Travel, Natural History and the Book category.
3. FRPS in Landscape, Visual Art, Documentary, Applied, Travel, Natural History and the Book category

Early booking, particularly for those wishing to show work, is advised, but having committed that will give you 6 months to work on your panel! If you are working on a project and have not yet determined which category it will best sit in please book the most likely, should you change your mind we will sort that later!

<https://rps.org/regions/scotland/>

**Contemporary / Documentary Scottish Group** had a recent Day Oot in Edinburgh for the Fringe, and we had a fine day for the 10 members who turned up. We started off at Edinburgh Photographic Society to see the International Salon exhibition, an EPS member Nature exhibition, and the RPS Scotland's travelling exhibition's first public outing...and I have to say, our stuff did not look out of place. We then headed off to the Royal Mile and spent the rest of the day soaking up the thespian and punter vibes. The e-zine, Ooutput, is at:

[https://issuu.com/royalphotographicsociety/docs/fringe\\_day\\_oot\\_2024](https://issuu.com/royalphotographicsociety/docs/fringe_day_oot_2024)



Monica Vella

The C / D Scottish Group has a wee Autumn - Winter vibe going too...  
A Chat With Margaret Mitchell  
A Chat with Janie Meikle Bland  
1-Day Pechakucha  
All to happen before the year end.

Details from Steve...

[contemporarysco@rps.org](mailto:contemporarysco@rps.org)

And see **What's On** for dates.

## Talk-Walk-Talk

The TWT series is not really a Scottish thing, but is a joint Digital Imaging / Landscape enterprise. However, there are quite a few walks in Scotland...9 out of the 50 organised, taking in some quite spectacular areas:

- Castle Fraser in Aberdeenshire
- Kincaig just outside Aviemore
- Killiecrankie in Perthshire
- West Woods of Ethie just North of Arbroath
- Maspie Den & Waterfall in Fife
- Roslin Glen just South of Edinburgh
- Eglinton Country Park near Irvine
- Carrifan in central Borders
- Abrigland Gardens in Dumfriesshire

There are some unusual and new venues in our list, and you should be getting your boots on and registering to attend and support.

<https://talkwalktalk.org/walk-and-talk-map/219>



# Dalkeith PHOTO2024

DalkeithPhoto will present its inaugural Month of Photography:

**September 8th – October 6th 2024**

An exciting programme of exhibitions of The Buccleuch Family Album Collection (*first showing*), Calum Colvin, The RPS exhibition Squaring the Circles including Tom Hunter, David George, Joy Gregory, Susan Derges and Studies in Photography.

Film screenings at weekends.

All of these can be booked through the Dalkeith Country Park website,

[www.dalkeithcountrypark.co.uk](http://www.dalkeithcountrypark.co.uk)

As spaces for the [symposium](#) on 7th September are limited, we recommend early booking.



Buccleuch Collection



Buccleuch Collection



Calum Colvin



Tom Hunter



Buccleuch collection



Hill and Adamson

**DalkeithPhoto Symposium Saturday 7th September**

**Introduction:**  
Zelda Cheatle, photography curator and author.

**Keynote lecture:**  
Changing Ideals in Pictorial Photography. Pictorialism and the Royal Photographic Society. Michael Pritchard, Photo historian, Consultant to the Royal Photographic Society.

**Constructed Photography.**  
Exhibiting Scottish artist Calum Colvin in conversation with Squaring the Circle artists Tom Hunter and Spencer Rowell.

**Cameraless Imagery and early printing techniques.**  
Artist Alex Hamilton in conversation with artists Susan Derges, Angela Chalmers, Joy Gregory.

**Scottish archives,** photographic albums, aristocracy and collections. A conversation with Walter Dalkeith, Luke Gartlan and Alex Lindsay.

**Keynote lecture:**  
The Two-way Gaze: Scotland and the invention of social documentary photography. Sara Stevenson, photographic historian, writer and expert on early Scottish photography.

**The Art and Application of the Daguerreotype.**  
Takashi Arai, artist.

**Tour of the exhibition,** the interaction of Painting & Photography. Pictorialism and Neo Pictorialism with exhibiting Squaring the Circles artists David George, Celine Bodin and David Chalmers.



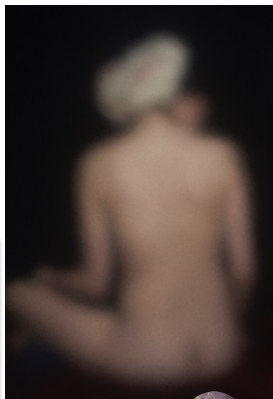
David George



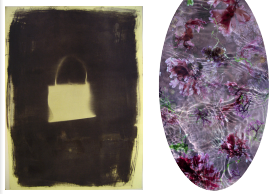
Tom Hunter



Ian Philips McLare



Celine Bodin



Joy Gregory

Susan Derges

The number of photographic events being held continues to grow, and here's the latest, especially for those of you in the Edinburgh and Borders area...Dalkeith Photo2024.

The event is on from 8th September - 6th October, and starts with a Symposium on Saturday 7th (£55 including a light lunch), and bookable at:

<https://www.dalkeithcountrypark.co.uk/event/dalkeithphoto-symposium/>

Introduction Zelda Cheatle, photography curator and author

Keynote lecture:

Changing Ideals in Pictorial Photography.

Pictorialism and the Royal Photographic Society. Michael Pritchard, Photo historian,

Consultant to the Royal Photographic Society.

Constructed Photography. Exhibiting Scottish artist Calum Colvin in conversation with

Squaring the Circle artists Tom Hunter and

Spencer Rowell.

Cameraless Imagery and Early Printing

Techniques. Artist Alex Hamilton in

conversation with artists Susan Derges,

Angela Chalmers and Joy Gregory.

Scottish Archives, Photographic Albums,

Aristocracy and Collections. A conversation

with Walter Dalkeith, Luke Gartlan and Alex

Lindsay.

Keynote lecture:

The Two-way Gaze: Scotland and the

Invention of Social Documentary

Photography. Sara Stevenson, photographic

historian, writer and expert on early Scottish

photography.

The Art and Application of the

Daguerreotype. Takashi Arai, artist.

Tour of the Exhibition, the Interaction of

Painting & Photography, Pictorialism and Neo

Pictorialism with exhibiting Squaring the

Circles artists Tom Hunter, David George and

Celine Bodin.

## **RPS Scotland**

The summer, as much as it was a summer, is nearing an end, and the nights are fair drawing in. The mornings are taking longer to get up too, and whilst there is a decent wee weather spell on just now, it is cooler in the mornings and evenings. We are definitely heading for Autumn.

However, from a photography point of view that is not really a bad thing...the light tends to be a bit softer, Mother Nature treats us with some stunning colours, and it also means the resumption of the zoom type events that we've all enjoyed since COVID changed our outlooks on Life, and Everything. Not the Universe, our views on that didn't change.

The earlier nightfall also means that it is easier to get night time shots, and the aurora hunters, Milky Way chasers et al will be able to grab their shots and still get back to bed at a reasonable-ish time.

There is a couple of speakers that we've kind of got lined up, but I'm waiting for dates to be confirmed, so you'll hear about them soon. There is SIG activity going on though, with DI / Landscape's T-W-T events, Creative Eye are hosting some talks, and Contemporary / Documentary in Scotland are also hosting talks and Pechakucha evenings. Check out the What's On, or the SIG pages themselves.

In the background we are also organising some more PhotoForum days, and have hopes that maybe Glasgow and Edinburgh will join the wee roster that has become quite established. Maybe even Tayside. We are quite advanced with our Advisory Day, and as well as our own James and Hazel Frost FRPS x a few between them, Mick Durham FRPS, we also are being joined by Paul Mitchell FRPS, and he is also going to host a workshop / photowalk on the weekend he is up. That is a rare treat to have him come up this far North, and all kudos to the persuasive powers of Jean, who managed to get him to agree to travel virtually the whole length of the UK to be with us. His workshop day will be a busy one, so keep an eye out for notifications of that being open for bookings. It's all going to happen at Stirling University, like PhotoFest 24, and that proved to be a wonderful venue, with top notch facilities, and incredibly helpful staff. Going back there was a no-brainer. Accommodation will be available too, and those of us who stayed overnight at PF24 will attest to it's location and welcome. It's all go, so strap in and hang on.

PS...and for those hanging on the edge of their seats wondering about the banana image on last month's front page, it was wholly AI generated. Clever chaps these computer geeks.

## What's On in September?

29th March onwards: Photo Cities - how images shape the Urban World, V&A Dundee. <https://www.vam.ac.uk/dundee/whatson/exhibitions/photo-city>

29th March - 27th October Diorama Map, Dundee, Sohei Nishino V&A Dundee

Various dates until the end of September, Stirling Photography Festival.

<https://www.stirlingphotographyfestival.co.uk/>

2nd August to 2nd November Coupar's Camera Lamb Gallery Dundee

<https://www.dundee.ac.uk/events/coupars-camera>

Until 14th September, Scottish Nature Photography Winner's Exhibition, The Tollbooth, Lanark, and then on to Dumfries, and Aberlady.

<https://scottishnaturephotographyawards.com/exhibition/exhibition-2023.html>

September 18th - A Chat with Margaret Mitchell. RPS Contemporary / Documentary...contact [contemporarysc@rps.org](mailto:contemporarysc@rps.org)

September 21st South West Members Afternoon, Haugh of Urr

September 23rd Talk-Walk-Talk Woodlands Talk by Paul Mitchell FRPS, followed by a month of TWT events around the country, including Scotland.

<https://talkwalktalk.org/walk-and-talk-map/219>

Further ahead:

October: RPS Scotland Exhibition at the Hub, Eskdalemuir, with an Open Night on 1st October 18.30, including 4 small talks on "What the RPS does for me"

October 27th Northern Photoforum Nairn Community Centre

[roberts.trish@btinternet.com](mailto:roberts.trish@btinternet.com)

<https://events.rps.org/en/4LrdQ66/rps-scotland-northern-photoforum-2024-5a2NN25N6rR/overview>

November: RPS Scotland Exhibition at the Hub, Eskdalemuir, with an Open Night on 2nd November 18.30, including 4 different small talks on "What the RPS does for me"

November 16th South West PhotoForum Shambellie House

Contact for all SW events: Jean Robson - [digmem@rps.org](mailto:digmem@rps.org)

<https://events.rps.org/en/4LrdQ66/rps-sw-scotland-photoforum-and-exhibition-5a2NN23WWj2/overview>

November 21st 1-Day Pechakucha - [contemporarysc@rps.org](mailto:contemporarysc@rps.org)

March 7-9th 2025 Landscape SIG DoubleTree North Queensferry

<https://billetto.co.uk/e/landscape-group-conference-2025-full-price-tickets-tickets-902441?rr=aHR0cHM6Ly9ychMub3JnLw==>

April 5th 2025 Advisory Day / Annual Exhibition Selection Bridge of Allan

No details on the website yet, but fully confirmed with assessors and the RPS and plenty of advance notice so get it in your calendar.

We'll let you know when that goes live.

## **RPS Scotland Committee**

### **RPS Regional Organiser:**

Dave Ferguson LRPS [scotland@rps.org](mailto:scotland@rps.org)

### **Committee:**

Ken Ness FRPS [scotlandweb@rps.org](mailto:scotlandweb@rps.org)

Kirsten Bax LRPS [scotlandtreasurer@rps.org](mailto:scotlandtreasurer@rps.org)

Clive Watkins LRPS [scotlandsec@rps.org](mailto:scotlandsec@rps.org)

### **Local contacts:**

#### **Northern**

Trish Roberts ARPS

#### **Grampian**

Nigel Corby FRPS

#### **Tayside**

Robin Millar

Steven Whittaker ARPS

#### **Fife**

Monica Vella

Ken Goodfellow LRPS

Mark Reeves FRPS

#### **Central**

Bob Black

#### **Lanarkshire**

Douglas Thompson FRPS

#### **Edinburgh**

Filipe Teixeira-Dias

#### **Glasgow**

Anne McKelvie

#### **Borders**

Fiona Cadger ARPS

Tracey Largue

#### **Ayrshire**

Tracy Ross LRPS

#### **South West**

Jean Robson FRPS

#### **Orkney**

Jamie Bodley-Scott ARPS