

An Introduction to the Group's Print Folios

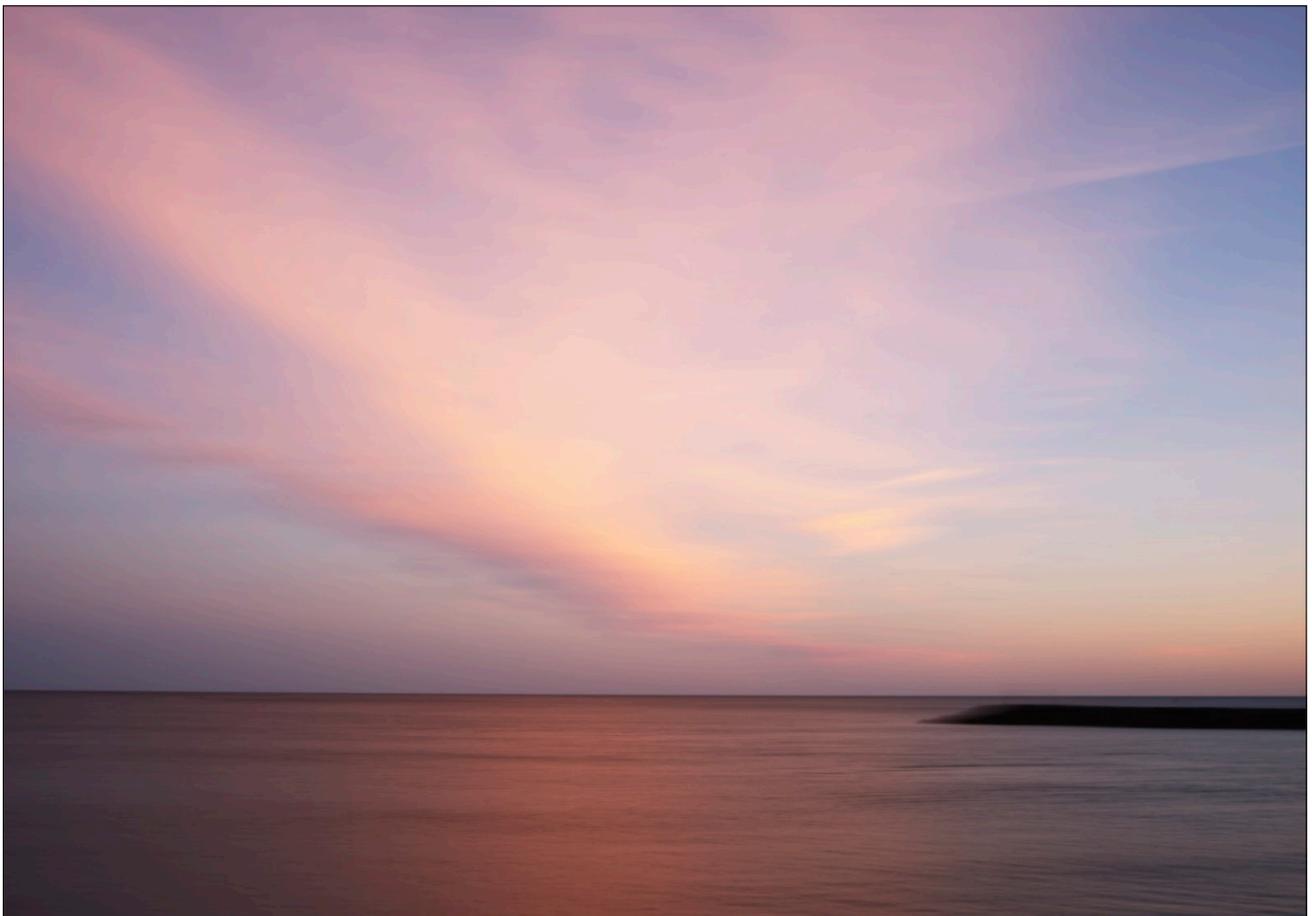
(The Circles)

By Diana Wynn

The vast majority of people feel that a photograph is not complete until it has been printed, so it can be physically felt, and viewed in glorious detail; even hung on the wall if it is especially good or meaningful. Even then, there is only a limited number of people who are going to be lucky enough to see the masterpiece, often only yourself or your immediate family.

To widen the number of viewers a little, you either have to take part in an exhibition, or one of the many competitions, either at camera club level, or nationally, or indeed internationally, but again there is very little feedback from any of these options, unless of course you are a winner. So, what other options are there?

One is the Landscape Group print folio groups (The Circles). At present there are three circles running, two of which I curate, and the third is run by Doug Lodge. In each of the circles there are approximately eight members, just below the optimum number of ten. A brief explanation on how they operate is that each member adds a new print to the round when it arrives with them, moving the existing one in the "new prints" folder into the "old prints" folder, and removing the one of theirs which is in this "old prints" folder. They then review the other's prints in the "old prints" folder, which will have been commented on by all the other members by this time. This is both a matter of interest, to see what others have said about each print, and also a learning curve for less skilled photographers, as many hints and tips can be picked up. As an example, I have added one of my images from a round that has returned to me.



I have picked a selection of parts of the comments that this image got are:

"I'm impressed with how level your ICM is – you must have been using a tripod. The sky is lovely and the ICM has enhanced the cloud, giving an impressionist feel"

"Interesting abstract feel to this image. The reflections in the sea are lovely and being on the diagonal help to lead the eye into the picture"

"I'm starting to like ICM more and more. I like the colours and the movement in the sky"

"I think the ICM and long exposure work well together, although maybe a little more movement would have looked more deliberate in the promontory"

Having enjoyed the images and comments, it is now time to give your comments on all the prints in the "new prints" folder, and complete the cover sheet with the details relevant to your entry for this round. I have added the cover sheet that I completed below.

There are not many rules involved within the folio groups. We ask that the round is completed and passed on to the next member within two weeks, or exceptionally three, so this means that a folio will arrive with each member approximately 4 or 5 times a year, as there are two rounds on the go in each folio at any one time. Probably most important is the request to always think about what you are saying about an image. It does not do to say "rubbish print", but you can say "this is not to my taste, however..."

Because each folio is below the optimum number of participants, anyone who would like to join is very welcome. However, you do have to live in the UK, as the cost of sending the pouch to and from abroad would be prohibitively expensive. It is sent by 2nd class small parcel post, and currently costs £3.20.

Circle B		Round 10	
Name:	DIANA WYSON		
Image title:	SIDMOUTH SUNSET		
Date and time taken:	27 09 2020	19:07	
Location:	SIDMOUTH SEAFRONT		
Camera:	FUJI GFX50R	Lens:	GFSO F3.5 R LM WR
ISO:	200	F stop:	22
Shutter speed:	3sec.	WB:	Auto
Filters used:	NONE		
Processing actioned:	All in Affinity Photo		
	I used a very slight amount of ICM as I took the shot so, to keep the softness, I reduced the contrast slightly, and removed the dust spots. I then used a levels adjustment, with darken blend mode, and a slight amount of brightening to make the print.		
Printer:	EPSON R3000 with Fotospeed ink system		
Paper used:	Fotospeed Smooth Cotton.		
Anything else you would like to say about what you have done since the last round:	I was lucky enough to be able to visit the Don McCullin exhibition of his landscape mono photos at the Humer o Worth Gallery in Bruton, Somerset. It re-opened in time for visits before closing in September. I noticed every shot was taken into the sea, which of course added to the high contrast, black shadows, silhouettes etc of his work.		

If you would like more information, you can email me at landscapetreasurer@rps.org (yes I do that as well!), or to request to join a folio please contact landscapecircle@rps.org in the first instance.