

Put people in picture

FOCUS ON PHOTOGRAPHY



MONTE NAGLER

the picture.

There may be times, however, when a landscape isn't strong enough on its own and the inclusion of a person can be an important addition to the composition. Here are some times when you may want to add people to your landscapes.

A person can add scale to a photograph. We'll get a better idea of the height of the waterfall or the size of the mountain.

Adding a person can be used to

illustrate a particular activity in a certain area. For example, if photographing an overall view of a village in England, including a sheep herder adds that special touch.

An isolated person is an effective way of showing the desolation or lonely aspect of a region. This became evident to me during a trip to the Swiss Alps.

It was stormy and a feeling of isolation and emptiness hung in the air. After taking a photograph of the valley below, I turned around to see a woman walking her dog at the base of a mountain. It seemed so unlikely to find such a scene so high in the mountains, but I immediately saw the picture potential. The addition of the person to the landscape was a great opportunity.

I quickly placed the woman and dog in the lower right "third" of the viewfinder so that they would be moving into the picture. Also the size relationship to the mountain could be seen. You can see

from the photograph here how important the figures are to the overall composition and impact of the shot. They give the picture its strength.

Study your landscapes before you shoot and ask yourself if the inclusion of a person would help. Remember, you can always use a friend or traveling companion as the perfect model.

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills. You can leave him a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then his mailbox number, 1873. His fax number is (310) 644-1314.

Personal touch: The woman and dog are important elements in the composition of the photograph made by Monte Nagler in the Swiss Alps. They give the picture its strength.



National piano duo competition slated

The National Federation of Music Clubs will offer \$17,000 in prize monies to duo pianists in the organization's Ellis Competition for Duo Pianists. Winners of the competition will also receive two years of performance bookings through the NFMC.

Entry deadline is Sept. 1, 1994. For information or entry forms,

write Mrs. Kenneth Cribb, Auditions Chairwoman, NFMC Ellis Competition for Duo Pianists, 533 Palmetto St., Spartanburg, S.C. 29302, phone (803) 582-0007.

Preliminary judging will be by taped audition, with the final auditions taking place at Converse College in Spartanburg, April 1, 1995. First place winners at the fi-

nal audition will be invited to perform at the NFMC Biennial Convention in Wichita, Kan., in April.

Entrants must be native or naturalized U.S. citizens, having

reached their 18th birthday but not their 36th by April 1, 1995. Entrants must be under professional management. An entrance fee of \$40 per duo team must accompany the taped audition.

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