

Plan before snapping shutter

Too often, a photographer will quickly click off a shot that says little about the subject and results in no more than a simple snapshot.



Focus On
Photography

Monte
Nagler

But with some planning and creativity, you can take an ordinary subject and produce a photograph that is both exciting and impactful.

The photograph shown here is a good

example of how applying thought and planning can reward you with a memorable picture. I'll explain exactly how, on a recent trip to Ireland, this photograph was made.

I was in the small village of Bunratty when I came upon these quaint, thatched-roof cottages. I saw excellent photographic potential here. Rather than take just the quick, ordinary snapshot, I put my mind in the "plan a photograph" mode.

First, I began looking for nearby subjects that could serve as "framing" objects while still allowing me to place

the cottages in a pleasing composition in the viewfinder. Sure enough, I found a position where an overhanging branch and a hedge of tall grass worked perfectly. I was also able to use the roadway as an effective "lead-in." This way, the viewer's eye is directed into the picture.

To place everything in the viewfinder, I chose a 28mm wide-angle lens. This lens gave me the perspective I wanted as well as giving a three-dimensional appearance to the image.

It's very important in shots using "framing" techniques to have everything sharp and in focus from front to back.

To accomplish this, I selected a small aperture of f-16 and verified on my lens's depth-of-field scale that all would be sharp. A sturdy tripod helped, too.

A look at the sky confirmed that a filter was needed to obtain total separation between the white clouds and the blue sky. A red filter works fine with black and white while a polarizer is in order with



Careful thought and planning produced this memorable picture for Monte Nagler on his recent trip to Ireland. The accompanying story explains how he did it.

color film. Now I was ready to trip the shutter.

All my planning, which took no longer than a few minutes,

paid off with this delightful photograph that "says it all" about the beauty and charm of Ireland.

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills. He can be reached by phone at (734) 853-2047 or by fax at (248) 644-1314.

02/03 UMS SEASON UPCOMING EVENTS

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

Jim Vincent, artistic director

Fri. 9/20 8 pm

Sat. 9/21 8 pm

Sun. 9/22 2 pm

Power Center • Ann Arbor

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More information: 202.221.3114 and Website: UMS.org

Anouar Brahem Trio

Fann Ma Tarek: An Evening of Arabic Music

The Anouar Cafe

Anouar Brahema Trio • Barbara Kruse: classical

Tuesday, September 17, 8 pm

Sun. 9/22 4 pm

Lydia Mendelsohn Theatre • Ann Arbor

Brahem's trio, comprised of oud (a 12-string lute), percussion and clarinet, creates an innovative sound of "world jazz" that has fostered untold followers, including BBC Magazine, which named their 1999 album *Humar* its "Pick of the Year."

Presented in partnership with the Arab American Studies Center at the University of Michigan

More information: 202.221.3114

Education Events

Classic Music: An Insider's Guide to

UMS's Choral Union, Chamber Arts

and Song Recital Series.

Monday, September 23, 7 pm.

Michigan League, Hurley Room.

Deep Listening: The World of Symphonic Music.

Wednesday, September 25, 7 pm.

Michigan League, Vandenberg Room.

ums 734.764.2538 www.ums.org

ours at the 734 area code, call 800.221.1229

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ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Here are some entertainment highlights for this week:

■ In 1956, Elvis Presley made his first of three appearances on "The Ed Sullivan Show." He sang "Love Me Tender," "Hound Dog," "Don't Be Cruel" and "Ready Teddy."

■ In 1966, the television series "Star Trek" premiered on the U.S. NBC broadcasting network. It ran for three years.

■ Also in 1966, the comedy show "The Monkees" made its debut on NBC. The show featured a rock group that was supposed to be the American version of The Beatles.

■ In 1967, "The Carol Burnett Show" debuted on CBS. It ran until 1978.

■ In 1974, "Little House on

the Prairie" made its TV debut on NBC.

■ In 1982, singers Al Green and Patti LaBelle made their Broadway debuts in the gospel-inspired stage musical "Your Arm's Too Short to Box with God."

■ In 1993, "The X-Files" made its debut on the U.S. Fox broadcasting network.

■ In 1996, some Hindu groups criticized Madonna's performance at the MTV Video Music Awards. She wore a see-through shirt and a Hindu facial marking while performing "Ray of Light."

■ In 2001, the Latin Grammys were canceled and most entertainment events were called off after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

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