

Panning could strike photo gold

Most of us are used to seeing action shots where the subject is "frozen" at the peak of the action. And, of course, there's nothing wrong with depicting subjects in this way.

But if we could intentionally blur the subject or the background to produce a feeling of motion, imagine the exciting results!

After all, being creative as a photographer means that there may be times you'll want to transcend the face value of your subject and instead bring out its true essence.

You can do this with action shots using a technique called panning. In short, panning means following the action, through the viewfinder of your camera and then shooting at a slower shutter speed than that required to stop the action.

HERE'S HOW it's done:
Prefocus on a spot in front of you



photography
Monte Nagler

where you'll want to make your final exposure. Stand firmly with the upper part of your body twisted in the direction from which the action will come.

Follow the subject with your camera as soon as it's visible in the viewfinder, much like a marksman will follow a moving target.

When it reaches your preselected spot, gently squeeze the shutter release and continue following the subject through the camera as a sort of "follow-through."

Keep in mind that your movement before, during and after the release of the shutter should be one continuous, smooth motion.

Consider use of a tripod when panning to help get a smooth, uninterrupted movement, especially with a slower shutter speed.

WHAT SHUTTER speed should you use? A good rule to apply is to select a speed two increments slower than that required to freeze the action.

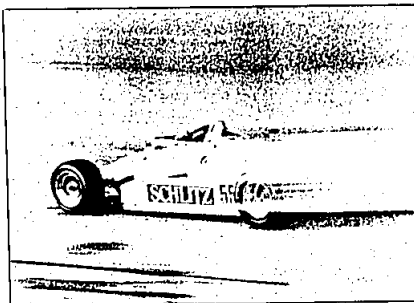
For example, to take a pan shot of a speeding race car, use 1/125 second (normally you would use 1/500 second). To give a feeling of motion to a moving bicycle, try 1/30 second, a walking individual, 1/15 second.

Remember that the slower the shutter speed, the more blur will appear in the finished picture.

Practice makes perfect. Before releasing the shutter, try following the action several times in order to get the rhythm of the motion. If you do, chances are you'll be rewarded with that special pan shot of which you can be truly proud.

So try your hand at panning. Your pictures may bring home the gold!

Monte Nagler is a professional photographer based in Farmington Hills.



Combining panning techniques with a "speed" filter produced this exciting shot of a race car for Monte Nagler's camera.

exhibitions

Send news items about Oakland County art gallery exhibitions to *The Eccecurie*, 305 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009. Send items about Wayne County exhibitions to *The Observer*, 3623 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Attention: Creative Living editor.

● ELIZABETH STONE GALLERY

Thursday, Feb. 6 — The gallery celebrates February by presenting "How to Say Happy Birthday and Other Nice Things in a Big Way," a birthday poster exhibit by Birmingham graphic designer Samuel Harper through Feb. 22. Opening event, a Poster Exhibit Party, 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday.

Harper, president of the O'Brien Graphic Network in Birmingham, has worked for several large Detroit advertising agencies. He is currently developing several children's book ideas. His posters tell simple stories, usually with humor, in a colorful, childlike way. His work includes a 10-by-4-foot poster for his mother's 90th birthday last year.

Hours 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday or by appointment, 580 N. Woodward, Birmingham, 647-7040.

● **HALSTED GALLERY**
Opening Thursday, Feb. 6 — An exhibition of photographs by Ralph Steiner will run through April 4. Steiner, born in 1929, began photographing in 1918 while a student at Dartmouth College. After graduating in 1951, he attended the Clarence

White School of Photography and settled in New York City, which soon became an important subject for his work. Steiner's work of the 1920s and 1930s, like that of Paul Strand and Walker Evans in the period, used the commonplace objects of urban society — billboards, details of automobiles, etc. — for semi-abstract compositions. Hours 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 560 N. Woodward, Birmingham, 644-8284.

● SCARAB CLUB

Thursday, Feb. 6 — "The View from Draper Hill: An Exhibition of Original Drawings by Detroit News Editorial Cartoonist Draper Hill" will run from Feb. 28. Opening reception 5-7 p.m. Thursday. Hill will present two Thursday lectures in conjunction with the show, "The Urge to Caricature," Feb. 6 and "Making Faces," Feb. 13, 7-9:30 p.m. both days. Hours are noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 217 Farnsworth, adjacent to the Detroit Institute of Arts, 831-1250.

● THE COMMUNITY HOUSE

Friday, Feb. 7 — Karen Niederlander of Franklin is the Artist of the Month for February. Special reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, with light refreshments and champagne. Call Niederlander at 358-4480 for reservations. The exhibit showcases Niederlander's newest collection of 20 "Impressionist" photographs. They are presented in diptychs, each assembled in floating lucite frames. This format defines the portrayal of both

impressionism and abstraction. Hours 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, 644-5832.

● CREATIVE ARTS CENTER

Through Feb. 21 — "Picture This," an exhibition of the original artwork for children's book illustrations at the Elizabeth Stone Gallery of Birmingham, continues. It includes work by illustrators Jon Agee, Marsha Brown, Ashley Bryan, Peter Catalanotto, Leo and Diane Dillon, Arthur Gelsert, Nonny Hogrogian, Adrienne Kennaway, Gerald McDermott, Peter Parrall and Diane Stanley.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the center will have storytelling for children, with readings from the illustrated books represented in the show, at 2 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 8 and 15. Admission is free.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, 47 Williams, Pontiac, 333-7849.

● JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN MUSEUM/GALLERY

Through Feb. 27 — "Survival and Success: Jewish Cultural Portraits from Central Europe," an exhibition of black and white photographs and accompanying documentation, displays the significant loss to German culture with the forced emigration of many of Germany's leading Jewish intellectuals before and during World War II. The artist, Herlende Koehl, whose home and studio are in Germany, traveled around the

world to photograph and interview more than 80 Jewish people who are internationally prominent in the cultural arts.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Jewish Community Center, Maple and Drake in West Bloomfield.

Photos and interviews from the Feb. 27 "Grand Influence" event at the museum/gallery will be made into an exhibition and displayed, with an opening reception, Sunday, Feb. 8, 2-5 p.m.

The museum/gallery and the Goethe Institut of Ann Arbor will conduct a symposium addressing the history of Jews in Germany before and after World War II. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 8-9. Featured speakers and participants will include Koehl, Erik Blumenfeld, a Jewish politician in Hamburg, Professor Richard Kaplan, a film historian and director of "The Exiles," contemporary German-Jewish novelist Rafael Seligman, George Mosse, a historian from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Y. Michael Ben-David, a sociologist from Toronto, professors Guy Stein and Sid Bokowsky, and Rabbi Sherwin Wine. The symposium will consist of several lectures, a viewing of "The Exiles" and a panel discussion about the status of Jews in Germany today.

For information about the events, call 661-1000, Ext. 470.

● WOODS GALLERY

Friday, Feb. 7 — The gallery pre-

sents the first Huntington Woods exhibit and sale of the works of Arthur H. Lehmann (1913-1988). He assisted Diego Rivera in painting the mural on the south wall of the Detroit Institute of Arts' concourse, and painted the original murals at the Belle Isle Zoo in the 1940s. His work has been displayed over the years at the Detroit Artists Market.

Selected watercolor and acrylic paintings will be shown at the Woods Gallery Feb. 8 through March 17. Wine and cheese reception and preview 7-10 p.m. Friday, including a presentation, "Memories of Arthur Lehmann," at 8 p.m. This event will be the first gallery benefit, with a donation of \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. The gallery is in the lower level of the Huntington Woods Library, 26415 Scilla, Huntington Woods, 543-9720.

● WATERFORD FRIENDS OF THE ARTS GALLERY

To Feb. 6 — The works of American artist Charles Culver (1908-1967) are exhibited. Hours are 7-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, daytime by arrangement, 1415 Crescent Lake Road west of Telegraph and north

of Elizabeth Lake Road in Waterford, 666-4563.

● DETROIT ARTISTS MARKET

To Feb. 7 — The Detroit Artists Market announces its 60th anniversary with the "Select 5 Collect" exhibition by Michigan photographers John Carney, Joanne Leonard, Bill Sanders, Michael Sarnacki and Carl Toth. The exhibit is to honor the artists, inform the audience and encourage the collecting of Michigan photography. Picked work by Dusty Fleming, Cynthia Greig and Carole Zak in the upper gallery. Gallery hours 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 1452 Randolph, Detroit, 962-0337.

● SYBARIS GALLERY

To Feb. 8 — One-person show of sculpture by New York artist Susan Martin, who works with such materials as wax, wood, plaster, lead and paper to create minimal and sculptural forms, continues. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 301 W. Fourth, Royal Oak, 544-3388.

Cactus society sets meeting

"Rocks that Grow: Stonelike Cacti of the Americas" will be presented by Kerry Krivoshein and Tom Dunikowski at the Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society meeting 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, in the Good Shepherd

Lutheran Church basement banquet hall, on Campbell at 11-1/2 Mile in Royal Oak.

Call 681-4791 for more information.

Party at gallery serves up tea, talk

Swidler Gallery, 308 W. Fourth in Royal Oak, will host a special event embracing aesthetics beyond the visual in "First Cup of the Day: Beauty Through Use" on Saturday, Feb. 8.

For more information, call Swidler Gallery at 542-4880. Between 9:30 a.m. and noon, the gallery invites the public to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee served in a handmade cup chosen by the viewer from the 140 on display.

Thirty-five artists from the United States and Canada are represented, including John Glick of Farmington Hills.

THE EVENT will continue noon to 1 p.m., with a discussion, "Why Handmade Functional Pottery?" Panelists will include Dan Hoffman, head of architecture, Cranbrook Academy of Art; Diana Kelsick, professor of art, Eastern Michigan University; Graham Marks, head of ceramics, Cranbrook Academy of Art; Amy Musaga, restaurateur, caterer, A.J. Wedge, Hillsdale, and moderator Paul Kothala, gallery director.

Painter to discuss image of U.S. male

Contemporary American painter Carol Wald will give a lecture, "U.S. Male," 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, at the Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth in Detroit.

For more information, call the Scarab Club at 831-1250. Many male stereotypes were exploited and reinforced by the advertising media over the past 100 years. For 30 years, Wald has been a collector of these images that appeared on postcards, ads, trade cards and posters.

The presentation consists of Wald's commentary on slides of 50 of her favorite ads from the past American century that demonstrate how these images reflect and define our values and shape our culture.

Wald is preparing a book, "U.S. Male," that is a sequel to her book, "Myth America," published in 1985. She most recently exhibited a series of major oils at the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio.



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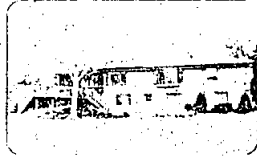
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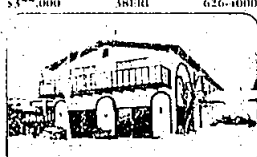
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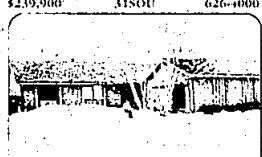
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