



Love Story

Black and White Category
February 2021

1st Place DAVID LIM

Taken in a small village in Coron during an OTS. A Grandmother's Enduring Love & Joy.

2nd Place MIGUEL LEE

A Day in the Love of You.

It was shot during sunset in front of the Manila Yatch Club in Roxas Blvd. using my Nikon D7200. Aperture f/8, shutter speed 1/200 sec., ISO 100, focal length 10mm using 10-24mm ultra wide lens.



3rd Place DANNY YU

Photo was taken during a Rarindra Prakarsa workshop held at the Galleria de Taal of Manny Inumerable in early 2019.

President's Message

March is a memorable month for Zone V Camera Club. We are celebrating our 43rd year. For more than 4 decades now, our club remain active. Our club has had many opportunities to promote photography.

During the course of the club's 43 years, technology had made photographers more portable. The little black box of a camera has become sophisticated piece of electronic equipment. Welcome to the digital age. Photographers can shoot at the moment, edit and change settings to whatever their needs are, and transfer their photos from anywhere there is an internet connection.

Back in the days, processing was done in a darkroom with a roll of film, black and white or color. Slides were popular. Now photographers can sit in a comfortable chair in front of their computers, download their images, edit and develop their images in various available post processing software and can print their images on their home printer.

The ZVCC members have embraced this technology change and to this date are still producing beautiful images. Members are enjoying all the benefits in store for them.. we have now our Club Handbook, we have the Z Academy, we have photo walks to Z places and we are developing a website for our club.

March is really a significant month for us because it has been a year since pandemic began and entered coronavirus-related lockdowns - the 1st anniversary of lockdowns, shutdowns and shortages is upon us.

I can still remember that we had a meeting at Old Swiss Inn last year (March 12,2020,to be exact)... and that's the last meeting we had last year. We all have

the moment when we knew things were going to be different. For others, small gathering with friends and family were the last "normal" moments they had. Some people didn't go through with their events as planned but instead began what would become a trend: household-only events or socially distanced hangouts. Our club didn't stop the system we are doing. We have our online monthly contests and virtual meetings. Thank you for staying and taking care of our club.

Today, we are happy because we can say that we are survivors of the said pandemic. But let us not forget the risk of contamination of this viral disease is highest, consequentially severe and life-threatening. We need our constant prayers, encouragement and reassuring support from each other as we fight this virus together.

Again, congratulations for our 43 years of friendship and camaraderie.

Happy 43rd year anniversary to the premier camera club, the ZVCC.

Thank you.

Cha Pagdilao
2021 President
Zone V Camera Club



1978

launched during the Club's 40th Anniversary Exhibit at SM Aura, BGC in November of 2018.

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skipping a month—seamlessly transitioned from its monthly contests at the Old Swiss Inn to online contests, complete with online scoring, judges' critiques, as well as voting for the Members' Cup. The Club's first ever Handbook was also adopted. The year was truly a testament to the Club's resilience and adaptability to change, signaling much promise and even greater things in the years ahead.

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2018

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addition, it has been an annual exhibitor at Fiera de Manila's Graph-ic-Expo, now on its 25th year.

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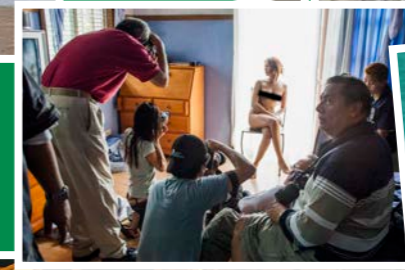
~ From the Club Handbook



February Meeting



Zone V @ 43 and Counting



Beyond Selfies

Tips on Shooting for Social Media
By Sheila Catilo

Zone V's Z Academy has become a treasure trove of knowledge for members. The session last Feb. 18, 2021 was no exception. Entitled *Beyond Selfies - tips on shooting for social media*, the talk was given by our very own Sheila Catilo.

Given the types of topics in the past Z Academy seminars, the thought did cross my mind to skip this one. However, considering that we're enveloped in a completely digital world where social media reigns supreme; I decided to attend just the same. And man, was I glad I did!

Like the masterful storyteller that she is, Sheila took the *Zombies* through a journey. Starting with the basics of what social media is and what people

use it for, she then slowly eased us into the whys of social media; to connect, to share your work, to be inspired or simply access the community for support. Grounded on those fundamentals Sheila then spoke of the benefits and woes behind social media. Quickly shifting gears, she spoke about how to make good content; one that exhibits consistency, relevant and entertaining.

In her talk, Sheila reminded us not so much of the rules or technicalities of photography, but the reasons underpinning it. Tips like, when shooting - be clear with your intention, define your message (faithful to your brand), and then design the aesthetics - composition, lighting, mood, etc. These are well established guidelines



and yet are drowned in the minutiae of shutter speeds, aperture, and inverse square law; or worse, which lens to use for which shot.

And since her talk was about social media Sheila did not fail to add pointers in this realm as well; to have the target platform in mind as you shoot; for example, square format for IG,

styling your shots and adding props to provide context to every shot. She shared proven methods in growing social media followers and debunked others. She gave us *Zombies* a fresh perspective and a reason to pick-up and dust off our stagnant social media feeds and start creating and sharing again.

Her parting shot: Choose your poison; be it Instagram, Facebook, Twitter. Whatever you choose - go out and tell your story and be an inspiration to someone.

Sheila Catilo is a lifestyle photographer and entrepreneur with a passion for visual storytelling. On a more personal note, Sheila was born in Imus, Cavite and is the proud mother to three wonderful daughters and a partner to a very supportive husband, Jorem Catilo, also a Zone V member. Thank you Sheila, for sharing your time and knowledge with us zombies

- By Tony Rivera



Jian Choa, one of the youngest members of Zone V Camera Club, started his interest in photography when his Dad got him a Nikon D90, purchased from his uncle, Jerry Tieng, also a good friend of Zone V. Jian would always join the photo trips of the Rotary Club of Bagumbayan-Manila Camera Club and he later enrolled in the basic photography workshop under Ms. Michelle Morelos. That started his passion for taking photos. Jian is also a surfer, an audiophile, and a music

Welcome Jian!

lover, and his interest in music and photography would lead him to take pictures of bands performing in concerts at different venues. At one time he was numbered among the official photographers of several Philippine Jazz Festivals held in the country. Now, aside from taking photos of precious moments with his family, Jian also enjoys landscape photography, especially during sunrise and sunset as he says it gives him a sense of calm and stillness. Jian still uses his Nikon D90 but with an additional set of prime lenses. He is eagerly looking forward to more photo adventures, to learning from ZVCC mentors and most of all, he is looking forward to enjoying the camaraderie of his fellow *Zombies*. Welcome to Zone V, Jian!

- By Boy Kaw

Finding Your Vision

by ReD Ognita

Z Academy's 5th offering for the year was an introspective discussion on "finding one's vision" as a photographer and artist.

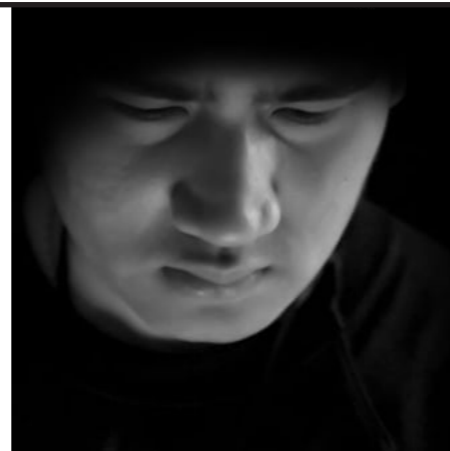
Led by fine art photographer and gallery printing specialist, Red Ognita, the March 4th zoom seminar aimed to encourage the members to "know oneself" as a photographer and/or visual art creator. The process of self-discovery, of knowing one's vision, is a way to establish one's artistic identity.

At the start of the session, Red, who has a self-effacing and apologetic demeanor despite being a well-recognized/admired artist and coach within the local fine art photography community, including some of the *Zombies*, predicated his talk by saying that the topic "finding one's vision" is one of the most difficult for him to tackle. This in part is, because "vision" is a personal, subjective, and

even, an abstract concept, especially for those who are still exploring their identity as artists. He quickly dispelled misconceptions that, "Vision" is

- Not a trendy thing; it is organic in that it is part of one's identity;
- Not superficial, it is a well-developed and deeply ingrained personal approach;
- It is not the same as style but one's "distinct" style emanates from vision.

In his case, Red admits that it took him years of trials & errors, heart-breaking instances, and gutsy mining of opportunities fired by passion and sheer desire to find his niche, to be able to finally say that he had found his anchor as an artist. Recalling his own self-discovery phase and emphasizing the importance of a "third eye", from a mentor or coach, who can objectively guide and critique



at same time, Red encouraged the members to never stop before even trying.

In the discovery of one's vision, Red noted that one naturally goes through a process of exploration. When one eventually matures, then one can find a niche, where one's body of work becomes the voice that speaks for one as artist.

In the self-discovery process, Red suggested that we ask ourselves these questions:

- Do I know what I like to shoot
- Do I have focus in my choices of subjects?

- Will I still shoot even if no one will see my photographs?
- Do my photos/portfolio speak a certain language to others; do they convey a sense of unity and coherence?
- Do I have strong photos that I can associate with distinct moments or times I consider memorable?
- Am I doing what everyone else is doing, simply mimicking the masters or am I separating from the trend?

On questions raised by some members, Red shared his insights:

"As a young shooter, one wants to try all genres and subjects. When will one know that it's time to focus?" (From Bern)

~ When what you do becomes easier and makes you happy; when what you do loves you back and you reap returns, that is a sign that what you are doing is already what you're supposed to focus on.

"What if my heart loves many genres - underwater, landscapes, aerial - do I have to concentrate on only one?" (From Keisie)

~ You need to examine your images and figure out which ones are "strongest". To be objective, ask for a second opinion because as shooters, we tend to associate the value of our images to the difficulty of creating it. So you can't separate the emotion from the "pure beauty" of the image. From your strong photos, you will know where your focus can be.

"I don't really know if my photos are art or not. As a travel photographer, I try to present my images with journalistic semblance. How do I muster the courage to finally present myself as an artist?" (From this author)

~ Dare to show your works even when you know you might be criticized. Prepare yourself for the worst. When you believe you are ready to embrace that, then you are ready to present your portfolio and in a way, reveal who you are as artist. Share both your commissioned and personal works, so that audiences will know your range.

In closing, Red reminded the group:

- That discovering one's vision requires knowing oneself, one's strong points, and one's motives/intentions.

- That integrity is also key. Doing something even when no one else knows or cares and staying consistent in what one does will be tough but personal discipline pays off. When one is true to oneself, the images will have meaning that are personal and may or may not be understood by or imminent to others.
- To share what you do anyway even when faced with hurdles, because it helps you to sharpen yourself. Keep going anyway; your photos will eventually become a representation of your artistic identity.
- In art, what happens before the artwork is done doesn't matter. What matters is whether the output is something that is appreciated or makes you happy with yourself.
- One's truthful work - is one's voice, that is one's vision in full display.

Zone V thanks Red for the profoundly inspiring session!

- By Arlene Donaire

(From page 1)

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4th Place DODIE LEGASPI

Infanticipation.

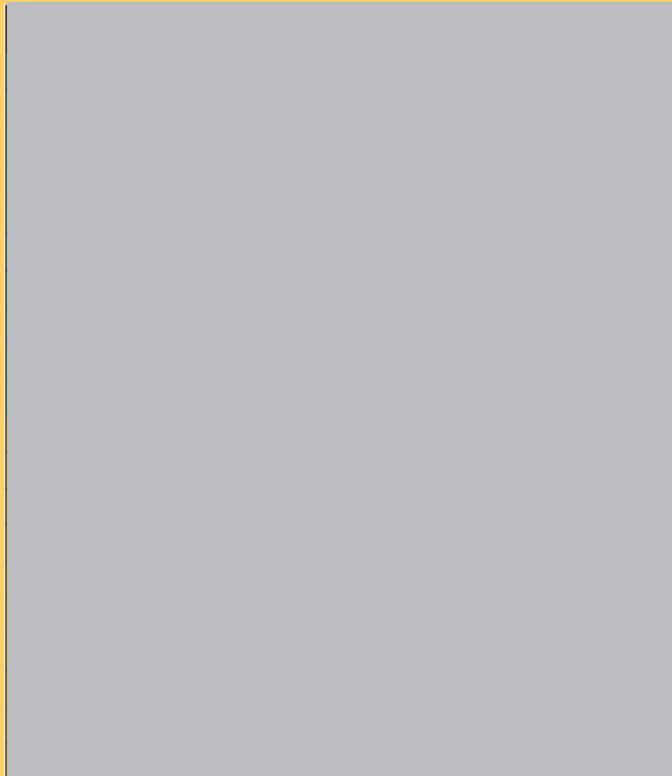


5th Place DODIE LEGASPI

The love of a couple as they wait for the newborn.

Photographer Of The Year

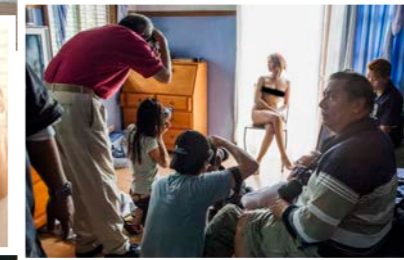
February Scores and Rankings



Photographer of the Month:
Dodie Legaspi
Members' Cup:
Angela Panlilio



Exposure Five is the official newsletter of Zone V Camera Club.
This publication is produced by the 2021 ZVCC Communications Committee: Willie de Vera, Arlene Donaire, Ris Orlina and Tony Rivera.
Adviser: Cynch Pagdilao





Z Academy Updates

Z Academy hosted two excellent seminars last January 21st and February 4th, bannered by two of the best in their respective fields in photography.

The first seminar on "The Essentials of Cinematic Effect Photo Editing" was conducted by no less than internationally renowned Indonesian master photographer and visual artist Rarindra Prakarsa. Streaming live from his home studio in Indonesia, Rarindra demonstrated his essential photo editing workflow, using Adobe Camera Raw and Photoshop, for achieving his signature "cinematic" images. In the seminar, Rarindra showed and explained how he thoughtfully and logically uses editing tools like global and local dodge & burn, sliders for highlights & shadows, color grading, and sharpening, to enhance a photo's ambience and focus on subject. The coaching session with Rarindra was especially appreciated by members, who have until then, not yet fully known how certain tools and sliders in the adobe editing apps can be used to create enhancements. The post-seminar excitement was palpable, with members gushing over how they picked up new inspiration and techniques to up their editing game. A simple online search for

Rarindra's works will reveal his mastery of transforming ordinary visuals of life into extraordinary, painting-like depictions. It is hard not to be amazed by the surrealist effect of his renditions.

The second seminar, "Beyond Ambient Light" was spearheaded by renowned wedding and portrait photographer, light master, and Sony brand ambassador



Jiggie Alejandrino, who did an on-the-spot demonstration at his home studio, on his basic techniques of portraiture lighting. Jiggie's impressive wedding portfolio has a strong following here and abroad because of the way he artfully and cleverly combines artificial and ambient lights to enhance the overall look and feel of his well-conceptualized shoots. Jiggie, who is also currently brand ambassador of Phottix pro and Zeiss camera lenses, has worked in many dreamy locations here and abroad for both pre-nup and wedding shoots. A visit to his website also feels like getting a glimpse of your travel bucket list. For the Z Academy seminar, Jiggie chose to do a live shooting cum image curating session, with his beautiful wife as the model. Jiggie clearly explained and showed various setups for bringing out the best in the subject, by using only one light.

Both virtual seminars were well attended by enthusiastic members, who showed their appreciation of the subject matters by actively participating in Q&A. The Z Academy, launched only this year, as a learning platform for Zone V members, has lined up many more seminars for the rest of the year, which are expected to be just as engaging and value adding to the members' skills arsenal.

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~ From the club handbook, updated by Arlene Donaire



