



Through the Lens of Time

Welcome to yet another creative challenge. Building upon the success of our previous challenge, "Emotion in Motion," which showcased some truly outstanding results, we embark on a journey that delves deep into the history of photography.

This challenge is a tribute to the rich heritage of photography, as we step back in time to the Victorian era where photography had begun.

It all started with a question: Shouldn't photography be regarded as a form of personal expression equal to other fine arts? This question, raised by Sir William John Newton in 1858, ignited a significant shift in the perception of photography as a purely technical medium to one of artistic potential.

Enter Pictorialism, the pioneering photography art movement that emerged in response to this question and those of many others questioning photography's place in the world of art.

Pictorialism emphasised the beauty, tonality, and composition of subjects over mere documentation of reality. In an era where photographic equipment and processes were still evolving, Pictorialists embraced the soft, dreamy aesthetic that naturally emerged from the limitations of the time.

In this challenge, we pay homage to the Pictorialist movement by capturing images that evoke its distinctive style. Think soft, almost melodramatic renditions with a strong connection to reality. We're not aiming for abstract photography; rather, we seek to recreate the historic charm of Pictorialism



Through the Lens of Time

GUIDELINES

Here are some guidelines to follow regarding this challenge:

- **Monochrome:** Embrace the timeless elegance of black and white photography for this challenge.
- **Colour Tone:** As an option, you may tone or split-tone with sepia, blue, or green to enhance the mood of your images. Format: Stick to horizontal or square formats, reminiscent of the Pictorialist era.
- **Grain / Noise:** Embrace grain and noise to evoke the authenticity of vintage photography.
- **Authentic Processing:** Approach post-processing and editing with the experimental spirit reminiscent of that of the Darkroom era, avoiding excessive manipulation or artistic layering.
- **Lens Capture:** This is a photography challenge, so entries must have been captured after the 11th of May 2024. We recommend that you shoot in Camera Raw to authenticate the date of capture if called to do so.
- **Soft Focus:** Explore soft focus techniques for that authentic Pictorialist look as per suggestions made in the video.
- **Historical:** Pay attention to your choice of locations, backgrounds, and settings to embrace a bygone era.

This challenge closes on the 9th of June '24 at 5 pm, and the Meet-up is on the 13th of June '24 at 7 pm CET / GMT+2. Remember, the joy of exploration and discovery should guide your creative journey. As Alfred Stieglitz aptly put it, "The great genius of those who have kept their childlike spirit and have added to it breadth of vision and experience.

Enjoy the challenge!