

Leaf Tailed Gecko, ©Sean Crane

Wednesday January 26: Showcase: Carlos L Esguerra, Sherry L Felix, and Louise Luger

Wednesday February 23: Sean Crane: Staying Inspired by Staying Put

Program Details

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 (7:00 pm - via Zoom) Showcase: Carlos Esquerra, Sherry Felix and Louise Luger

Three of our members share their stories and selections from their work. Each artist shares an introduction on the pages which follow.

Wednesday, February 23, 2022 (7:00 pm - via Zoom) Sean Crane

See Sean's presentation details and biography on Page 9.



Backlit Opossum, ©Sean Crane

Carlos L Esguerra: Sand Dunes as Inspiration

This is a presentation on how sand dunes inspired me into serious landscape photography and how I learned to practice a minimalist, zen-like approach to composition. I will present images from my two favorite national parks - White Sands in New Mexico and Death Valley in California.

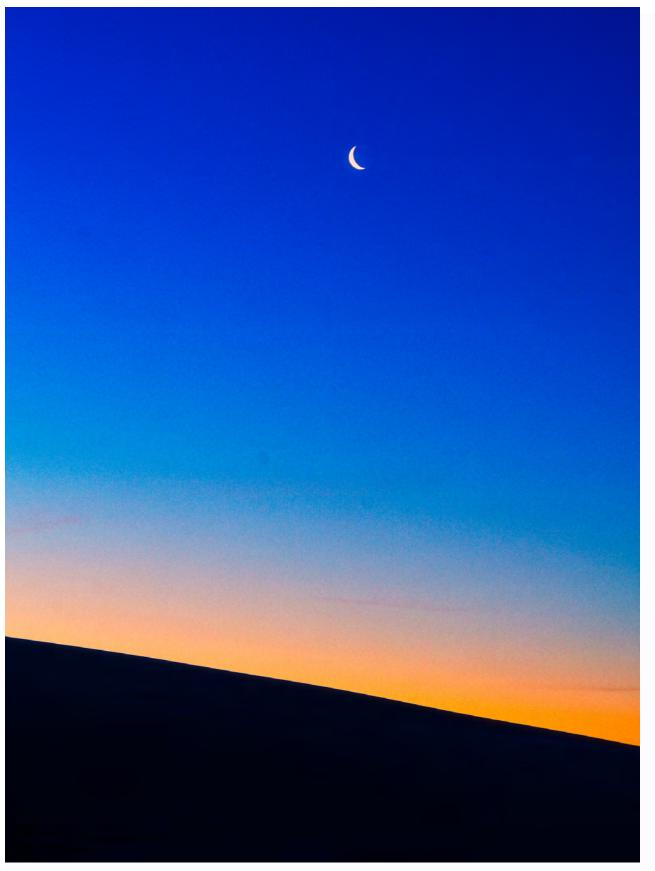
Carlos L. Esguerra was born in the Philippines and now lives in New York City. He was in the computer field for 36 years. He took early retirement from software company CLE Systems to devote his time to his rediscovered passion – photography. As a landscape and architecture photographer, he has received numerous national and international awards. In 2008, he received the *Pamana ng Pilipino* (Philippine Heritage) award, the highest honor given by the President of the Philippines to overseas Filipinos who excel in their fields of expertise. In 2011 he was awarded the *Ani ng Dangal* (Harvest of Honors) by the National Council on Culture and the Arts of the Philippines. In 2014, he received the *Distinguished Alumni Award in Culture and the Arts* from his alma mater, the University of the Philippines. In 2015, he received the Order of the Knights of Rizal - New York Chapter's *Award for Excellence in the Arts*.

WEBSITE: www.carlosesquerra.com

FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/carlos.esquerra.92



White Sands 1102-02 ©Carlos L Esguerra. A young yucca plant at White Sands National Park in New Mexico. (Hasselblad 500CM / Zeiss 80mm f2.8 lens; Fuji Velvia 50 film).



Moonrise at Death Valley-9304 (2014) ©Carlos L Esguerra. The full moon rising in Death Valley National Park. (Sony Nex-7 /E 18-200mm f3.5-6.3 OSS lens).

Sherry L Felix: Iceland, July 2021

I'll be leading you on a photographic tour of the Ring Road of Iceland. My husband Marc and I booked a self-guided tour in July of this year from *Guide to Iceland*. Each day was full to the brim with wonderful sights. The otherworldly scenery is like nothing I have ever seen, and the weather made it even more dramatic. I hope my photographs portray some of the feeling I had there.

I began working as an artist in the 60's. When I was a freelance fine artist, I sold my work to galleries in NYC (a small sample of my past artwork is at sherryfelix.com). One day I found I could no longer bear to work with the agents at the galleries! To embark on a new career, I went to college at Hunter and got a degree in geology and geography. I had planned to be an environmental educator. Instead, I found a job working as a cartographer and graphic designer using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and computer graphics in the environmental department of a large company in New York City. I'm now retired, and photography is my art.

For additional photos of Iceland see <u>port4u.net</u> under the category Iceland – port4u.



Iceland (2021) ©Sherry L Felix



Iceland (2021) ©Sherry L Felix

Louise Luger: Journeys Through the Local Landscape

The photographs in this presentation were taken on Staten Island, where Louise resides. Nicknamed "The Green Borough" (with 27% of the land in protected parks), this little green island has woodlands, hills, meadows, seaside shorelines, ponds and streams, wetlands and cliffs, and a bounty of wildlife. Louise photographs both the small (close-up) and large (scenic) landscapes; from milkweed seeds of angel hair, to stately trees hundreds of years old, to wide skies above tree framed lakes. Louise's photos will show that you don't have to leave NYC to delight in nature. (And Louise hopes to remind you that there are beautiful natural areas in every borough, including your own). Louise will also comment on photographic style, and some of her inspirations. Enjoy seeing the beautiful world of glacial ponds and free ranging deer, in photographs of our local natural treasures.

Louise Luger is a commercial and fine art photographer and photography instructor. She has taught at several venues, including the Staten Island Art School and John Campbell School in North Carolina. Her work has been exhibited in solo and group shows in galleries from NYC to Kyoto, Japan; and published in calendars, magazines and postcards. She has received a NYS Council on the Arts grant to photograph the beauty and ecology of a park in Staten Island. Her greatest joy in photography is strolling the natural world, camera in hand, while observing the play of light upon the landscape, as she strives to portray the tranquil and inspiring beauty of nature. Louise has been a member of the Sierra Club for over thirty years, and has served on the board of Sierra Photo NYC.

You can contact Louise through the Sierra Photo NYC Board.



Ferns ©Louise Luger



Milkweed Seeds ©Louise Luger

Sean Crane: Staying Inspired by Staying Put

Over the course of my career, I've photographed wildlife on every continent and in every US state. Discovering new and exotic lands, and the life that makes each place unique, is what I love most. But that all ended when the world went into lockdown in March of 2020. I had always wanted to get into camera trapping and if there was one silver lining to the pandemic, this was it. I ordered some equipment, read and watched lots of tutorials and got busy experimenting. Lucky for me, my wife and I had left the city in 2019 for a five-acre property in Connecticut. Discovering my own backyard has kept me inspired while I wait for things to return to some form of normalcy.

By day I'm a Chief Creative Officer for an advertising agency in Avon, Connecticut, but when I'm not convincing the world to buy things they may or may not need, I'm out photographing wildlife. I grew up in Connecticut and have also lived in Boston, Denver, New York, Detroit, New York again, and the back of a Subaru Outback. During my year in the car, I traveled to every U.S. state compiling images for my first book, American Hydrant, published by Santa Monica Press in 2004. My international travels have taken me to all seven continents where I've documented everything from the smallest of invertebrates to the largest of mammals. My work has appeared in magazines like *Outdoor Photographer*, *Popular Photography, Natural History Magazine, Shutterbug* and *Spa*, and has even made its way to Broadway, serving as a backdrop to the hit play *Impressionism*, starring Jeremy Irons and Joan Allen. I've received awards from the Smithsonian/Nature's Best, Communication Arts, Luerzer's Archive, the North American Nature Photographer's Association, the BBC, National Geographic, the Audubon Society, and the National Wildlife Federation. My images are licensed worldwide by Minden Pictures.

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Leatherback Hatchling ©Sean Crane

Member Outings

Fall outings are "meetup only" and accessible by public transportation. Should crowded situations arise, wear a mask to protect yourself and others. For winter outings, wear warm clothing (in layers). Leader: Charles Dexter, 917-593-8381, call until 10:30 pm.

January 20, Thursday (Meet 1:00 pm)

Battery Park, NY and Staten Island Ferry Round Trip

Explore Battery Park, lower Manhattan and ride the Staten Island Ferry out and back. Photograph late afternoon city skyline & harbor views. Meet 1:00 pm at the Netherland Monument, Battery Place and State Street, across the street from the Bowling Green Subway exit (4/5 train). Netherland Monument Google Map Link: https://goo.gl/maps/ogJv8pYxLEKypwVG8

Battery Park: https://www.thebattery.org

The Staten Island Ferry: https://www.siferry.com

February 17, Thursday (Meet 1:00 pm)

Roosevelt Island, NY and FDR Four Freedoms Park

Explore the southern half of Roosevelt Island, including the new Cornell Tech Campus. Photograph city skyline, Manhattan Bridge and river views. Meet outside Roosevelt Island Subway station exit (F train). Roosevelt Island (Wikipedia): https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roosevelt_Island FDR Four Freedoms Park Conservancy: https://www.fdrfourfreedomspark.org

Items of Interest

National Sierra Club members can view the online Winter issue of Sierra magazine and view a story by photographer Peter Mather and writer Emma Marris on the "Ice Bears" of the Yukon - a population of grizzlies pursuing very late-season salmon runs. https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/2021-6-winter

The Sierra Club Niagara Group is sponsoring a webinar covering the New York State environmental agenda for 2022 with Roger Downs, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, Conservation Director. WHEN: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 6:30 pm

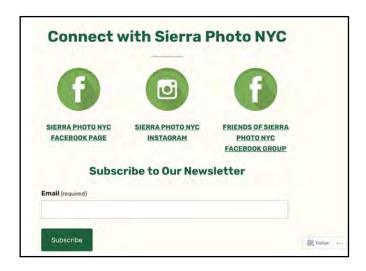
WHERE: Join virtually - Register Here

Member Peter Post presented on "Photographing Wildlife" to the Saw Mill River Audubon Society on November 11th. It can viewed on YouTube through the following link: https://youtu.be/9kwaKl2WZ_U

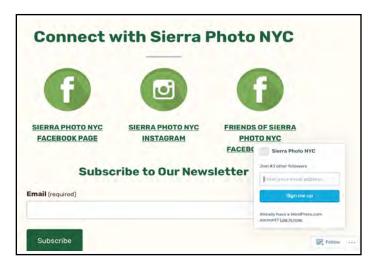


The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation advises us to avoid mishaps during winter outings by being prepared. See: https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28708.html

Follow the Sierra Photo NYC website...



Step 1: at the bottom of the home page, select the "follow" icon on the lower right (do not select the three dots next to the icon).



Step 2: enter your email address, click "sign me up", and respond to the confirmation email you will receive.

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To report changes in email address: sierraphotonyc@gmail.com

To send news of upcoming events, exhibits, and publications: annechamberlain@earthlink.net

Spring 2022 Meetings

At this time, meetings are planned to take place virtually. Schedule is subject to speaker availability.

- Wednesday, March 30
- Wednesday, April 27
- Wednesday, May 25
- Wednesday, June 29 (Members' Night)