

Our Town: Amarillo

Over 16,000 towns and 1,200 incorporated cities are listed in the Texas Almanac. The places are as varied as the Texas landscape. To celebrate the people and places of Texas, the Texas Photographic Society (TPS) will hold three sequential photographic workshops in designated cities. Each year, TPS plans to host 3 or more workshops in cities and small towns throughout the state.

Amarillo will host the first workshop series followed by Odessa and Longview. Each workshop will culminate with a traveling exhibition. We have also secured funding for a catalog of the Amarillo exhibition.

An Environmental Portrait & Lighting workshop and an Adobe Camera RAW workshop have been taught. Nine Francois, former instructor at Texas State University will lead her unique workshop on Discovering your Photographic Voice. Ms. Francois will be giving the participants assignments to photograph their own environment (in this case, the city of Amarillo and the near region) in their own personal style. Participants will be encouraged to photograph the people, places and things that make their city distinct from the other cities in Texas.

The strength of the Our Town project is Texans interpreting the uniqueness of their immediate area. Participants will be encouraged to take all three workshops, but this will not be necessary for inclusion in the exhibit/catalogue. The workshops will be held in the Photography Department at Amarillo College.

November 8 & 9 Nine Francois (Austin, Texas) Discovering Your Photographic Voice

Now that you are comfortable with your camera and you know how to take technically correct photographs of beautiful sunsets or of

special moments, have you ever wondered if there's more to photography than making pretty pictures? Have you ever dreamed of producing an extensive body of work about something that is directly and personally meaningful to you? Have you ever hoped to embark on a photo project that may someday turn into a book? Would you like to use photography to investigate and learn more about your family, your community, the culture and region you live in?

This workshop is designed to help you find and develop your "voice" in photography. Through visual exercises, photographic assignments, presentations, discussions, and critiques this



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workshop will help you see and understand how your images connect with one another and will help you

move in the direction of creating a thematic body of work that has meaning for you.

It will address questions like:

- How do my images connect? What are they really about?
- What am I trying to say?
- How can I talk about what's important to me through photography?
- What approach should I use to create this work?
- How do I get started on a meaningful project? What resources are available to me?

- What techniques are conducive to relaying my idea?
- How should I edit? How many prints should I aim for?
- What should the final project physically look like?
- What can I do with this project once it's complete? Who might be interested in publishing, exhibiting, buying this work?

Participants of all levels will benefit from this workshop, however, as it will not focus specifically on technical issues, participants will most benefit once they have a strong command of basic photographic technique (exposure, metering, depth-of-field, output, etc.) and are comfortable using their cameras. Also, photographers of every flavor – from digital documentarists to alternative process fine artists – are encouraged to participate. They will equally benefit in moving their work to the next level.

Nine Francois holds an MFA in photography from The University of Texas at Austin. Her work is internationally published and exhibited, and is included in numerous private and public collections.

Mrs. Francois taught photography in the Department of Art & Design at Texas State University and in the commercial photography program at Austin Community College. She's actively involved in various photography projects such as creating a writing and photography program for youth in east Austin, organizing exchange exhibitions between French and Texas photographers, and coordinating round-table discussions on photography. She's particularly attracted to the "language" of photography and how we use this to communicate ideas and sensibilities.)

Registration:

Please fill out this form and mail to:

Texas Photographic Society
6338 N. New Braunfels # 174
San Antonio TX 78209
fax: 210-822-8910

Workshop fee: \$ 125
Workshop limit 15

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE/ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____
WORK PHONE _____
EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Check one: Check _____
Visa _____ Mastercard _____
Credit Card # _____
Expiration date _____ Security Code _____
Signature _____