

Preview

Book review

Exposure

Digital Field Guide
By Alan Hess
Wiley Publishing, paperback,
268 pages, £13.99,
ISBN 978-0-470-53490-8

Alan Hess's latest guide really does cover the gamut on exposure techniques, quickly explaining the basics and then moving on to describe flash techniques and how to get the perfect histogram in any situation. The book includes a free tear-out grey/colour checker card, and what's more, its smaller size means you can stash it in your camera bag for those seemingly impossible moments when you need it most. There are flashier guides out there that might go into more depth, but at this size and this price Hess's book is a real bargain. **Jeff Meyer**



Your guide to the latest photography books, exhibitions and websites

Exhibition

Jane Bown

Until 5 April
Bookshop Gallery, National Portrait
Gallery, St Martin's Place, London
WC2H 0HE. Open Mon-Wed and
Sat-Sun 10am-6pm, Thurs-Fri 10am-
9pm. Tel: 0207 306 0055. Website:
www.npg.org.uk. Admission free

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Jane Bown's work with *The Observer* and the release of a new book, the National Portrait Gallery is displaying a series of 15 of her most iconic portraits.

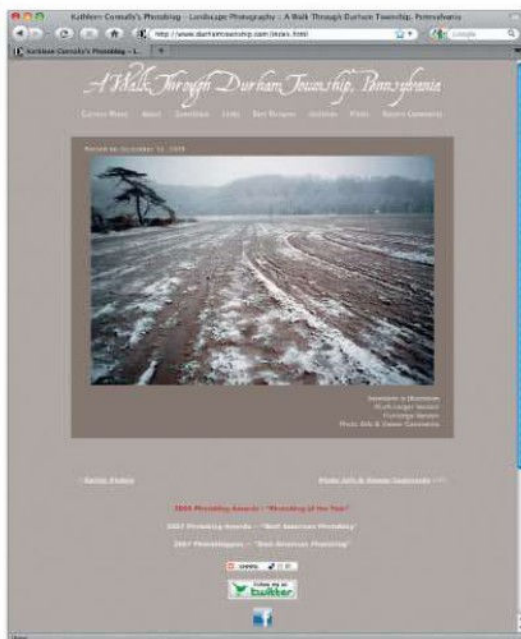
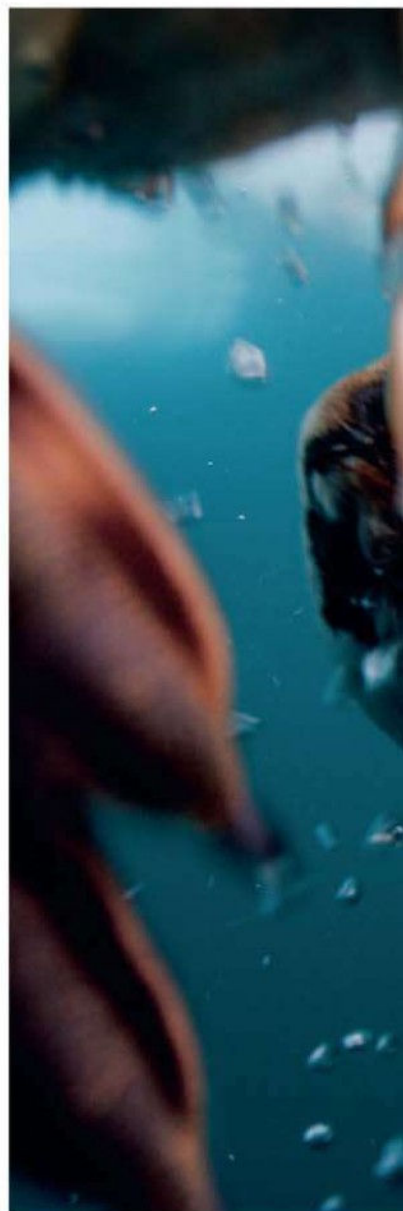
The series is meant to illustrate

the longevity of Bown's career and features some of her most notable images, such as portraits of Bertrand Russell published in *The Observer* in 1949 (see below), Samuel Beckett (1976) and a portrait of the Queen from 2006.

Known for her simple use of natural lighting and candid style, the classics on display at the NPG not only demonstrate why Bown is a master of her craft, but also that great pictures can be found in last-minute assignments, rushed interviews, poorly lit rooms and just about anywhere so long as you're open-minded enough to look for them. **Jeff Meyer**



MADE IN THE UK



Website

www.durhamtownship.com

On 3 January 2003, Kathleen Connally started a photoblog in order to become a better photographer. The project was simple: 'To visually document the residents, visitors, plants, animals, architecture, landscapes and farm life of Durham Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania (where I live), and nearby areas in Pennsylvania and New Jersey,' she writes. Seven years later, she is still going strong and her site has become an internet phenomenon, winning the Photoblog of the Year 2008 title in the international Photoblog Awards.

People love this site for its simplicity – all photos are taken within a ten-mile radius of Kathleen's home – but there is also an undeniable amount of camera wizardry on display here. No subject or genre escapes Kathleen's Canon EOS 5D (be sure to read her timeline of camera ownership), while her use of natural light and eye for candid moments is spectacular. She just straddles that line between boldness and subtlety. In 100 years, Kathleen's archive will serve as a truer record of small-town life at the turn of this century more than any newspaper or history text could ever hope to do. **Jeff Meyer**

