HDR

Kanata Seniors Camera Club
HDR presentation december 2, 2011

TODAY'S BATTING ORDER

- Disclaimers

- What The HDR Acronym Stands For

- An Overview Of The In-Camera Process

- The Post Production Process Overview

- HDR Software Primer

- Hints And Tips From My Meagre Experience

- The Final Product - The "Eye Candy"

- Q & A To Follow Presentation - I'll Do "The Best I Are!"

Disclaimers

- I'm A HDR User - NOT An Expert!

- I'm Actually A Technology Dummy

- Q & A Will Likely Have "I Don't Knows"

- There's Many A Way To Skin An HDR Cat

Despite All That, Even I Find It Pretty Easy :>)

Saturday, December 3, 2011

HIGH DYNAMIC RANGE

H is for High

D is for Dynamic

R is for Range

A Technical Definition

"HDR Is A Set Of Techiques That Allows A Greater *DYNAMIC RANGE* Between The Lightest And Darkest Areas Of An Image Than Current Standard Digital Imaging Techniques Or Photographic Methods"

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In-Camera Process

- Usually, No Camera Movement Is Imperative

- Read Tripod, No Wind, No Vibration And Cable Release

- No Movement In The Scene Either *

- Use Of Autobracket Feature

- Select # Of Images And EV increments **

  * Exception: Water Movement Works

  ** Change Shutter Speeds _NOT_ Aperture!

Use Of Autobracket

- With My D300, Depress The Fn Button And Rotate The Main Command And Sub-Command Dials

- Choose The Number Of Shots - With My D300, Choices Are 3, 5, 7 or 9

- Choose The Exposure Value (EV) Change Increments - With My D300, Choices Are 0.3, 0.7 or 1.0

- EV Alterations _MUST_ Be In Shutter Speed Only - _NOT_ Aperture Changes - So Shooting Mode Needs To Be Aperture Priority Or Manual Only - _NOT_ Program, Auto Or Shutter Speed Priority

- When You're Finished Your Shooting, _**DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR AUTOBRACKET FEATURE OFF**_ - With My D300, I Reset The Number Of Shots To 0 To Deactivate The Autobracket Feature

Post Production Work

- Some Type Of HDR Software Is Needed - Launch It

- Select The Image(s) To Be Imported

- "Twiddle The Dials" For Desired "Look" - (The "Dials" Are Actually Sliders)

- Create The HDR File

- Further Editing In "Standard" Software

What The Sliders Alter

- Strength
- Colour Saturation
- Luminosity
- Microcontrast
- Micro Smoothing

- Shadows Clipping
- White/Black/ Gamma Points
- Colour Temperature
- Shadow Saturation

HDR Software Primer

- I'm Told HDR Files Can Be Produced Via One Image In Adobe CS5 *

- I Believe In 99% Of Cases, Multiple Images Are Involved

- I Have Only Used Photomatix But There Is Other HDR SW Packages Too - NIK EFEX Pro, HDR Darkroom, Topaz Adjust To Name Some

- I Hear NIK Is Terrific For "Standard" Black & White As Well As HDR

- $50 - $250 Range **_BUT_** Free Thirty Day Trials On Some Software

- Most HDR Software Is PC Based Only; Photomatix Good For Mac Too

* I'm Told CS5 HDR Processing Is Complicated And Labour Intensive

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Hints And Tips

- HDR Works Best In High Contrast Scenes

- Dramatic Skies And Wide Angle Work Well

- Autobracketing Feature *REALLY* Helps!

- Fast Shutter Speeds, Low ISO If Possible

- Less Images Better Than More For Me

- EV Increments Depends On Contrast Levels

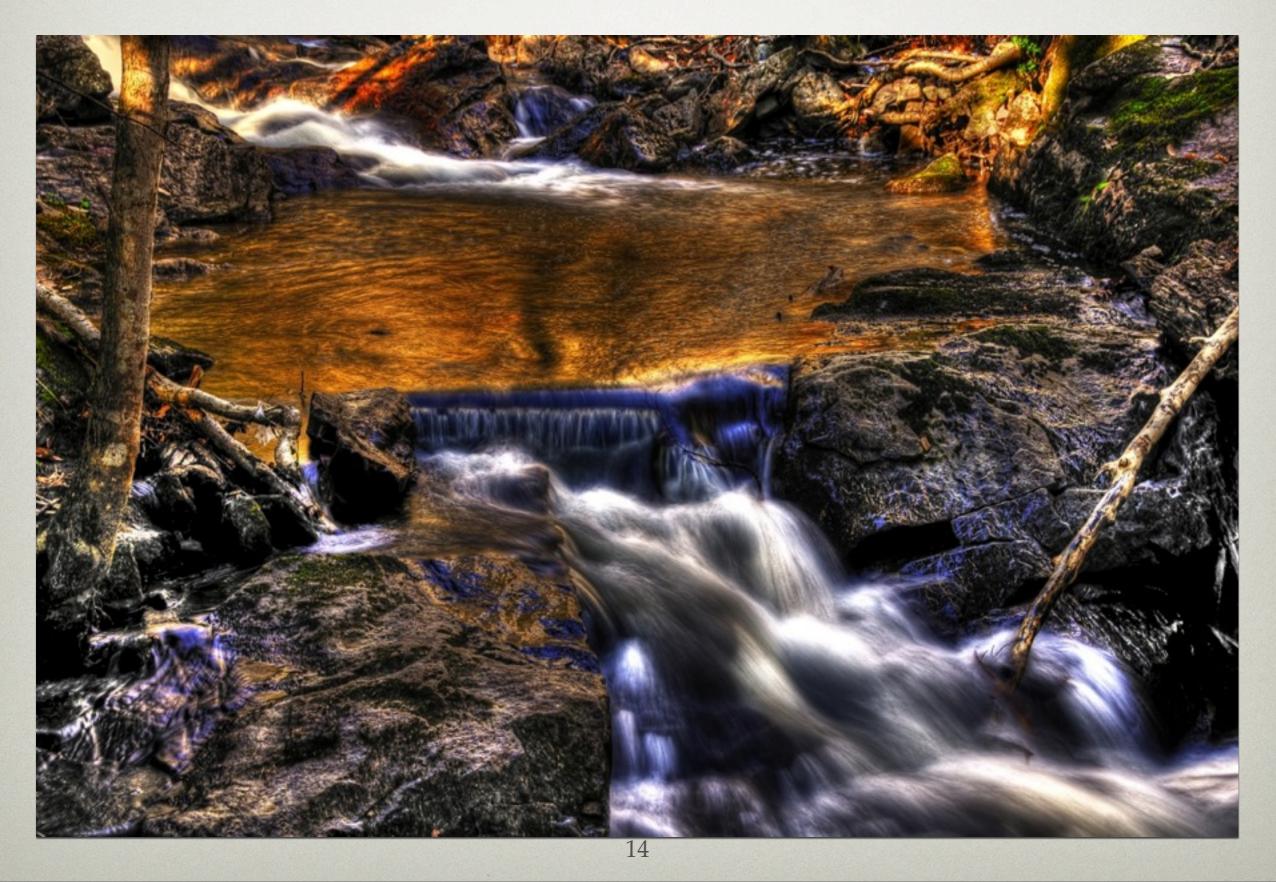- Use Of The "One Finger Salute"

5 Images .7 EV Increments

The Final Product

Water Movement Works

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A More Psychotic Look

A Painterly Look

Painterly Look Again

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Big Contrast Landscape

Provides Dimentional Depth

Accents Vibrant Colour

Adds Cityscape Drama
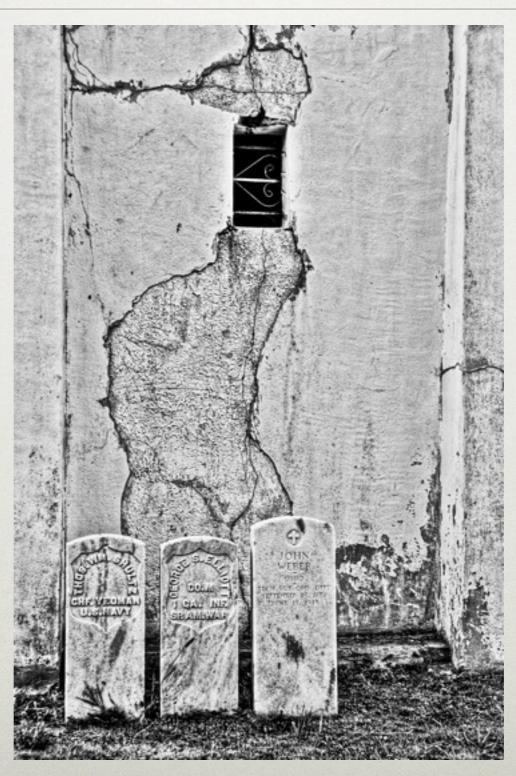
Stunning Detail Crispnesss

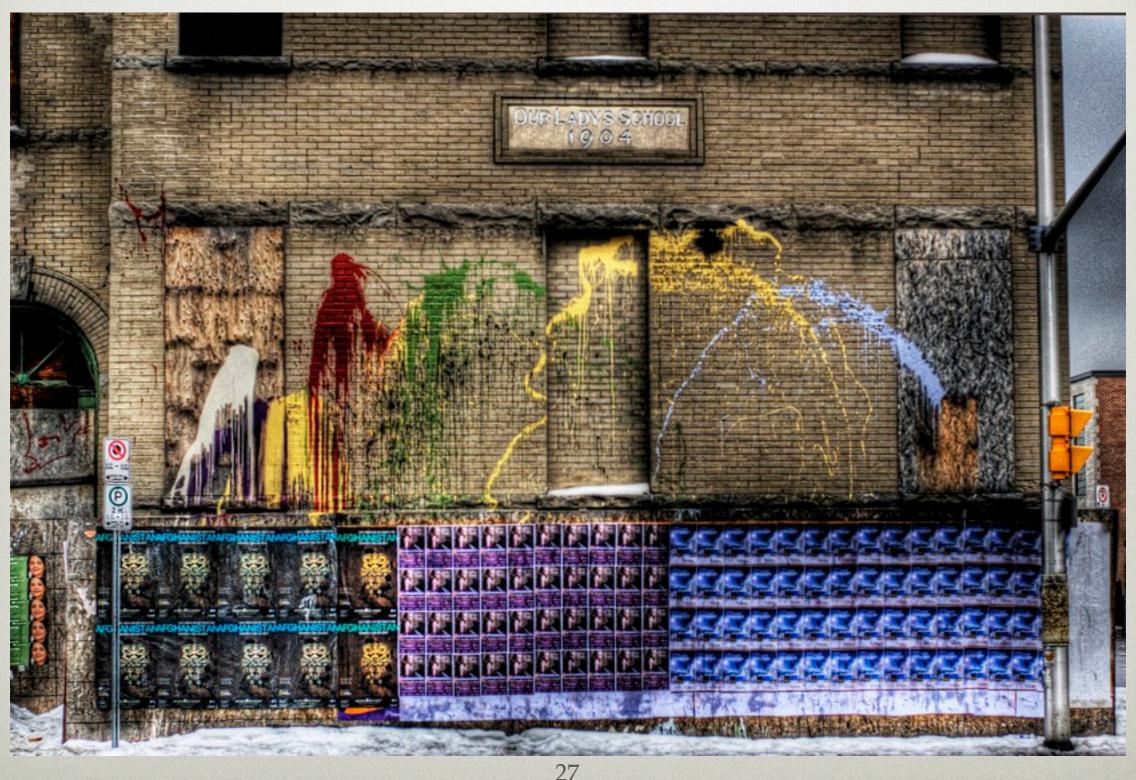# Cloud Movement Example

White Balance Can Still Be Altered

Black And White Conversion Still works

I Thought You Said "No Movement"

Compositional Guidelines Still Apply

Thanks For Your Interest

Might There Be Any Questions?

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