



# VIEW MASTERS

These three new talents prove that classical landscape photography is alive and well and living on the Web

BY RUSSELL HART



► Sometimes it seems as if pure landscape photography is a dying art. People and the places where they live hold sway as photographic subject matter, and even the most depopulated views focus on the effects of human intervention and environmental abuse in the landscape. That isn't the case on Flickr, though, where landscape for landscape's sake is thriving. So for this issue's installment of the Flickr Creative Showcase, we bring you three of our favorite landscape photographers now sharing their work on the website. And remember that there are more where these came from.

Landscapes from Flickr, top to bottom: Katarina Stefanović's fairytale take on Switzerland's Rochers-de-Naye, shot with a Nikon F80 and 24-120mm Nikkor zoom on Kodacolor 200 film; Joel Tjintjelaar's austere interpretation of the North Sea, shot with a Canon EOS 400D and 10-24mm Tamron zoom with a neutral density filter at an exposure of 210 seconds at f/22 (ISO 100); Jim Patterson's lush view of the California coast near Santa Cruz, shot with a Nikon D300 and 12-24mm Nikkor zoom with a graduated neutral-density filter at an exposure of ½ second at f/13 (ISO 100).



TOP TO BOTTOM: ©KATARINA STEFANOVIĆ; ©JOEL TJINTJELAAR; ©JIM PATTERSON





Shot at two different beaches in the same coastal enclave near Santa Cruz, California, Jim Patterson's two views show yet again that photographic subjects are wide-open to interpretation. When Patterson was photographing the rock wedge, above left, the sun had set and the clouds lacked color, so he converted the image to black and white with Nik Silver Efex Pro software. The color scene, left, had such an extreme brightness range that Patterson shot three bracketed exposures and then used Photoshop to manually blend a darker exposure for the sky with brighter ones for the rocks and beach.



## CLOSE-UP

### JIM PATTERSON

Hometown: Santa Cruz, CA

Camera: Nikon D300

Flickr member since: 2006

Website:

[jimpattersonphotography.com](http://jimpattersonphotography.com)

# WAVE ACTION

Underwater photographer Jim Patterson goes topside

► From his work as a scuba outfitter and as a frequent diver, Jim Patterson knows that the landscape beneath the waves can be just as beautiful, in its gnarly way, as the one above. Indeed, he has been photographing underwater since 2001. It was a little more than a year ago that Patterson started shooting on relatively dry land — and yet he has produced the spectacular marine views you see here.

Either way, why does Patterson prefer to shoot landscapes — or in his case, seascapes — over other kinds of subject matter? “Because it is a meditative, relaxing experience,” says the Santa Cruz, California-based photographer. “Tuning in to the details of a scene such as the angle of the light, the movement of the waves and the balance of elements is much more rewarding for me.”

Patterson credits both Flickr and digital photography for his

accelerated learning. “I did shoot film seriously for about three years before switching to digital,” he says. “But with film, the time-intensive process of getting images from camera to computer was always a roadblock to shooting and editing. Digital has helped me improve my work, because it gives me much faster feedback, and feedback while I’m still on location.”

He feels likewise about Flickr. “It’s definitely a great way to learn when other photographers offer their thoughts on your images,” he says. “And I’ve found that many photographers are willing to share tips and processing techniques.” Other Flickr photographers Patterson admires include Chip Phillips and Stephen Oachs, as well as Patrick Smith, whose work we featured in our “12 Flickr Superstars” issue (May/June ’09). What goes around comes around. **AP**



## OVER HILL, OVER DALE

The dream world of Katarina Stefanović

►An engineer by day, Katarina Stefanović was seduced by photography's charms when she spruced up her family home with prints of her travel pictures. "I discovered through visitors' reactions that the photos could be more than decorations on a wall," says Stefanović. "So I got myself busy and made a portfolio." She showed the portfolio to photographer friends, who encouraged her to exhibit the work. But she needed more "affirmation," so Stefanović joined Flickr. And she soon took on a major photographic project: permanently installing her prints in a hospital in her native Belgrade. "I had to gather as much courage as I could to do it," she says.

Stefanović's photographs seem the perfect remedy for a hospital environment. Their intense color and extraordinary landforms transport the viewer to a dreamy, beautiful place. "I want the viewer to go into that world and explore, to feel that he or she is on the spot where the picture was taken," she says. In fact, that world is often quite close to home, with many of her photographs made in the nearby Pannonian Plain. "You could live your whole life within a 50-kilometer ring around Belgrade and always find landscapes worth photographing," she says.

Unlike most of her fellow Flickr-ites, Stefanović still shoots film, though she scans it and uses image-editing tools to manipulate shapes and colors. "I remain faithful to my old 35mm SLR," she says. And film's more-deliberative demands seem suited to her attitude about photography. "I take pictures when I feel like it," she says, "out of pure pleasure." **AP**

The idyllic, fantastic quality of Katarina Stefanović's Serbian landscapes is at odds with the memory of recent war in the region. "Over the Mountains and the Sea," above right, was shot in southern Serbia. "Blonde," below right, was taken north of Belgrade in the Pannonian Plain, where an ancient sea sculpted wavelike contours into the land. Both images were made on Kodacolor 200 film with a Nikon F80.



### CLOSE-UP

#### KATARINA STEFANOVIĆ

**Hometown:** Belgrade, Serbia

**Camera:** Nikon F80 (Nikon N80 in U.S.)

**Flickr member since:** 2007

**Flickr page:** flickr.com/photos/jup3nep