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Bruce Presents

Astrophotography: The Art of Place in Space



Carina Nebula, Photo by NASA's James Webb Telescope

GREENWICH, CT, October 25, 2022—The night sky has long held us captive with its beauty and wonders, only to disappear with the coming of the sun. But photography, beginning with the first pictures of the Moon in the 1800's, has enabled us to see into the dark reaches of space, capturing a moment that can be shared anytime. Advances in photographic technologies have given way to Astrophotography, the imaging of astronomical objects, celestial events, or areas of the night sky. Modern Astrophotography is not only dazzling to behold, but also provides important data and research support on objects invisible to the human eye such as dim stars, nebulae, or galaxies. On Thursday, November 3rd, at 6PM EST, a panel of photographers will share the stunning results of what happens when art and science collide. *Bruce Presents Astrophotography: The Art of Place in Space* is a webinar that will be moderated by Bruce Presents Co-Host Leonard Jacobs, and the panel will include:

Benjamin Barakat, an award-winning night sky photographer whose images have been featured by the likes of Forbes, CNN, BBC, Vice, National Geographic & many more. He is Milky Way Photographer of the year in 2021 & 2022, and in 2021 was shortlisted for the most prestigious night sky competition: Astronomer Photographer of the year hosted by the Royal Observatory of Greenwich & BBC in the United Kingdom. Benjamin currently runs photography tours internationally taking people to the darkest of skies & less frequently visited places. Additionally, he is a researcher at the highest observatory in Europe, The Sphinx Observatory located 3571m above sea level. There Benjamin researched the development of Light Pollution.



Adam Block, who developed the public observing programs at Kitt Peak National Observatory (1996-2005). Later he founded the Mount Lemmon SkyCenter (2007) at the University of Arizona, which uses 24-inch and 32-inch telescopes for public outreach. He currently continues to work in the Department of Astronomy at the University of Arizona. Adam's images are used as references by amateurs and professional researchers alike. The Space Telescope Science Institute, Chandra Observatory, Spitzer, and many observatories around the world have used his images for various purposes. The images have also appeared in Nature, Time, and National Geographic magazines, and other popular astronomy literature. Some of his work has permeated into worldwide popular culture, being featured as cover art for Dance/Electonica musical artist Paul van Dyk, and sold on high-quality silk scarves in Europe. He has discovered asteroids, a supernova, and a galactic star stream. Adam was a columnist for Astronomy Magazine, an AIC Hubble award recipient, is currently a PixInsight Ambassador and is also an AIC Board Member. In his off-time, Adam is a competitive Table Tennis player.





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Monika Deviat, a photographer who is best known for her distinctive and award-winning landscape and nightscapes. She is driven to capture unique scenes under the night sky and inspire a sense of wonder, especially in those who cannot see the stars where they live. Her creative ideas often take her on solo adventures in the Canadian Rockies at night. Monika's photography does not fit into a single niche, though. She is also a concert, portrait, and commercial photographer, a dynamic workshop leader, speaker, and writer based in Alberta.



László Francsics is an architect, Doctor of Liberal Arts, internationally awarded astrophotographer and the chairman of the Hungarian Astrophotographers' Association. He lives and works in Budapest, completed his DLA doctoral thesis in architecture in 2021, which examines the relationship between man and the cosmos. His photography oscillates between astronomical and artistic themes. He was the overall winner of the 2019 IAPY competition.





Wally Krause, a self-taught amateur astronomer with 50 years of practical ‘backyard’ experience in deep sky, planetary and solar observing. His life-long interest in astronomy was sparked in 1972 after observing Jupiter through a neighbor’s homemade telescope. A year later, Wally built his own 10” Newtonian ‘reflector’ telescope! That initial experience created his passion for sharing astronomy with others, delivering diverse outreach programs at libraries, state parks, research observatories... even co-facilitating hands-on science classes at neighboring middle schools. As a member of the Northwest Suburban Astronomers Club since 1985, Wally has been charged with producing both virtual and in-person Astronomy Day events for the local community college. His current interests are sweeping the night sky with his giant 5” binoculars, observing solar prominences and flares in hydrogen alpha light using a tunable Fabre-Perot interferometer, and deep sky astrophotography. Wally is retired from the tech industry where he created and facilitated programs to onboard, train, and develop leadership skills for technical sales, design architects, field engineers, and project managers.



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About the New Bruce

Located in Bruce Park overlooking Greenwich Harbor, the Bruce Museum is a community-based, world-class institution that offers a changing array of exhibitions and educational programs to promote the understanding and appreciation of art and science.

For over a century the Bruce Museum has delighted and engaged its visitors by presenting exceptional exhibitions in art, science, and the intersections between the two disciplines. Ahead of its time when textile merchant Robert Moffat Bruce (1822-1909) conceived of the museum and bequeathed the building to the Town of Greenwich in 1908, the Museum is at the heart of contemporary efforts to bring together art and science, technology and creativity, creating moments of discovery and dialogue. The first exhibition at the Bruce Museum took place in 1912 and featured works by local artists known as the Greenwich Society of Artists, several of whom were members of the Cos Cob Art Colony. Their works formed the nucleus of the Museum's art holdings and continue to be a strength of a collection which has grown to focus on global art from 1850 to the present. Other strengths include Ancient Chinese sculpture, Native American Art, the Hudson River School, modernist works on paper, and photography. Over the years, the community, through its generosity, has built the Museum's varied collection to nearly 25,000 objects. Early Museum directors pursued a parallel development of the natural sciences, building strengths in the mineral and avian collections.



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In 2019, the AAM-accredited Museum broke ground on its current expansion project, which will take the building from 33,000 to over 70,000 square feet. The New Bruce will feature state-of-the-art exhibition, education, and community spaces, including: a changing gallery for art and five new permanent galleries in the new William L. Richter Art Wing; a changing gallery for science; a new permanent science exhibition, Natural Cycles Shape Our Land; three new classrooms in the Steven and Alexandra Cohen Education Wing; and a bistro, an auditorium, and grand hall. The new building connects the Museum to its picturesque setting in Bruce Park in a dramatic new way. The New Bruce campus will feature a sculpture-lined, landscaped walking path and inviting spaces for relaxation and contemplation—natural enhancements to Bruce Park and an anchoring connection to the retail hub of Greenwich Avenue. The grand opening of the New Bruce is planned for spring of 2023.

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