PCQC Video Presentation

Fundamentals of Travel Photography by Bob Krist—National Geographic

Lesson 7: On location in San Miguel de Allende

In previous lessons we have learned how to create good images that capture spirit and convey story. Now let's follow Bob Krist around San Miguel de Allende to see how it's done in the field!

- **Example Photograph: Matador**
    - The matador's preparation for a bullfight was captured. Here the matador is standing, saying a rosary. The shot is upwards from below, giving the matador prominence and stature.
- **Example Photographs: Dancers**
    - The Concheros dance portrays pre-Columbian indigenous dances and rituals mixed with some Catholic traditions. Conquistadors found it easier to convert populations if they mixed the religious traditions. The first photographs are scene-setting, done with video and still.
    - A rooftop provides a platform for an elevated shot of the scene.
    - The photographer used fast shutter speeds to freeze the action and get his initial shots He then experimented with slower shutter speeds and panning. Caution, most scenes done this way do not look good.
- **Example Photograph: Sunshine**
    - Bright sunshine poses problems. Ideally, it's not wise to shoot at noon.
    - In this shot, the flags and shadow patterns provide interest and leading lines. Waiting for some people to show up adds some interest and sense of the moment.
- **Example Photograph: Late Afternoon**
    - A wide-angle composition captures late afternoon cloud formations, a flock of flying pigeons, and an illuminated foreground.
- **Example Photograph: Twilight**
    - The photographer came back to the late afternoon location at twilight. The resulting shot is moody with a different color palate. The running girl and the pigeon on the head of General Allende give a sense of moment.
    - The photographer also shot the skyline and the iconic Parroquia de San Miguel Arcangel at twilight.

Exercises

- Travel to a location and try shooting it following Bon Krist's general approach outlined above.