

Nick Rains & Pieter de Vries DSLR Video Workshop

"Understanding basic issues such as getting the best coverage, dynamic camera angles, meaningful camera moves, when to use a tripod and being aware of screen direction, will all help make your video work stand out from the pack and ultimately give you a better final product"

Pieter de Vries ACS

Day One

9.00 Introduction to the weekend seminar, what we will be covering and what you will have learned by the end.

9.30 - 11.00 identifying the common ground in stills and video

- Porting your existing skills to DSLR **video** - defining this common ground
- **Integrating** moving images into your stills photography - how, why & techniques
- Explanation of the basic **controls** of the DSLR's menus, LiveView, manual exposure and using the levels display
- Using the **Image Styles** in the camera to produce a flat negative to allow easy post work
- Effective **time-lapse** in stills and video mode
- Both ends of the spectrum - how to shoot **great** DSLR video without spending up big

11.30 - 1.00 Taking control

- How to be in command of your video images - learning how to manage consistent **exposure** from clip to clip
- Understanding why the **shutter speed** influences your video images - the shutter "speed-traps"
- Uniform **colour balance** done right - there is no raw file to get you out of trouble so setting a white balance is critical
- **Focus** - working with DSLR video mode limitations plus tips and gadgets to make it easier to keep things sharp

2.00 - 3.30 Telling the story on video

- Having a **clear** idea of what the final piece will look like - why are you shooting, what do you want to say
- Exploring the **influence** of moving HD images
- Shooting great **sequences** with the edit in mind
- Finding **diverse** camera angles

4.00 - 5.30 Telling the story on video (continued)

- How to pan, **reveal**, and embrace in-shot wipes
- Using **selective** focus in sequences
- How to create handy **edit** points in-camera
- how to **vary** the shots in order to tell the story

Day Two

9.00 - 10.30 Lenses, accessories, filters, tripods etc.

- The power of mixing lens **perspectives** with your video
- Using **Neutral** Density filters - why ND's are essential in video shooting
- Using ND grads for contrast **control**, skies - there is no multi exposure layer tricks like in stills
- Using a DSLR on a **tripod** - demos of different tripod heads - why using a dedicated stills tripod may not be helpful - lots to see and try here

11.00 - 12.30 Editing Tools

- A brief overview of **editing** tools and a quick look at FCP, iMovie, After Effects and Premier Pro
- Video **codecs** and web output for Vimeo and YouTube

1..30 - 3.00 Advanced filming methods.

- Screen **continuity** - crossing the line and being aware of screen direction
- Avoiding basic shooting errors - 24/25fps, overshooting, fast panning, zooming and **focus** pitfalls
- Setting the camera for **rigging** shots - shooting video in and around moving vehicles

3.30 - 5.00 Sound - advice and techniques

- A session with **sound** expert Ross Boyer from Lemac Film and Video
- How to get the best sound - the DSLR's weak spot and what you will need to fix it
- A demo of optional sound add-ons like a **mixer** and the split stereo connector trick to enable two mono mikes
- Discover the value of **listening** as you shoot
- Background **Music** - importance thereof, legalities and where to get it