



Simon: Passionate Photographer _p1

Steve Simon

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If you've got a love and passion for photography, and a feel for your camera gear and settings, yet your images still fall short "The Passionate Photographer" will help you close that disappointing and frustrating gap between the images you thought you took and the images you actually got.

This book will help you determine what you want to say with your photography, then translate those thoughts and feelings into strong images. It is both a source of inspiration and a practical guide, as photographer Steve Simon distills 30 years of photographic obsession into the ten crucial steps every photographer needs to take in order to become great at their passion.

Simon's practical tips and advice are immediately actionable designed to accelerate your progress toward becoming the photographer you know you can be. Core concepts include:

- The power of working on personal projects to fuel your passion and vision
- Shooting a large and targeted volume of work, which leads to a technical competence that lets your creativity soar
- Learning to focus your concentration as you shoot, and move outside your comfort zone, past your fears toward the next great image
- Strategies for approaching strangers to create successful portraits
- How to edit your own work and seek second opinions to identify strengths and weaknesses, offering opportunities for growth and improvement with a goal of sharing your work with the world
- The critical need to follow, see, and capture the light around you

Along the way, Simon offers inspiration with Lessons Learned culled from his own extensive experience and archive of photojournalism and personal projects, as well as images and stories from acclaimed photographers. If you're ready to be inspired and challenge yourself to take your photography to the next level, "The Passionate Photographer" provides ideas and creative solutions to transform that passion into images that convey your unique personal vision.

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Simon: Passionate Photographer _p1 Details

Date : Published July 30th 2011 by New Riders Publishing (first published November 12th 2010)

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Author : Steve Simon

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Michael Tapp says

Not only a great photographer, but Steve Simon is also a great writer. This book shows you a way to chart a plan to becoming a stronger photographer. The book is geared to documentary photogs, but I think it's still really informative for pictorialists since the book is really about setting goals.

JW says

Although I didn't pick up anything really new I did hear valid and useful information in a new way and from someone whose passion speaks to me. Simon knows his craft and knows how to relate passion and excellence to someone willing to receive it. For me, this book ranks with the Vision series by David DuChemin. It will certainly become dog-eared over time from reference.

Bader says

It's a passionate book by a a passionate photographer. I recommend it for all photographers or photographers to-be.

Sergey says

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Ceethreedom says

A Must Read

I found myself in a big giant hole of a rut, photographically speaking, and this book was EXACTLY what I needed to pull myself out of it. Even if you're a seasoned pro, there is much to learn!

Steve Losh says

A pretty good book. It's pretty heavily skewed toward photojournalism (there's large sections about shooting strangers, for example), but this isn't necessarily a bad thing even if that's not your style.

There's also some practical gems hidden here and there, like a way to manage autofocus that I tried and ended up sticking with because it works so well.

I took off one star because the book does sound start to sound dangerously close to a feel-good self-help book in parts. But there's still a lot of good stuff in it, so as long as you take it with a grain of salt you'll be fine.

Benjamin Sendrow says

This is not an introduction to photography. It assumes you have mastered the basics and know how to operate your equipment. Simon lays out a plan for becoming a better, more artistic photographer. If that is what you want, this book is outstanding.

Rasha Yousif says

This is the best investment you can make as a photographer whether you just bought your first camera or you are already on your way to becoming a full time photographer. I was lucky enough to attend Steve Simon's the passionate photographer workshop in Dubai and reading this book I could relate to Steve's stories and advices. The book is written in a very clear language (no complicated stuff here!). Steve walks the readers through the 10 steps to becoming a great photographer. It just makes sense to follow those 10 steps as an exercise to develop your style. I made so many notes and I intend to read this book again when I feel uninspired and be back on track!

Pat Loughery says

This was an excellent text -focused on strategically and intentionally improving as a photographer. From technique, vision, business, education, and many other perspectives, I have a better idea of what I need to do in my photography work. This came along at the right time for me.

Gaston Lacombe says

Great books for all photographers - beginners and not-so-beginners. Reviews things which for photographers are really quite basic, but that are often overlooked, set aside, forgotten or ignored. It helps to bring better perspective to who you are as a photographer and how you can get better at it, more psychologically than simply technically. A great tool for photographers going through "photographer's block", looking for ways to re-ignite the career and the passion.

John says

I'm totally inspired. Basic message - get out and shoot pictures to learn technically and discovery your photographic passion. Tomorrow I'll make a list of photo projects.

Jabali Sawicki says

One the best books on photography I've read. Clear, relevant, informative, practical, and inspiring. A lot of good gems in here for anybody thinking of taking their photography to the next level. Will definitely come back to this often.

Cat says

Simon as a super, enthusiastic approach to photography and the ability to laugh at his own early - and not-so-early - mistakes. I liked his 'ten steps' and the way they are laid out in a logical hierarchy of skills.

Unfortunately for me, a film photographer, the bulk of the book's technical advice was strongly aimed at those with digital cameras and much of it didn't translate. If you're a digital photographer, this an informative and accessible 4 star book; if you're a film user, take his general advice, enjoy his friendly attitude to newbies and find a film-specific technical resource.

Casey says

This is the book I open up when I am feeling stuck, lazy, or complacent with my camera. It's a well-written, enthusiastic kick in the pants. I find it very refreshing to read a long-time photographer who, rather than grumbling about the age of digital photography killing the art and requiring no skill, thinks we are in a new golden age of the medium, as digital technology and availability expands experimentation and growth in photography.

Deb says

I wish I had found this book 3 years ago when I started my college photog classes. I think it should be a "must read" for all first level digital photography courses.

One to be kept for future reference and inspiration.
