

CAPTURED MOMENTS WITH INSPIRED JOURNALING

LIFE IMAGES™

by *Joanne Usher*

READERS' PHOTOS

Inspired by Color

INNER VISION

Extraordinary Images
from Blind Photographers

ALTERED EXPRESSIONS

*A Gallery of
Digital Effects*

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A Stampington & Company Publication



Oh, Possum!

Samara Iodice
Ventura, California

In the beginning, she came only in the dead of night, leaving no trace except an unusually barren bowl of dog kibble the following morning. Her visits became more frequent and more blatant as she crept through the dog door in the early evenings, following a path in front of the glowing television, and watching patiently as the elderly border collie scratched around on an over-stuffed dog bed in preparation for evening slumber. After the dog drifted into an intense dream state marked by frantically kicking limbs, the night visitor crawled past the snorting,

twitching nose en route to the crunchy delicacies that lie just beyond in the kitchen.

As the days passed, the orphaned marsupial began to venture out into the brilliant light of day, fearing threat from neither hound nor human, and finding comfort in the dense clover that carpeted the backyard landscape. She had discovered a place to call home, at least until her roaming instincts would eventually urge her onward to new adventures. Until then, she was happy to be an obliging model for the strange creature with the clicking, telescoping eye.

Camera: Canon EOS 40D. Lens: Canon Zoom EF 28-135mm.
Adjustments: Photoshop CS3 — crop.

Behind the LENS



Summer Vision

The photographs featured in our Collaborative Challenge (page 96) in this issue were submitted by Chris Whitney, a facilitator at the San Diego Braille Institute. Chris writes of his students, "They demonstrate that mastering the camera does not necessarily require focusing the external world through the viewfinder; but it does require focusing their internal vision, their connection to the world."

"Auto-focus and auto-exposure allow the students to concentrate on their creativity and feelings ... I encourage my students to concentrate on images that they can see and feel, and also to focus the camera inward to create striking images of their world."



Dolled Up

In the last decade, Asian Ball-Jointed Dolls (like Ava pictured in Frankie Kins' "Sorrow" on page 26) — have garnered a devout following of collectors, who can spend hundreds or even thousands of dollars customizing, accessorizing, and otherwise personalizing the fully-poseable resin figures. Besides naming their dolls and writing histories for them, owners will frequently use them as models in elaborate photo shoots — never have to worry about a doll moving at the wrong moment!

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