

Group Name: *Stitch panoramic techniques with HDR*

Facilitator: Dick Pelroy

Group Size: maximum of 8

Skill Level/Special Requirements: Open

Location(s): Locations will vary but will include r trips to DC that possess good raw material for creation of panoramic images.

Days/Dates/Times:

First meeting will be 1- 2 hours and cover the basics of combining HDR and pano techniques with examples of situations where they work well and where they don't. Following the first meeting, there will be two or three mini-field trips local sites that work well for creating pano imagery. The National Cathedral and National Building Museum are such locations. Time permitting, there could be a third trip to experiment with hand-held panoramas at venues such as the National Gallery of Art, National Portrait Gallery and Union Station. **A date for the first meeting of the study group , and approximate timeframes for the mini field trips, will be set after discussion with the participants at a club meeting or by email, probably both.**

Equipment Needed:

Sturdy tripod, wide angle and medium telephoto zooms are strongly recommended. A good wide-angle lens, zoom or prime, will be essential. For Nikon shooters, a nice combination of zoom lenses, if you don't mind the extra weight, is a 15-35 (or 14-24) mm wide angle, a 24-70 mm wide-angle to normal, and a 70-200 mm medium telephoto. **Note: For photo editing as a group we will use Photoshop only and preferably Photoshop CC.** The Nik software plug-in suite is recommended especially for HDR conversions and it is free from Google. Because of its superior line-straightening and editing capabilities, Kolar Autopan Giga 4.2 (or higher) stitching software is highly recommended. But it's not essential (and it's not free).

Brief Description of Content/Approach:

1. During the first meeting the facilitator will discuss a straight forward approach to panoramic photography with a few examples of image sets that worked and ones that didn't. All the steps from selection of individual RAW files, HDR processing multiple exposure of a single image, and finally the stitching a set of HDR images into a panoramic image will be demonstrated.
2. The DC mini-field trips, about a half day each, will convene at mutually agreed times and locations. The group will decide on the order and timing at our first meeting or by email communication as necessary.
3. A show-and-tell session for interested participants might be fun and could be arranged after the last photoshoot.