

Fine Art Digital Nature Photography



T o n y S w e e t

Tips, Techniques, and Creative Options
for Serious Novices to Advanced Digital Photographers

Foreword

TONY SWEET'S IMAGES ARE CONSISTENTLY CAPTIVATING AND BEAUTIFUL. As cameras have become more sophisticated and automated, more and more laypeople are able to capture passable images. With histograms providing immediate information, it's easier to be sure that you're not missing the exposure. But Tony's images go far beyond "passable" and correctly exposed—they are often magical and mystical. I always love to look at Tony's latest work and I never fail to be inspired by his creative eye.

In this book, Tony gives you a glimpse behind the scenes and shares some of his secrets. He describes in detail the steps he took to capture his original images and how he optimizes them into their final forms. This is not a theoretical approach to image optimization: it is a down-to-earth, step-by-step description of what he did. He offers a well-balanced blend of the artistic elements and the technical elements.

Those who are already comfortable with their expertise in photography and Photoshop are still likely to pick up some new tricks and tips. Given that there are lots of ways to arrive at similar results using the various digital software programs currently available, it's helpful to see exactly how a master such as Tony works with his images. Although I consider myself to be quite proficient in Photoshop, I too picked up a few tips!

It is evident that Tony is not only a wonderful photographer, but also a filter guru with both hardware and software filters. I was familiar with most of the hardware filters he uses, but, until I read this book, I had little appreciation for the immense creative potential offered by some of the software filters. In my experience, I often come across images that overuse filters and look too gimmicky for my taste. Tony's use of software filters enhances the image in ways that truly convey the original intent and feeling. The end result is images that are expressive and extraordinary.