

ERASMUS+ - K2 - Strategic Partnership 2014 - 2016
THE VIR2COPE - PROJECT
“European Blended Learning and HDR-Photography”



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Layout	Annamaria Castellan, Massimiliano Muner Acquamarina Associazione Culturale, Trieste, Italy
Content & Authors	Acquamarina Associazione Culturale, Trieste, Italy ALVIT - innovation and education Ltd., Ostrava, Czech Republic CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd., Birmingham, UK Escola Técnica de Imagem e Comunicação Aplicada, Lisboa, Portugal European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign, Rastatt, Germany University of Pannonia, Veszprem, Hungary
Copyright@2015	All rights reserved Acquamarina Associazione Culturale, Trieste, Italy ALVIT - innovation and education Ltd., Ostrava, Czech Republic CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd., Birmingham, UK Escola Técnica de Imagem e Comunicação Aplicada, Lisboa, Portugal European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign, Rastatt, Germany University of Pannonia, Veszprem, Hungary
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The Vir2Cope - Project
“European Blended Learning and HDR-Photography”

The project “HDR Photography and Blended Learning” is a two-year project funded by the European programme “ERASMUS+”. It started in September 2014. Delivering an example of best practice in the field of transnational Blended Learning with the inclusion of realtime online seminars the project show how different institutions can cooperate efficiently over borders.

Realtime online seminars are called also webinars. Although the webinars could be used in all education sectors for seminars or the communication of groups, they are still not very common in Europe. There is a lack of online-trainers, who are able to conduct webinars and there are no guidelines for the pedagogy of webinars, increasing the attractiveness and efficiency of such learning activities. Additionally many learners, including disadvantaged persons, cannot estimate how useful and efficient webinars are and how easy it is to participate without the need of high digital skills.

Webinars are per se cross sectoral. The six project partners from Czech Republic (ALVIT - innovation and education Ltd., Ostrava), Germany (VINC Learning UG, Rastatt), Hungary (University of Pannonia, Veszprem),

Italy (Associazione Culturale Acquamarina), Portugal (Technical School of Image and Communication, Lisboa) and UK (CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd., Birmingham) are active in higher education, further education and adult education, being national and transnational networkers between education sectors and companies, focussed also on rural development, reflect the huge range of potential users for webinars. Thus the project contributes to the internationalisation of education in all sectors, the growing use of digital learning and better access to education for all.

Having conducted transnational webinars during 2015, the project partners showed practically how this kind of web-based E-learning functions. Especially teachers, stakeholders and persons from disadvantaged groups (rural areas, physically disabled persons) were invited to participate in the transnational webinars from their home computer or office in order to see how it functions.

The topic of learning and cooperation is “HDR-Photography”. This highly efficient technique is a rather new technique in photography. Already penetrating the imaging world, it is still a topic of controversial discussion. The technique is not mature and the people are still not aware about the huge potential this technique provides. Although HDR (High Dynamic Range) was already developed in the nineties in computer animation and film, a broader usage in photography starts in the last four years. With a trainer, the basic technique can be learned quite easily.

The technique is one of the most interesting innovations of the digital photography. With HDR-photography, the digital photos can show nearly the whole range of contrasts. That was never possible with analogue photography. A common digital camera and computer software for the processing of HDR photos are necessary to make HDR-photos.

Professionals, students or amateurs can all profit from this creative and highly potential technique very much. Its huge range of application possibilities (photographers, artists, graphic design, documentation, press and media) makes it an ideal topic for transnational Blended Learning.

The material results of the project are an essay about online pedagogy of transnational webinars and blended learning . Complementary information will be provided by a film that shows the conduction of a pedagogical well structured webinar . The film will be available on Youtube. An E-Book about the state of the art in HDR-Photography with practical informations for applicants and for newcomers, experiences and new ways of usage is worked out. All outputs are available as OER (Open Educational Resource), the essay is translated in 6 different languages and will be published online and in printed journals.

Part of the project are two exhibitions of HDR-Photos in Italy / Trieste and in Portugal / Lisbon.

For further information about the Vir2Cope-Project you may click on the project homepage:

<http://www.vir2cope.eu>

The Meeting in Trieste, Italy
from 10th to 13th February 2016

Acquamarina Associazione Culturale is glad to host the European delegation of the project partners and present the conference on the progress of the Erasmus+ project European Blended Learning and HDR Photography organized in the conference room of the Biblioteca Statale Stelio Crise of Trieste, largo Papa Giovanni XXIII n.6, second floor. The conference will introduce the photographic exhibition of the works created and selected by the six European partner teams along with a catalogue of the works present in the exhibition rooms adjacent to the conference room.

The delegation is composed of the representatives of ALVIT - Innovation and Education Ltd., from Ostrava, Czech Republic, CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd., from Birmingham, United Kingdom, ETIC - Escola Técnica de Imagem e Comunicação Aplicada, from Lisbon, Portugal, EuFoA - European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign, coordinator of the project, from Rastatt, Germany, University of Pannonia, from Veszprem, Hungary and Acquamarina Associazione Culturale, the hosting partner, from Trieste, Italy. They are meeting in Trieste to discuss and keep up-to-date on the current state of the project and present it to the public of Trieste.

The project involves six partner countries engaged in the experimentation and in-depth analysis of the HDR photographic technique supported also by the e-learning methodology based on web run seminars (webinars).

Photographers and amateurs from six European countries have been informed, trained and have started to practise the relatively new HDR technique, whose potentialities are not so completely known, by experimenting a wide range of equipment and methods of post-production to understand its creative and professional employment and practise it.

The show displays 60 works by Czech, English, German, Hungarian, Italian and Portuguese photographers along an exhibition itinerary subdivided according to the nationality where are present creative sparks, visions and interpretations rich in culture, history and nature.

In seven showcases there is the presentation of the European partners participating in the project with the description of their academic characteristics and of the activities carried out by each of them.

The exhibition is open to the public until 26 February 2016 all days , from Monday to Thursday from 10am to 6.30pm. On Friday and Saturday from 10am to 1.30pm. Closed on Sunday and festivities.

CZECH REPUBLIC
ALVIT - innovation and education Ltd.
Ostrava



ALVIT – innovation and education, Ltd. was founded in November 1994. Today, it is presented by a group of young, enthusiastic project managers and lecturers, former students and teachers from the local universities. ALVIT - innovation and education, Ltd. is a company with many years of experience in the field of education of young people as well as adults. Our activities are aimed to improve people’s lives through training, transfer of innovation and lifelong learning education.

ALVIT is committed to quality, innovation and European cooperation. Our activities are aimed to improve people’s lives through training, transfer of innovation and lifelong learning education. Company is committed to quality, innovation and European cooperation. We concentrate our effort to serve in practice European cooperation: we participate in European projects; we cooperate with colleagues to develop training courses and materials with a real European dimension; we organize transnational training courses and we love to cooperate with real professionals. As a consequence of the scope of our projects we have gained many contacts, cooperation and friendships between beneficiaries from different countries.

ALVIT specializes in the field of vocational training, yet we also implement quite a large number of other projects within the European framework.

Our projects are related to the innovative teaching and learning for SMEs, partnership between VET institutions and enterprises, working with communities of young people and sustain such communities, situation of women on the labour market. We seek for help for students, young people, adults and disadvantaged groups of people.

Having been taking part in Vir2cope's Project helped us to create and sustain the community of enthusiastic and passionate photographers who participate on online lessons and are inspired to remain pro-active even after lessons on their own, through organising trips and tours in regard to photography. Through Webinar online lessons these photographers learn how to improve, enhance, and enrich their skills what gives the the opportunity of being significantly more competitive and ambitious on the field of labour market. They are able and willing to provide their photographs to different exhibitions, if needed. Not necessarily, they do it for presenting themselves on different exhibitions, some only do it as hobby, relax, or just for pleasure.

Being the partner of the Vir2Cope project has given us a great opportunity of online learning, which has been an amazing way of participation on lessons. We have reached and contributed a great success.

HDR Photographs
ALVIT - innovation and education Ltd.

BFFS

Irma Kanova

Model: Vali Angel, Nikol L.

Best Of in Photovogue

Technical Information

Shots Pseudo-HDR out of 1 RAW format
Camera Nikon D800
Lens Nikon Nikkor 27-70mm, 1/125, f/2.8
Software Lightroom 5, Photoshop CS5



Close to

Irma Kanova

Model: Monika B.

Best Of in Photovogue

Technical Information

Shots Pseudo-HDR out of 1 RAW format

Camera Nikon D800

Lens Nikon Nikkor 27-70mm, 1/100, f/3.5

Software Lightroom 5, Photoshop CS5



Dressed up

Irma Kanova

Model: Vali Angel, Anna J.

Pic of the Day in Photovogue

Technical Information

Shots Pseudo-HDR out of 1 RAW format

Camera Nikon D800

Lens Nikon Nikkor 27-70mm, 1/125, f/8

Software Lightroom 5, Photoshop CS5



Speechless

Irma Kanova

Model: Vali Angel

Technical Information

Shots Pseudo-HDR out of 1 RAW format, ISO 400, Exposure 1/400, f/2.8

Camera Fuji X100s

Software Lightroom 5, Photoshop CS5



Spring

Irma Kanova

Model: Vali Angel

Technical Information

Shots Pseudo-HDR out of 1 RAW format
Camera Nikon D800
Lens Nikon Nikkor 50mm, 1/160 f/2.8
Software Lightroom 5, PS CS5



Arches, Utah, USA
Dagmar Pokorná

Technical Information

Shots 9
Camera Canon EOS 6D
Lens Sigma 24-105mm, 1/320, f/5
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix



Holocaust, Miami, USA

Dagmar Pokorná

Technical Information

Shots 3
Camera Canon EOS 6D
Lens Sigma 24-105mm @24mm, 1/200, f/4.5
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix



Rocky Mountains Colorado, USA

Dagmar Pokorná

Technical Information

Shots 6
Camera Canon EOS 6D
Lens Sigma 24-105mm @24mm, 1/100, f/10
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix



Badlands in South Dakota, USA

Dagmar Pokorná

Technical Information

Shots 6
Camera Canon EOS 6D
Lens Sigma 24-105mm, 1/200, f/9
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix



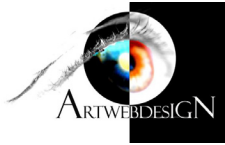
Midnight at Yukon behind the polar circle, USA
Dagmar Pokorná

Technical Information

Shots 3
Camera Canon EOS 6D
Lens Sigma 24-105mm @24mm, 1/200, f/4.5
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix



GERMANY
EuFoA - European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign
Rastatt



The European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign is a private Academy operated by the “VINC Learning UG”. VINC is the abbreviation for Virtual (V) and Intercultural (INC). It is the mission of the academy to make learning attractive, effective, accessive and borderless.

The academy provides further education as well as adult education like workshops, seminars, excursions, part-time studies and projects. Courses are offered both as presence-seminars and online-seminars (webinars). The EuFoA has one of the most capable virtual classrooms currently available. Extensive informations about the Academy can be found at their website available in german and english language (www.art-web-design.eu). Pedagogical methods such as liberal adult education or media education are integrated in the courses of the academy.

Its central subjects are Digital Photography, Digital Image Processing, Digital Design, Webdesign, and Media Pedagogy. They are active in European and National Projects in the field of photography, art, culture, pedagogy, IT, history and politics.

Since its foundation in January 2011 the Academy took continuous steps to become an attractive education provider in the region and international. It became a member of the regional network for further education (Netzwerk Fortbildung) in 2012. An intern quality management is implemented. There exist close connections to the regional community colleges, companies of the branch and public art gallery. As the project coordinator of the VIR2COPE-Project the EuFoA was in charge of applying for the ERASMUS+ project, for signing and managing the grant agreement and reporting.

In addition to that it is the most beautiful task in the project to practise Blended Learning across the borders with interesting partners from Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Portugal and the United Kingdom. Against the background of this European context the EuFoA profit very much from the common cooperation and exchange about the HDR-Photography.

The VIR2COPE project is delivering an example for the highly efficient and fruitful cooperation of different institutions in Europe using the method of “Blended Learning”, which is a combination of E-Learning and presence meetings. Working since years with Realtime Online Trainings (Webinars) on the national level, the EuFoA provides a Virtual Classroom for the project. During the project lifetime Transnational Webinars are conducted, where every project partner contributes with a topic about HDR-Photography. Since the project wants to promote the efficiency of (transnational) webinars for all kinds of learning, guests are invited to take part in the transnational webinars in order to experience the ease of use and the efficiency of webinars.

All project partners of the VIR2COPE project contribute to the outputs of the project. These are:

- An E-Book about HDR-Photography, which will be available as Open Educational Resource (OER)
- An essay about the Pedagogy of Online-Trainings. This essay will inform Online-Trainers or those who want to become an Online-Trainer, how to conduct Webinars efficiently and interestingly. The essay will be a result of the empirical data gathered during the project
- A Youtube-film about the Pedagogy of Online-Trainings
- Two Exhibitions of HDR-Photography with Catalogues: One exhibition in Trieste and the other exhibition in Lisbon.

HDR Photographs
EuFoA - European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign

Mirror

Eckhard Dahms

This HDR image was taken in an old factory in Rastatt. To centre the mirror in the picture it was reshaped into a square format. I found the perspective very interesting to see the building and the locomotive in the mirror. Especially the locomotive is a bit bended due to the mirror. It seems a bit like a huge eye staring down at the viewer. It is one of my favourite of the many pictures I took in this very interesting location.

Technical Information

Shots 3 NEF Images, f/5.6, ISO 200, 1/640, 1/320, 1/160

Camera Fuji XT-1

Lens Fuji 18-55mm @50mm

Tripod Yes

Software Photomatix Pro using the “creative” template but individually corrected in colour saturation, brightness, contrast and finally sharpened



In the summertime

Helge Lehsten

This HDR-Photo is showing the strengths of the HDRI-technique in animal photography. This is a Pseudo-HDR from one RAW-Picture. The photo of the crocodile was made in the zoo Wilhelma in Stuttgart.

A calm sleep in the afternoon in the sun and a leaf as a fan when it's becoming too hot, that's all you need to feel well!

Technical Information

Shots 1 NEF Images, f/5.6, ISO 100, 1/320

Lens 70mm

Tripod Yes

Software Photomatix Pro 5.0, the photo was post-processed with Photoshop. (Gradation curve/tonal corrections/brightness/contrast)



Railway Station

Katrin Weber

Due to the difficult light situation in the railway station I decided to apply the HDRI technique. I feel that railway stations are interesting. As a child I lived nearby a railway station. I always liked it to watch the travellers and to invent stories from them. The nearly unpeopled platform awakes a sense of loneliness and lostness in me, with the hope, finally to arrive well, somewhere.

Technical Information

Shots 5 NEF Images, f/8, ISO 200, 1/1000, 1/250, 1/60

Camera Nikon Lens 10-24mm @18mm

Lens Nikon D7100

Tripod Yes

Software after the tone mapping with Photomatix the photo was post-processed with Photoshop



The Big Wheel

Lilly Rausch

This HDR image was shot on the 5th of November 2015 against 5 o'clock in the afternoon during the sunset. It was on the autumn fair in Karlsruhe. The original was a colour photo, but I decided to convert it into a black-and-white photo, because it became more expressive.

Technical Information

Shots 3 NEF Images, f/4, ISO 200, 1/1000, 1/250, 1/60

Lens 18mm

Tripod No

Software the tone mapping and post-processing was done with Photoshop



Decay

MaRy Stamm

A beautiful, sunny autumn day. A rave of colors... , then a mouldered house appeared between the trees. I asked myself one question after the other: Who lived in that house? When did they leave the house? And why was it left to rot? How old is it probably? And how may it have looked like in its good times? I would love to go back in time...

Technical Information

Shots 3 NEF Images, f/8, ISO 200, 1/1000, 1/250, 1/60

Camera Canon EOS 7D

Lens Tamron 16-300mm f/3.5-6.3

Tripod Yes

Software after the tone mapping with Photomatix the photo was post-processed with Photoshop



Fairy

Matthias Gessler

This photo was planned to make it with the HDRI-technique. It is a magical photo with a women stretching her cape in front of a sunset. The intension was to show the details of the cape and intensity of the colours in the photo. In fact, the fall of the folds of the cape, its transparency, the intense colours of the sunset and the details of the lakeside are shown.

Technical Information

Shots 9 NEF Images, f/5.6, ISO 200, 1/2000, 1/1000, 1/500, 1/250, 1/125, 1/60, 1/30, 1/15, 1/8
Camera Nikon D300S
Lens Tamron 17-50mm f/2.8 @30mm
Tripod Yes
Software after the tone mapping with Photomatix the photo was post-processed with Photoshop



Bangkok

Peter Wiederstein

Bangkok is a very interesting city comprising many facets and contrasts. On one hand an ultramodern satellite town, on the other hand a patchwork of different settlements, where the houses were built in different styles. No ghettos or slums as they are known in poor regions. Thailand is glitzy and colourful, everything is glittering and gleaming in our (uniform) eyes. The idea suggested itself to make a photo from the marvellous scene. In order to show the small houses in the dark foreground I decided to use the HDRI technique.

Technical Information

Shots 3 NEF Images, f/4.2, ISO 100, 1 second, 2 seconds, 4 seconds

Camera Nikon D7200

Lens Sigma 18-200mm, f/3.5-6.3 @32mm

Tripod Yes

Software after the tone mapping with Photomatix the photo was post-processed with Photoshop



Landscape nearby the rock church “Hali Kilise” in Cappadocia / Turkey

Ruth Schmelzer

This HDR-Photo is showing the strengths of the HDRI-technique in landscape photography. Due to the very fine color shades, the photo is very plastic and has a good depth.

Technical Information

Shots 5 NEF Images, f/7, ISO 200, 1/1250, 1/640, 1/320, 1/160, 1 second

Camera Nikon D300S

Lens 35mm

Tripod Yes

Software after the tone mapping with Photomatix the photo was post-processed with Photoshop



Ruth Schmalzer

Lamp in the Gaudi House

Sebastian Elsäßer

The photo was taken in the Gaudi House “CASA Batlló” in Barcelona. Looking like the skin of a reptile the ceiling fascinated me very much. It was a good opportunity to use the HDRI photography. My intension for the photo was to have the focus on the spiral of the ceiling. The spirals ended in extraordinary and creative lamps contributing to the mystic and fancy tickling touch of the photo. By using the HDRI photography the spirals became surprisingly clearer than expected. In the single shots they appear flat and were scarcely visible. The three-dimensional effect of the spirals and the clearly visible pattern of the ceiling could be achieved only with the HDR technique. The details of the lamp are so impressive that one could get the impression of a living mytical creature.

Technical Information

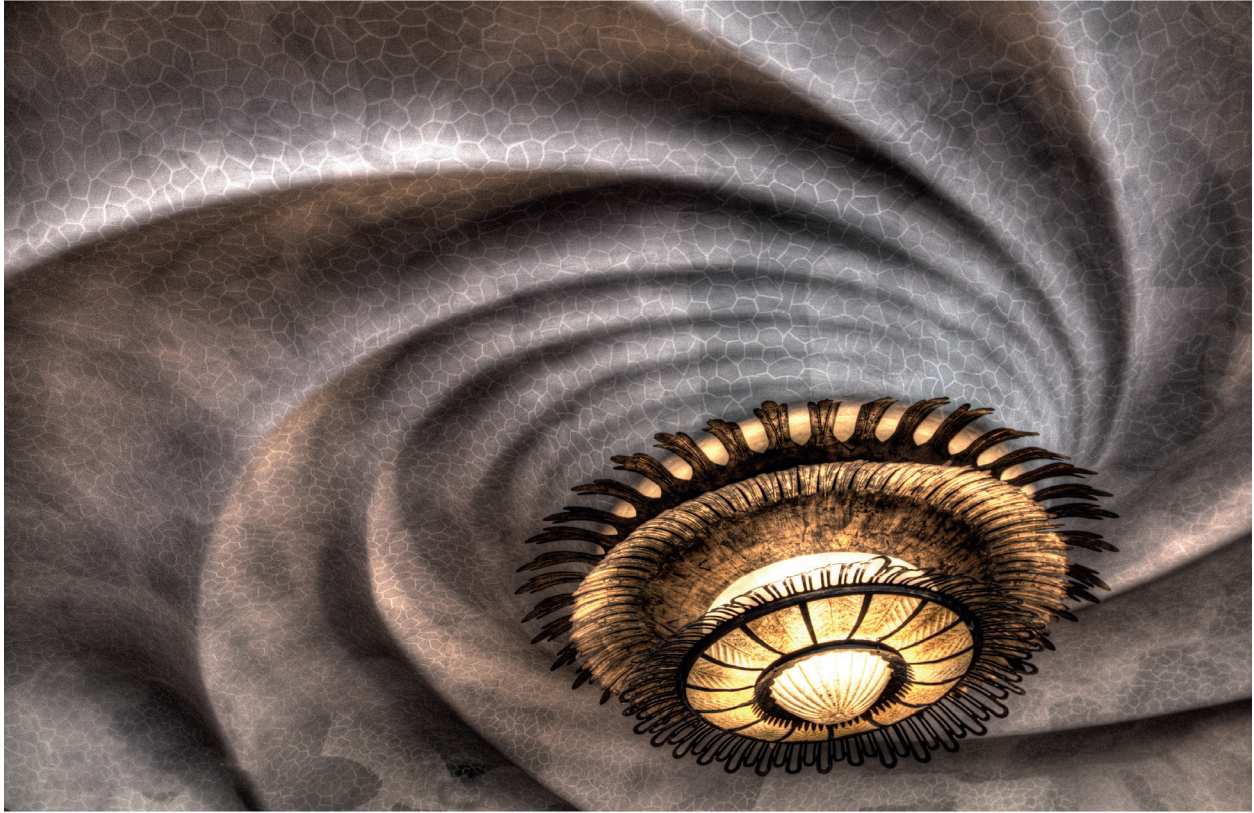
Shots 3 NEF Images, f/2.8, ISO 1600, 1/1600, 1/500, 1/160

Camera Canon 70D

Lens Tamron SP 17-50mm f/2.8 DI II @32mm

Tripod Yes

Software after the tone mapping with Photomatix the photo was post-processed with Photoshop



Porsche 356 Sportscoupe

Steffen Klingenuß

This Picture shows a Porsche 356 Sportscoupe. The Porsche 356 was a very famous Sportscar. Porsche started to manufacture this model in 1948 in its facility in Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen. The last car produced left the factory in 1965. 76302 cars were made in this time. I took the photo during the Baden Classic Oldtimer Rallye on 21st. of June 2015 in Gernsbach nearby Baden-Baden, Germany.

Technical Information

Shots 3 NEF Images, f/8, ISO 200, 1/1000, 1/250, 1/125

Camera Canon EOS 550D

Lens Tamron 17-50mm f/2.8 @32mm

Tripod Yes

Software Reworked with Photoshop PS6 HDR PRO, picturestyle Scott5 and some hand corrections



HUNGARY

University of Pannonia, Faculty of Business and Economics

Veszprem



The history of the University of Pannonia can be best illustrated through the development of its respective faculties. During its colorful history, the university has always responded flexibly to the manifold challenges and needs of society, offering internationally competitive quality education and research opportunities besides functioning as an active contributor to the economic, scientific, and cultural development of the region.

Several prestigious awards attest the continuous and dynamic development of the University of Pannonia and prove its commitment to quality education, research, exemplary student services and societal engagement. Therefore, one can proudly and rightfully claim that the University of Pannonia produces, promotes and cultivates scientific knowledge, functions as the guardian and mediator of cultural values, creates quality and builds the spirit of universitas, and also opens new horizons for the educational, research and student community not only in the region, but also at national and international level.

The Independent Institution of Economics was established in 2003 at the University of Pannonia. It was the

progenitor of the recent Faculty of Business and Economics which was first in the country, received the Higher Education Quality Award in 2008 in the category of Organisation Unit. With this honouring award the Faculty was recognised as the best in Hungary reaching outstanding result in the complex evaluation of education activity, research performance, value creating processes and in the services provided to clients – students, partner organisations and companies.

In January of 2014 the Faculty reached an important milestone; it became a member of the AACSB International (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business). The membership is a valuable resource of the development of the Faculty, making international contacts and world-wide reputation. The accreditation means competitive advantage, which influences our Faculty's market position, members, staff and students as well.

One of the main strategic objectives of the Faculty is to enter the international scene of higher education with widening its portfolio of foreign language academic programmes; offering bachelor's, master's and postgraduate programmes in English.

The primary objective of the Faculty of Business and Economics is the education of economists, engineering managers and the further education and retraining of executives in a wide range of business areas. The aim is to produce professionals who are capable of creating, managing and leading systems of enterprises of national importance. The Faculty of Business and Economics of the University of Pannonia is recognised as a constantly growing and important intellectual centre in the Transdanubia region and contributes to the functioning and improvement of the public and civil society with its high quality education research and development activities.

Faculty of Business and Economics has an open eyes to EU funded projects to cooperate with other actors of scientific life providing focus on their own research area and letting influence by other skills and experiences. Results of the different projects are always built in the development strategies offering open-minded and modern approach to researchers, lecturers and students as well.

Besides the scientific life of the faculty a small team was created for the task of marketing, public relations, recruitment, international affairs and communication at the Faculty. The main objective of the working team is to develop brochures, advertisements, presentations, catalogues of study programmes, and to organise trainings. The centre is responsible for recruitment procedure, to reach students, adult learners, groups for professional retraining and also for enhancement of corporate relations. Scholarship and exchange programmes, common research possibilities are also promoted by the Centre Communications.

The products, services and activity of the Faculty should be promoted by professional visual elements. Advertisement should be more successful using high tech photos. The Idea of using HDR photography in our marketing activity seems profitable, not only in promotion but in development of high quality educational assistant, which makes education more attractive and provide rich experience for the students as well.

Participation in Vir2Cope project provides a new approach in visual technology and knowledge in professional HDR photography arranging in our marketing and teaching activities. Members of the project team are working on developing a workflow using free software to show how someone can start HDR photography without much investment. Additionally the university contributes with its knowledge and experience to the practical implementation of Blended Learning on the European Level.

HDR Photographs

University of Pannonia, Faculty of Business and Economics

Gabor Kohlrusz

Took this scene to capture the shadows of the fence near the road and to play a bit with the rule of thirds. Both the weather and the traffic favored me this time.

Technical Information

Shots 5 Images, f/22, ISO 100
Camera Nikon D7100
Lens Nikon AF-S DX 18-105mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR @18mm
Tripod Yes
Software Nikon Capture NX-D, Luminance HDR, Gimp



Gabor Kohlrusz

Taken near a recultivated old mine close to Veszprem. There are a lot of small huts around the lake such as these two.
An ideal spot for relaxation.

Technical Information

Shots 5 Images, f/16, ISO 100
Camera Nikon D7100
Lens Nikon AF-S DX 18-105mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR @18mm
Tripod No
Software Nikon Capture NX-D, Hugin, Luminance HDR, Gimp



Gabor Kohlrusz

A new road bridge built maybe a year ago over a valley. I ended up under the bridge and although it wasn't planned, I managed to take a few shots worth presenting.

Technical Information

Shots 5 Images, f/8, ISO 100
Camera Nikon D7100
Lens Nikon AF-S DX 18-105mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR @18mm
Tripod Yes
Software Nikon Capture NX-D, Luminance HDR, Gimp



Gabor Kohlrusz

The picture is taken from a monument that was placed near an old railway, that was in service from 1909 until 1969. The railway embankment is functioning as a bicycle path between Veszprem and Balatonalmadi.

Technical Information

Shots 25 Images, f/3.5, ISO 500

Camera Nikon D7100

Lens Nikon AF-S DX 18-105mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR @18mm

Tripod Yes

Software Nikon Capture NX-D, Hugin, Imagemagick, Luminance HDR, Gimp



Gabor Kohlrusz

Just mushrooms from the autumn leaves. The shot is taken because of the colors and textures.

Technical Information

Shots 5 Images, f/8, ISO 100
Camera Nikon D7100
Lens Nikon AF-S DX 18-105mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR @90mm
Tripod Yes
Software Nikon Capture NX-D, Luminance HDR, Gimp



Butron Castle, Gatika, Spain

Szalai Viktor

Description of the photo: Butron is a castle located in Gatika, in the province of Biscay, in northern Spain. It dates originally from the Middle Ages. The castle has a fairy-tale look inspired by Bavarian castle models. The HDR technology enables us to see all details of the spectacular, monumental building. It also makes the castle and its surroundings alive for the viewer.

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	3 Images (Selected exposure bracketing: -2, 0, +2), f/7.1
<i>Camera</i>	Canon EOS 700D
<i>Lens</i>	Canon EFS 18-55mm
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	painterly tonemapping, Photomatix Pro (Version 5.0)



Abbaye de Villers, Villers-la-Ville, Belgium

Szalai Viktor

The Abbaye de Villers (Villers Abbey), situated in the commune of Villers-la-Ville (Belgium) in grounds of more than 36 hectares. It was founded in the 12th century, under the aegis of Saint Bernard. Today, its majestic ruins give a marvellous idea of the life of monks of the Cistercian Order. The photo grasps the historical atmosphere of the ruins while displaying the present touristic opportunities as well (eg. visiting a historical site, having basket lunch in its huge garden under its huge trees). Because of the considerable dark-bright contrasts the use of HDR technology was essential. The photo could be well used in tourism marketing (eg. brochures, spectacular promotion gifts).

Technical Information

Shots 3 Images (Selected exposure bracketing: -2, 0, +2), f/5
Camera Canon EOS 700D
Lens Canon EFS 18-55mm
Tripod Yes
Software smooth tonemapping, Photomatix Pro (Version 5.0)



Alley, Netherlands

Szalai Viktor

Description of the photo: The photo was taken in the heart of the Netherlands. It reflects the calm, relaxing but also mysterious forest scene perfectly. Small details are particularly emphasized on the picture. The photo could be used as a background image for computers or phones and even in computer games because of its mysterious feeling.

Technical Information

Shots 3 Images (Selected exposure bracketing: -2, 0, +2), f/5.6
Camera Canon EOS 700D
Lens Canon EFS 18-55mm
Tripod No
Software painterly tonemapping, Photomatix Pro (Version 5.0)



Basilique du Sacré Coeur de Montmartre, Paris, France

Szalaiiné Szeili Katalin

The Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Paris, commonly known as Sacré-Cœur is a Roman Catholic basilica, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in Paris, France. A popular landmark, the basilica is located at the summit of the butte Montmartre, the highest point in the city. The picture presents the interior of the church. The HDR technology made it possible to show the altar and a part of the structure of the building on one photo without missing small details which would be either too dark or too bright.

Technical Information

Shots 3 Images (Selected exposure bracketing: -2, 0, +2), f/3,5
Camera Canon EOS 1200D
Lens Canon EFS 18-55mm
Tripod Yes
Software interior tonemapping, Photomatix Pro (Version 5.0)



Eiffel Tower, Paris, France

Szalaiiné Szeili Katalin

The Eiffel Tower is maybe the most famous building on the planet. Every day thousands of pictures are taken about it. That is why it is not easy to make a difference, but the HDR technology allows making great pictures as well. The chosen tonemapping emphasizes the painterly, artistic atmosphere, the romantic feeling of Paris.

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	3 Images (Selected exposure bracketing: -2, 0, +2), f/10
<i>Camera</i>	Canon EOS 1200D
<i>Lens</i>	Canon EFS 18-55mm
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	painterly tonemapping, Photomatix Pro (Version 5.0)



ITALY
Acquamarina Associazione Culturale
Trieste



Acquamarina is a cultural association established in Trieste in 2002. It is very active on the territory and in cross-border events involving training activities, educational workshops, campaigns on equality and inclusiveness.

Since 2004 Acquamarina has provided basic, advanced, experimental and philosophical courses on photographic subjects for adults, young, children, and also for beginners and professional photographers.

It aims at promoting and disseminating the art of photography through training courses, cultural research and studies as well as promoting photographers and artists with their different views to enhance the different issues tackled by photography and its communicative value, and enhancing intercultural collaborations.

The protection and enhancement of the cultural and environmental heritage is one of the strong points of the association and such subjects as water, nature, traditions, sea, mountains and urban environments are part of its photographic research and products along with the subjects related to the human figure and insight.

On the issue of inclusiveness and cross-border cooperation Acquamarina has collaborated with the Slovenian, Croatian, Bosniac and Serbian organizers of the event Europe beyond the new walls and the fund-raising organization of the project Education builds Bosnia in favour of the war orphans.

Collaborations on the themes of education, disadvantage and communication are still going on with public and private institutions in Italy and abroad. With the Liceo Artistico of Cortina d'Ampezzo the association is collaborating in running courses and developing European projects. The European motto Unity in diversity has often been the leitmotif of the association's collaborations.

An exclusive photographic service to the great astrophysics scientist Margherita Hack for a book was particularly exciting as well as the organization and performance of photographic events such as Zero Pixel Photography which show how ample and engaging the world of photography can be.

The participation of Acquamarina in the Erasmus+ European project European Blended Learning and HDR Photography represents a challenge as regards the human, professional and creative growth of the persons working in and collaborating with the association in this project. Being in contact with such qualified training professionals from across Europe is an occasion for learning and for knowledge sharing on the HDRP technique through innovative methodological tools such as webinars and the building of an e-Book.

Within this transnational partnership Acquamarina has also carried out two national projects. The first one based on photographic research has been performed in Trieste with the collaboration of seven photographers, Alberto Bastia, Marina Cobal, Annamaria Castellani (President of Acquamarina), Giuseppe Galati Garitta, Massimiliano Muner, Luigi Tolotti e Paolo Toniati, experimenting the HDR technique both in the shooting and post-production phases by testing cameras, lenses and software. The themes of this experimentation were panoramic view, architectural and nocturnal photography, portrait, macro and underground photography. The interesting results have aroused an appreciation for this technique that opens new ways to their professional competence and activity. The second one has involved a group of students from the Liceo Artistico Polo Valboite of Cortina d'Ampezzo who have used the HDR technique to produce black and white photographs for a 2016 calendar Greetings from Cortina. The students are: Silvia Cherubin,

Silvia Da Rin, Arianna Salmaggi and Margherita Smaniotto. The European project has introduced them to this new technique under the guidance of Annamaria Castellan and their teacher Giuliana Corbatta and with the support of the Fondazione Silla Ghedina.

The two studies have been objects of two webinars run by Acquamarina and some shots are present in the exhibition held in the Biblioteca Statale Stelio Crise of Trieste and in the related catalogue on the occasion of the transnational meeting in Trieste from 10 to 13 February 2016.

HDR Photographs
Acquamarina Associazione Culturale

Trunk

Alberto Bastia

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	3
<i>Camera</i>	Olympus OMD E-M10
<i>Lens</i>	Olympus Zuiko 45mm f/1.8 @ f/8
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix 4.2
<i>Location</i>	Sage pathway, Trieste - Italy
<i>Date</i>	May 9th, 2015



Pond

Annamaria Castellan

Technical Information

Shots	7
Camera	Nikon D800
Lens	Nikon AF Nikkor 24mm 2.8 @f/16
Tripod	Yes
Software	Photomatix Pro 5 / Photoshop CS6
Location	Stanjel - Slovenia
Date	May 17th, 2015



Moonlight

Annamaria Castellan

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	7
<i>Camera</i>	Nikon D700
<i>Lens</i>	Nikon AF Nikkor 20mm 2.8 @f/9
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix Pro 5 / Photoshop CS3
<i>Location</i>	Muggia, Trieste - Italy
<i>Date</i>	June 24th, 2015



Calbe car's pylon

Silvia Cherubin

Technical Information

Shots 7
Camera Nikon D800
Lens Nikon AF Nikkor 20 mm 2.8 D @ f/13
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix Pro 5 / Photoshop CS6
Location Dolomites - Cortina d'Ampezzo - Italy
Date May 25th, 2015



Trieste's Public Garden

Marina Cobal

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	3
<i>Camera</i>	Nikon D800
<i>Lens</i>	Nikon AF Nikkor 20 mm 2.8 D @ f/2.8
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	Photoshop CS3
<i>Location</i>	Trieste - Italy
<i>Date</i>	April 24th, 2015



Portrait in a deserted plant

Giuseppe Galati Garitta

Technical Information

Shots 5
Camera Olympus Om-D Em-1
Lens Olympus M.Zuiko 12-40mm f2.8 Pro @ f/2.8
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix Pro 5 / Lightroom
Location Muggia - Trieste - Italy
Date August 3rd, 2015



Alone

Massimiliano Muner

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	5
<i>Camera</i>	Canon EOS 6D
<i>Lens</i>	Canon EF 50mm 1.4 @ f/10
<i>Tripod</i>	No
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix Pro 5
<i>Location</i>	Artimino - Tuscany - Italy
<i>Date</i>	July 28th, 2015



Ant

Luigi Tolotti

Technical Information

Shots 1 - Pseudo HDR
Camera Nikon D800
Lens Nikon 60mm f/3.6 @ f/11
Tripod No
Software Photomatix Pro 5 / Photoshop
Location Sage Pathway - Trieste - Italy
Date May 9th, 2015



Giant Grotto

Luigi Tolotti

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	7
<i>Camera</i>	Nikon D800
<i>Lens</i>	Nikon 24-70mm f/2.8
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix Pro 5 / Photoshop
<i>Location</i>	Borgo Grotta Gigante - Trieste - Italy
<i>Date</i>	July 11th, 2015



Bollard

Paolo Toniati

I much appreciate the clarity and solidity of the image. The static nature and performance of the details make me value the lens and the sensor even more, which have in themselves very high levels of resolution.

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	5
<i>Camera</i>	Olympu OMD EM-10
<i>Lens</i>	Olympus M.40-150mm f/2.8 Pro @ f/11
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix Pro 5 / Photoshop CS6
<i>Location</i>	Muggia - Trieste - Italy
<i>Date</i>	June 24th, 2015



PORTUGAL

ETIC - Escola Técnica de Imagem e Comunicação Aplicada

Lisboa

ETIC (school of technology, innovation and creation) has 22 years of experience in practical and innovative instruction and training in Television and Film, Design, Photography, Digital Media, Fashion, Journalism, and Event Planning.

EPI (image vocational school) is the professional secondary school that descends from ETIC and teaches a wide range of different courses like Video, Photography, Graphic and Interior Design, Multimedia, Animation, Sound and Music Production, Event Planning and Acting.

Both schools were born from a vision of the founder about a school where knowledge and creativity would be embraced, a school focused on students and their future. Situated in Lisbon, Portugal, we were pioneers in training in these fields and we continue to innovate with courses that are constantly updated to meet the demands of the job market and its ever-changing dynamics.

We only select teachers who are experienced professionals, who know how to share their knowledge and love doing it. We also rely on a professional technological infrastructure that is open and

available to the community of students, faculty, alumni and partners. Our strong culture of project creation defines our teaching style; the school also sees itself as a laboratory where trial and error and experimentation are welcomed and encouraged. The work is critiqued by experts who are always invited to observe and comment on student work. The best projects are invited to take part in competitions and, in doing so, gain valuable exposure so that the largest number of people can become familiar with them. Support for entrepreneurship is fostered and our students receive all the assistance possible to help make their projects become a reality.

We are also very interested in civic formation of our students. To integrate the European Blended Learning and HDR Photography project, the school invited the photography teachers Marina Ramos and Susana Jesus.

‘European Blended Learning and HDR Photography’

Our intention in this Project is to open the possibilities of the HDR technique to people that usually are excluded from this type of formation.

We chose an institution that works with disabled people, CRINABEL, that is very near to our school. They were very receptive to our request and selected six users to work in this project: Carina Rocha, Diogo Martins, Hugo Lopes, João Pedro Cruz, João Pedro Farinha and Victor Gouveia.

CRINABEL is a non profitable entity founded in 1975 on the initiative of a group of parents and others connected with rehabilitation of children and young people with developmental delay.

Crinabel’s mission is to empower, support and integrate people with intellectual disabilities and their families, and develops its work with three social responses, where multidisciplinary technical teams meet in full about 150 young people and adults: Occupational Activity Centre, Residential Home and Professional Training.

For us, it was very important to expand the possibilities of the HDR technique to people that usually would not be able to learn it. So, for us and for our students, it was a very new, unusual and rewarding experience, and we learnt a lot from it.

The advantages of photography and HDR in particular can promote the capacity for self-awareness, strengthening aspects such as self-concept of the participants. When shooting, each participant materialized his gaze on the photographed object and subsequently was faced with his own look and worked it digitally. This aspect was highly beneficial for the participants in the double sense of having access to their own perspective on things, before and after working it in the computer. Very important in achieving this, was the ease of use of Photomatix software, because it made it possible to develop a certain degree of autonomy in the choices of the final results.

The participants ended up being vehicles and creators of their perception, making it known to others, which is an important mean to connect them with others. They saw in this project an escape from the routine, something that gave them freedom, power, with less rules and restrictions than they usually have in their ordinary life.

HDR Photographs

ETIC - Escola Técnica de Imagem e Comunicação Aplicada

Fish Market

João Cruz



João Pedro Cruz, was born on 09 June 1982, in Lisbon. He lives with his parents.

Attends Crinabel since September 2000 and entered in the valence Occupational Activities Center, where he currently remains at the age of 32.

His base is Decorative Arts Room, where he draws, paints with acrylic, enamel and makes collages. Beyond this room, he is engaged in other activities, such as Occupational Therapy, Psychology, Maintenance of knowledge, Recycling, Physical Education, Expressive Activities, Dance, Music Therapy, Speech Therapy. He likes computers, to watch movies and new technologies in general.

He has a global development delay.

Technical Information

<i>Camera</i>	Canon 550D
<i>Lens</i>	18-55mm f/4
<i>Tripod</i>	No
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix



Telf. 213 471 630

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silva
331

PROMOÇÃO
CABEÇA DE PEIXE
PÃO DE CEBOLHA
SALMÃO - 16 GRAMAS
CABOCHÃO - 16 GRAMAS
TUBO - 16 GRAMAS



SALMÃO A POSTA
14,50

VIVEIRO
17,00

Tennis Building

João Pedro Farinha



João Pedro Farinha was born on March 1, 1986, in Lisbon. He lives with his parents and is now 28 years old. He attends Crinabel since September 2003, having begun in the Occupational Activities Centre. He currently attends the workshops room, where has worked in wood and maintenance of the headquarters building. In addition to the room base, he participates in the following activities: Expressive Activities, Swimming, Knowledge Maintenance, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Athletics, Dance, Physical Education. He enjoys playing games on consoles and PC. He has cerebral palsy.

Technical Information

Camera Canon 650D
Lens 18-55mm f/13
Tripod No
Software Photomatix



Tools

Victor Gouveia



Victor André Gouveia, was born on July 29, 1988, in Lisbon. He lives in a residence and is now 26 years old. He attends Crinabel since April 1993 in the Special Education valence. Currently he is is in the Occupational Activities Center, attending the workshop room and performing the following activities: Physical Education, Occupational Therapy, Expressive Activities, Percussion Ensemble, Dancing, Swimming, Psychology, Speech Therapy, Athletics, Relaxation. He is very fond of photography and received his first camera for Christmas, he also likes new technologies. He has mental disabilities; fetal alcohol syndrome; microcephaly; tetralogy of Fallot, hyperactivity.

Technical Information

Camera Canon 450D
Lens 18-55mm f/9
Tripod No
Software Photomatix



Church

Hugo Lopez



Hugo Lopes, was born on June 12, 1991, in Lisbon. He lives with an aunt. Attends Crinabel since January 2001 and entered to the valence of Special Education.

He is 23 years old and attends the Occupational Activities Center. His basis is the workshop-room where they wood-work to make the maintenance of the headquarters of the institution. Outside his basis-room, he attends the following activities: Fitness, Swimming, Speech Therapy, Psychology, Knowledge Maintenance, Athletics, Occupational Therapy. He likes to walk, play cards and go to the cafe.

He has a global development delay.

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	3
<i>Camera</i>	Canon 450D
<i>Lens</i>	18-55mm f/8
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix



Balcony

Diogo Sousa Martins



Diogo Sousa Martins was born on March 25, 1989, in Lisbon. He lives with maternal uncles. Attends Crinabel since September 2005, entering the Pre-Vocational Education valence.

He is 25 years old and attends the Occupational Activities Center. His basis is the workshop-room where they wood-work to make the maintenance of the headquarters of the institution. Outside his basis-room, he attends the following activities: Physical Education, Expressive Activities, Swimming, Speech Therapy, Psychology, Knowledge Maintenance, Athletics, Textiles, Occupational Therapy. He likes new technologies and watching TV.

He has a mental retardation (fetal distress + hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy).

Technical Information

<i>Camera</i>	Canon 450D
<i>Lens</i>	18-55mm f/10
<i>Tripod</i>	No
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix



Tree House

Carina Rocha



Carina Rocha, was born on 5 November of 1989, in Lisbon. She lives with her parents and attends Crinabel since September 2006, Pre-Vocational Education valence.

She is 25 years old and attends the Occupational Activities Center in Decorative Arts basis room. Her work is based in drawing, painting and glazing (among others). The activities she has beyond the room-based, relate to: Occupational Therapy, Textiles, Physical Education, Expressive Activities, Swimming, Psychology, Knowledge Maintenance, Dance, Speech Therapy, Athletics. She is very fond of taking pictures to colleagues and technicians at the annual summer camp.

She has a global development delay.

Technical Information

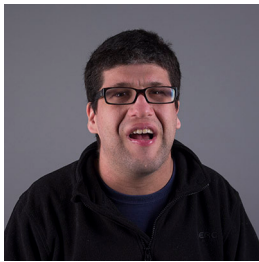
Camera Canon 450D
Lens 18-55mm f/8
Tripod No
Software Photomatix

Shots 3
Camera Canon 450D
Lens 18-55mm f/14
Tripod No
Software Photomatix



Stairs

João Cruz



João Pedro Cruz, was born on 09 June 1982, in Lisbon. He lives with his parents.

Attends Crinabel since September 2000 and entered in the valence Occupational Activities Center, where he currently remains at the age of 32.

His base is Decorative Arts Room, where he draws, paints with acrylic, enamel and makes collages. Beyond this room, he is engaged in other activities, such as Occupational Therapy, Psychology, Maintenance of knowledge, Recycling, Physical Education, Expressive Activities, Dance, Music Therapy, Speech Therapy. He likes computers, to watch movies and new technologies in general.

He has a global development delay.

Technical Information

Camera Canon 450D
Lens 18-55mm f/14
Tripod No
Software Photomatix



Kitchen

João Pedro Farinha



João Pedro Farinha was born on March 1, 1986, in Lisbon. He lives with his parents and is now 28 years old. He attends Crinabel since September 2003, having begun in the Occupational Activities Centre. He currently attends the workshops room, where has worked in wood and maintenance of the headquarters building. In addition to the room base, he participates in the following activities: Expressive Activities, Swimming, Knowledge Maintenance, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Athletics, Dance, Physical Education. He enjoys playing games on consoles and PC. He has cerebral palsy.

Technical Information

Camera Canon 650D
Lens 18-55mm f/13
Tripod No
Software Photomatix



Clock

Hugo Lopez



Hugo Lopes, was born on June 12, 1991, in Lisbon. He lives with an aunt. Attends Crinabel since January 2001 and entered to the valence of Special Education.

He is 23 years old and attends the Occupational Activities Center. His basis is the workshop-room where they wood-work to make the maintenance of the headquarters of the institution. Outside his basis-room, he attends the following activities: Fitness, Swimming, Speech Therapy, Psychology, Knowledge Maintenance, Athletics, Occupational Therapy. He likes to walk, play cards and go to the cafe.

He has a global development delay.

Technical Information

Camera Canon 450D
Lens 18-55mm f/14
Tripod No
Software Photomatix



Lamp

Carina Rocha



Carina Rocha, was born on 5 November of 1989, in Lisbon. She lives with her parents and attends Crinabel since September 2006, Pre-Vocational Education valence.

She is 25 years old and attends the Occupational Activities Center in Decorative Arts basis room. Her work is based in drawing, painting and glazing (among others). The activities she has beyond the room-based, relate to: Occupational Therapy, Textiles, Physical Education, Expressive Activities, Swimming, Psychology, Knowledge Maintenance, Dance, Speech Therapy, Athletics. She is very fond of taking pictures to colleagues and technicians at the annual summer camp.

She has a global development delay.

Technical Information

Camera Canon 450D
Lens 18-55mm f/8
Tripod No
Software Photomatix



UNITED KINGDOM
CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd.
Birmingham

CRYSTAL

Crystal is a highly creative Digital Agency based in the English Midlands with a track record in education and training dating back to the company's inception in 1982 both in the UK and in Europe.

Crystal has extensive experience of EU-funded projects with expertise in areas such as Intercultural Communication, ESOL, Basic skills, Workplace & Family Learning, Environmental Education, VET, Languages and Lifelong Learning. Their award winning websites, platforms, products and blended/ E-Learning materials are used in educational establishments and workplaces throughout the UK at all levels from Primary schools to Post Graduate level.

Crystal has authored, designed, produced and developed E-Learning courses for UK National organisations such as LearnDirect and E-Learning for Deutsche Bank. Over six years Crystal developed nine E-Learning courses for the UK Post Office for all their counter staff. Crystal is currently the technical partner within the 'Financial Literacy for You' Project – FLY, creating website, three e-learning modules covering Secondary School students, University Students and Adults.

Crystal's clients include Birmingham City Council (as their App developers), the Post Office, NHS, Skills for Care, National Skills Academy, Learn Direct, West Midlands Police and many more. Crystal's pedagogical expertise is a key contributor to their quality outputs.

Crystal has designed and printed a wide range of books, booklets, brochures, leaflets and other printed items over the years, supported in many cases by photographic material. Much of their electronic output is supported with documentation and other printed materials and all design and illustration work for both print and screen is carried out in-house.

Many of Crystal's products have a video element and all post-production work is done in-house by their own specialists. Crystal also organizes events and exhibitions, having designed and produced numerous exhibitions, such as the International Planet Earth / Planet Terre exhibition for Conoco/Dupont which toured Europe and was located at the London Science Museum in the UK, and the Drinking Water Inspectorate's Interactive Water Gallery at the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry.

Crystal builds and hosts many large-scale websites and systems for clients such StarCity here in Birmingham and National House builders; Lovell New Homes. Crystal has also been commissioned to build and host websites for local and National NHS programmes such as the UK National Chlamydia Screening Programme website.

Crystal is aware of the power of new technology and social media and the company is increasingly researching and developing blended / E-Learning solutions utilising mobile / hand-held technologies. Crystal currently has a number of iPhone applications on the Apple App Store such as our Europass Language Passport for the European Commission, and have developed the Birmingham City Council iPhone App as their mobile solutions consultant and supplier. We also have developed an Android version of the Europass Language Passport App. as part of the VALE! EU project.

Our role within the project

Crystal joined the project after the first Partner meeting when one of the partners withdrew, thus offering the opportunity for Crystal to offer a new perspective and a range of skills and experience to the VIR2Cope project.

Crystal has worked with the supplied Photomatix software package to prepare a range of HDR Photographs which are to be used in both the Exhibition and catalogue and has taken part in all the international Webinars which have taken place since the organisation joined the project. As the presenter of two recent webinars, Crystal has focused on some of the issues raised by HDR photography.

This subject matter, a ‘Critique of HDR photography’, is the basis of the chapter which Crystal is researching and preparing for a chapter of the E-book for HDR Photography.

The critique looks at the positive and occasionally negative aspects of HDR photography in an objective way and aims to identify the most relevant and helpful advice which has been offered to ensure that the technique is used both appropriately and effectively. Crystal has a wider role in the production of the E-Book and will be offering support on the compilation and finalizing of this Intellectual Output.

Crystal will also be supporting the Portuguese partner in the development of the planned YouTube film which will involve the editing of material recorded during the Webinars mentioned earlier to produce a video which will be uploaded to YouTube: ‘Best practice of Online-Pedagogy’.

Richard Jack
Crystal

HDR Photographs
CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd.

Background to the photographs from Richard Jack / CRYSTAL / UK

The UK Partners, Crystal, are based in The Coffin Works, Newman Brothers' historic coffin fittings factory in the Jewellery Quarter of England's second city, Birmingham. Crystal's offices are located within the historic building and being a Creative Digital Agency, Crystal's work is in striking contrast to the work carried out in the building in the 19th and 20th Centuries.

The Coffin Works is a now a highly rated museum with conducted tours of the main areas of the works. From 1894 until 1999 Newman Brothers produced high quality coffin fittings in solid brass, stamped electro-brass, silver and nickel plate, and latterly in moulded resin. Additionally the company sold shrouds and coffin linings, which they manufactured at the factory from the mid C20.

When Newman Brothers started Birmingham was at the centre of the trade, but by the time they ceased trading the company was one of only three such manufacturers in Britain, the trade having been hit by competition from the Far East and changing patterns of burials. In their heyday Newman Brothers employed a workforce of over 100 people. They produced goods that were sent out across the world and adorned the coffins of the great and good, such as Joseph Chamberlain, Winston Churchill, the Queen Mother and Princess Diana.

The factory contents are a fundamental part of the heritage of the factory. They represent the equipment and production of over 100 years of manufacturing and offer a fascinating picture of life in a Victorian factory in Birmingham, which was considered the Workshop of the World during the C19.

These HDR photographs show some of the machines and 'time capsule' contents of the Stamp Room.

Memories of The Stamp Room

"There would be women; in fact most of the labour in the factory was female. The women would stand behind these drop stamps. The shafting was run from a gas engine at the bottom of the yard. And by pulling on the rope, it would tighten the pulley, the stamp would go up. They would place a bit of thin brass underneath, loose the rope, BANG! And pull the rope again, and they were ever so quick, I wondered how they kept their fingers".

Stamp room of the Coffin Works

Richard Jack

Crystal's offices are next to the stamp room and when these huge 'Drop Stamps' are dropped during conducted tours of the museum, the ground shudders!

The women who usually worked the Drop Stamps would stand in the 'trench' behind the heavy metal stamps on the ropes visible in this picture.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1/50

Camera Nikon D5300

Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @18mm

Tripod Yes

Software Photomatix, Photoshop



Typical workbench in the Stamp Room of the Coffin Works

Richard Jack

A typical workbench in the Stamp Room of the Coffin Works. The original rusting equipment is still all there. Unlike many museums nothing is hidden behind glass.

The outside light provides interesting blue reflections on some of the items.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1/50

Camera Nikon D5300

Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @18mm

Tripod Yes

Software Photomatix, Photoshop



The rusting ‘block and tackle’

Richard Jack

The rusting ‘block and tackle’ was used to lift heavy machinery. The image has been tonemapped to enhance the textures and colours.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1/60
Camera Nikon D5300
Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @42mm
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix, Photoshop



Atmospheric Effects

Richard Jack

The handle on this piece of equipment casts an interesting shadow onto the wall in the corner of the room. Old wooden beer crates from the mid 20th century add to the atmospheric effect.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1/80
Camera Nikon D5300
Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @18mm
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix, Photoshop



Fire bucket

Richard Jack

The fire bucket has a second handle underneath meaning that it would never stand on the floor, but always hung on a hook on the wall.

The rough texture in the rope contrasts with the smooth multiple layers of white paint on the brick wall behind.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1/13

Camera Nikon D5300

Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @32mm

Tripod Yes

Software Photomatix, Photoshop



'Rest in Peace'

Richard Jack

A stack of approximately thirty identical metal plates, stamped with the letters 'RIP' - meaning Rest in Peace. These would have been polished in a different part of the factory before being fixed to the coffins in the undertakers premises.

The light reflecting from the surface shows how effectively the large metal windows illuminate the factory.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1/30

Camera Nikon D5300

Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @55mm

Tripod Yes

Software Photomatix, Photoshop



Thin Metal Plates

Richard Jack

The thin metal plates are very different to the massive machine which has been used to stamp them out. The plate would be placed over the 'hole' and the metal 'pin' would impress the RIP and oval shape into the metal.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1 second
Camera Nikon D5300
Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @25mm
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix, Photoshop



Figure of Christ

Richard Jack

The figure of Christ would have been cast in another part of the factory. It now lies next to a box of old rusting tools.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1,3 seconds
Camera Nikon D5300
Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @48mm
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix, Photoshop



Coffin 'furniture'

Richard Jack

The use of monochrome adds to the atmosphere in this photograph of various pieces of coffin 'furniture' scattered randomly across a workbench.

Technical Information

Shots 3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1/40
Camera Nikon D5300
Lens AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @18mm
Tripod Yes
Software Photomatix, Photoshop



The Ladle

Richard Jack

The ladle contains the solidified metal which would have been used to cast the heavier, 'non-stamped' items of coffin furniture.

Once poured into the mould the metal would cool and solidify. The worker would then remove the item and send on to be polished and finished elsewhere in the factory.

Technical Information

<i>Shots</i>	3, ISO 200, f/6.3, 1/10
<i>Camera</i>	Nikon D5300
<i>Lens</i>	AF-s DX Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 G VR11 @18mm
<i>Tripod</i>	Yes
<i>Software</i>	Photomatix, Photoshop



Links



The Vir2Cope Project
<http://www.vir2cope.eu>



The European Commission
<http://ec.europa.eu/>



Acquamarina Associazione Culturale
Trieste, Italy
<http://www.associazionecquamarina.org/>



ALVIT - innovation and education Ltd.
Ostrava, Czech Republic
<http://www.alvit.cz/>



CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd.
Birmingham, United Kingdom
<http://wearecrystal.uk>



ETIC - Escola Técnica de Imagem e Comunicação Aplicada
Lisboa, Portugal
<http://www.etic.pt/>



EuFoA - European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign
Rastatt, Germany
<http://www.art-web-design.eu>



University of Pannonia
Veszprem, Hungary
<http://www.uni-pannon.hu/>

Italian meeting stakeholders



Ministero
dei beni e delle
attività culturali
e del turismo

Ministero dei beni e delle attività culturali e del turismo
<http://www.beniculturali.it>



Biblioteca Statale Stelio Crise di Trieste
<http://www.bsts.librari.beniculturali.it/>



Fondazione Silla Ghedina
Cortina d'Ampezzo

Fondazione Silla Ghedina
www.fondazione-sillaghedina.it



Liceo Artistico Statale Cortina d'Ampezzo
<http://www.polovalboite.it/>

Content

Introduction	1
The Vir2Cope - Project “European Blended Learning and HDR-Photography”	3
The Meeting in Trieste, Italy from 10th to 13th February 2016	9
CZECH REPUBLIC ALVIT - innovation and education Ltd.	11
HDR Photographs ALVIT - innovation and education Ltd.	15
GERMANY EuFoA - European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign	37
HDR Photographs EuFoA - European Photoacademy ArtWebDesign	41
HUNGARY University of Pannonia, Faculty of Business and Economics	63
HDR Photographs University of Pannonia, Faculty of Business and Economics	69
ITALY Acquamarina Associazione Culturale	91
HDR Photographs Acquamarina Associazione Culturale	97
PORTUGAL ETIC - Escola Técnica de Imagem e Comunicação Aplicada	119
HDR Photographs ETIC - Escola Técnica de Imagem e Comunicação Aplicada	125
UNITED KINGDOM CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd.	147
HDR Photographs CRYSTAL Presentations Ltd.	153
Links	177
Italian meeting stakeholders	178

