



**Photos, Each
Worth a
Thousand
Words**

Text and photos by Dr Adrian Tan



Sports photography

Sports photography is a unique genre of the art. It enables the photographer to record points of significance in a game or match, which normally involve emotions or actions taking place. Like the jubilant movements of a player and his teammates when a goal is scored, or the grit and determination on the player's face when he guns towards the try line. Two of my sons play rugby competitively for school and club, so this sport is very close to my heart. Being on the sidelines snapping away helps me to bond with my boys, as I can share moments of joy and despair with them. To me these moments are fleeting and priceless, because children grow up very quickly, and soon these memories are the only things left of their childhood.

Facing A big hit

Left Police and thief

Bottom Touchdown!







Landscape photography

Landscape photography requires the photographer to compose a photo from the scenery in front of him. Using tools like a tripod to ensure a steady camera and filters to produce certain special effects, the photographer is then able to transform a seemingly plain setting into a picture that captures the beauty of nature in all its glory. Subjects can include a sunrise or sunset, mountains, beaches, even buildings, and the list goes on. The challenge is scouting for appropriate locations to photograph, whether via the Internet or in person. Sometimes, getting a good shot involves waiting up early and arriving one to two hours before the sun rises or sets. In other instances, it may involve a little trekking in the wee hours of the morning from the carpark to an isolated area on a beach, to capture the sun as it rises and the waves as they break upon the rocks. The rushing waves create a surreal and misty effect which often makes people wonder if it is really Singapore in the image.

I enjoy the solitude while I wait for the scenery to evolve, as the quiet allows me to take stock of my thoughts and my life. Life in our busy world can sometimes overwhelm us. When we are always rushing around from point A to point B, we sometimes forget to pause and enjoy the wonders of the world around us. Landscape photography allows me to share some of this splendour, as seen through my lens, with others. ■

Facing, clockwise from top right

Fields of gold

Built to last

Fort Siloso in Sentosa

Wat Arun, a temple in Bangkok

Above Masjid Selat Melaka, also known as the Malacca Straits Mosque



Dr Adrian Tan is a family physician in a group practice. He is happily married to his wife Christine, and they have four kids from 11 to 18. Besides balancing the daily workload in the clinic with family time, he tries to throw in some time for his passion in photography. He collects photographic memories of his kids growing up and of Singapore's changing landscape. His pictures can be viewed at <http://www.flickr.com/tanyongkuan/sets>.