

THE DUBOIS PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP • JULY 2006

# FIRSTLIGHT





# FIRSTLIGHT DUBOIS

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP



COVER: Six year old, prize winning sheep rider (aka, mutton buster), Jace Mitchell practices his roping technique. When the national anthem began, Jace stopped roping, took off his hat, and motioned to the flag, a patriotic reminder to the photographer.

PHOTOGRAPH BY BRYCE COLE

The freedom of horses running captivated the photographers at the Absaroka Ranch. As the morning light crept into full strength, John Robinson concentrated on the dust and the backlight in a shot he likes to call Ghost Horses. • PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN ROBINSON



“The people in Dubois took us in as if they had known us all their lives,” says Humberto Guglielmina. Here, local fly fishing guide, Leon Sanderson wades and casts. Meanwhile, the photographer spends just as much time in the water, kneeling in the middle of Horse Creek to get this shot.z

PHOTOGRAPH BY HUMBERTO GUGLIELMINA







Dubois local, Ellen Jungck, was the camera in the midst as she practiced the techniques of tracking the action, taking multiple frames and staying with the subject. • PHOTOGRAPH BY ELLEN JUNGCK





Intrigued by the concept of "real" cowboys and the age-old bustle of the Rustic Pine Tavern, Lisa Satterfield worked a variety of angles to capture the "multi-dimensional" setting. Note the burlled log interior and the many wild game "trophy" hanging from the wall. Some people call these dead animals. • PHOTOGRAPH BY LISA SATTERFIELD





Just before the rope tightened around the saddle horn, before cowgirls landed proudly in the saddle, before the red white and blue...seventeen photographers from across the United States found Highway 26, the only route into Dubois, Wyoming. As the photographers assimilated to the rural lifestyle, they prepared for the visual and technical challenge of telling a story with images, of capturing the past, present and future of a western Wyoming town.

Despite the serenity of the region, Dubois – 962 people – would present the photographers with rough and ready action. The timing was perfect that first week in July. Mostly blue skies and the typical influx of summer visitors provided a lively atmosphere. The photographers hit the ground running. With their Olympus Systems as reliable sidekicks, they dispersed along the wooden sidewalks, across the dusty prairie, and into local homes and watering holes. The FirstLight Workshop Dubois would engage diverse perspectives.

ABOVE: Nothing spooks this horse on July 4, 2006. • PHOTOGRAPH BY CHERYL CULBERTSON

RIGHT: "I managed this shot while feeling as if I were just part of the scene," says Walt Hubis, who got completely soaked along with this crowd during the parade.

PHOTOGRAPH BY WALT HUBIS







ABOVE: In the early 1900's Dubois was known as a hard working-hard playing town with a disregard for prohibition. Folks traveled from around the state and beyond to take part in events and festivities, including the reputable rodeo. Although times have changed, as this modern sign suggests, most Dubois locals still enjoy a cold, bottled American beer.

RIGHT: Dude ranch guests and locals commune each summer when the town takes on its warm weather personality. The weekly square dance caller at the Rustic Pine Tavern always draws a large crowd.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY LISA SATTERFIELD





**F**irstLight Workshops take photographers to unique locations around the world. They immerse in time, place and state-of-the-art photographic equipment. Jay Dickman, FirstLight founder and owner, relies on his Olympus Systems and collaborates with John Knaur, Sr. Marketing Manager for Olympus Imaging America, to support visual creativity.

"The program is a way for us to get direct feedback from photography professionals who are in the field, using our cameras in a variety of situations," says Knaur. "We encourage up and coming photographers. Some of them are not common names yet, but they will be."

In a town that was almost named Never Sweat for its perennial winds, photographers noticed the benefits of the anti-dust function on the Olympus Digital SLRs. The filter feature saved time in the editing stages, confirmed digital workflow guru and Adobe Photoshop Certified Expert, Jay Kinghorn. "This year, we set new benchmarks for speed, efficiency and quality in all aspects of the workshop," he says. "Every aspect of the workflow had to perform flawlessly...and they did."

Kinghorn also depended on color precision in printing. According to Fred Zuill, Technology Consultant for HP, "As we work on our newest generation of products we focus on ease of use and excellent print quality. Artists have favorite tools, and as a manufacturer, HP wants to support these artists by making the best products for them that we can. It becomes a synergistic relationship."



**ABOVE:** Precise timing and slow shutter speed captured this big moment.

**PHOTOGRAPH BY BRYCE COLE**

**RIGHT:** Among the crowd, Ash and Rosie Corlett and John Bartlett stake claim to a prime firework's viewpoint.

**PHOTOGRAPH BY DARIUS PANAHPOUR**







John Burns hands out advice and stories from the chutes. Rodeo runs in the blood of some Wyoming families, and the little ones compete and trail ride from as young as two years old. That means there is always a market for a trusty old steed. • PHOTOGRAPH BY CONNIE DINES





**F**or photographer Walt Hubis, participation is an essential part of photography. He comes into a place with an open mind, without expectations, and sees what the location or subject presents on its own.

With accomplished instructors as their guides, the photographers covered Dubois in the style of true photojournalism, reveling in their creativity and their Olympus equipment. FirstLight instructors critiqued, inspired and guided the students to new levels of artistry. National Geographic Photo Editor, Bert Fox brought years of photographic story telling expertise, and Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer, Skeeter Hagler rounded out the team.

Workshop founder, Jay Dickman emphasizes relationship building and training the eye. "Shooting a story requires the photographer to immerse into the subject, to come to an understanding of what is valid, relevant and needed from the photographic perspective," he says. "The photographer has to become almost invisible so that the subject goes back to doing what was visually interesting in the first place. Then the real work begins – watching for that gesture, that moment, the reach of a hand, that will make the photo succeed."

Furthermore, Dickman refers to his workshop locations as "visually rich". While much of Wyoming seems like a no man's land, Dubois expresses whopping character despite its size. From the Scandinavian tie-hacks (and later lumber companies) who worked the forests to the thriving Cowboy and hunting cultures, the town is a snapshot of western endurance. The natural setting promotes year-round recreation, conservation and retirement. Meanwhile, volunteerism forms a backbone for the community, extending well beyond "love thy neighbor".

Thus, with much anticipation, over 400 Dubois residents arrived the final evening of the workshop to feast their eyes on friends and neighbors. They praised the photographers and celebrated their town. In the words of Jay Kinghorn, who prepared each photo for display: "Editing photography is like polishing a diamond, not changing it, but unearthing its inherent beauty. The viewer sees a collective story – a week in the life of Dubois, Wyoming."

In the flat morning light, third generation rancher, John Finley irrigates his fields. "He really works the land, and the water plays a huge part in his livelihood. I wanted to capture that," says Walt Hubis

PHOTOGRAPH BY WALT HUBIS





TOP: Jewelry and garment making are still a way of life for Shoshone and Arapaho on the Wind River Indian Reservation. The Shoshone chose this land as a wintering and hunting ground long before it became one of the largest reservations in the country. • PHOTOGRAPH BY RYN CLARK

BELOW: Arapaho tribal elder, Ryan Gambler, sits in this 15-foot circular sweat lodge. During a trip, he reaches out to the spirits and his ancestors for guidance and medical assistance. PHOTOGRAPH BY WALT HUBIS

RIGHT: This site is said to host the grave of Sacagawea, the Shoshone woman who translated for Lewis and Clark. PHOTOGRAPH BY RYN CLARK







LEFT: In a mission to capture pure action, Bryce Cole found the parking lot just as lively as the rodeo. Brother and sister, Roxanne and Mick Albright, willingly show off for these shots. PHOTOGRAPH BY BRYCE COLE

RIGHT: After photographing horses all morning, something caught Humberto Guglielmina's eye when he saw a couple of cowgirls talking. As he focused, this girl bent to buckle her chaps. "It turned out to be a great shot, although not the one I had originally intended," he says. PHOTOGRAPH BY HUMBERTO GUGLIELMINA







RIGHT: Twenty-somethings migrate to Dubois dude ranches each summer to work cattle, ride, cook, or help maintain the property. Whitney Morgan and her dog Walter did just that.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ELLEN JUNGCK

BELOW: Three year old, Lana Jordon and her mom await the barrel racing event.

PHOTOGRAPH BY RAY JOHNSON

LEFT: How close can we get to innocence?

PHOTOGRAPH BY EUGENE POTTER







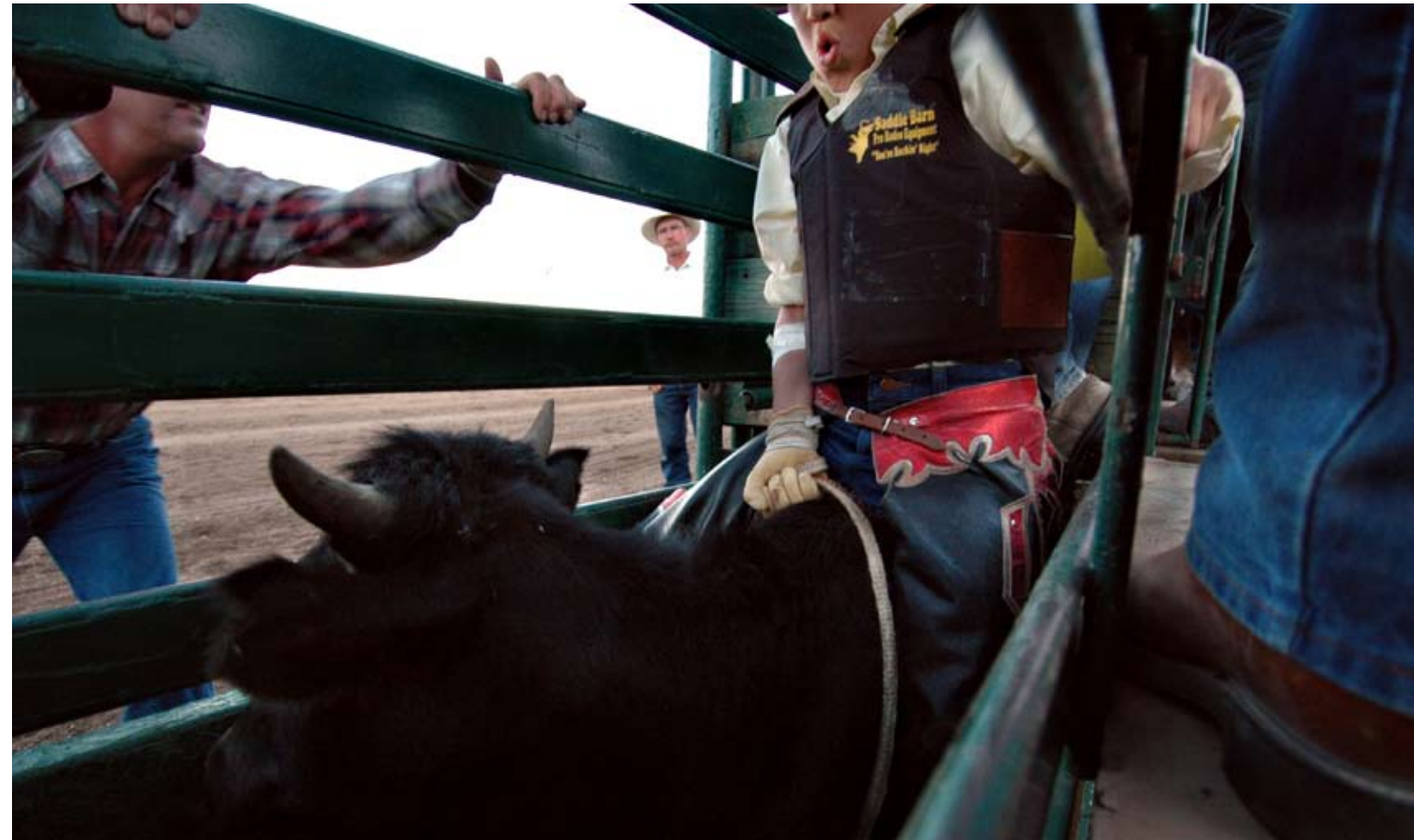
LEFT: Captured at a high speed moment, barrel racer Sadee Wheeldon leans into a turn.  
PHOTOGRAPH BY CARL HENRY

ABOVE RIGHT: A bald face horse looks into this quintessential tack shed at the Absaroka Ranch: curry combs, hoof picks, soft brushes, and a pup ready to sneak in for a nip at the equine heel.  
PHOTOGRAPH BY DARIUS PANAHPOUR

RIGHT: These horses don't seem to mind the lazy wait for their riders.  
PHOTOGRAPH BY EUGENE POTTER







TOP: At the nod of his head, this cowboy will find out how well his steer bucks, twists or runs.  
 PHOTOGRAPH BY  
 EUGENE POTTER

LEFT: The workshop gave Ellen Jungck the perfect excuse to join Dubois long-timers as they share ritual morning coffee talk.  
 PHOTOGRAPH BY  
 ELLEN JUNGCK

RIGHT: In autumn, Dubois lures hunters from across the country in search of big game and the thrill of the chase. Taxidermist, Lynn Stewart, sews the ears onto a Canadian caribou hide.  
 PHOTOGRAPH BY  
 ELLEN JUNGCK







ABOVE: "I was fascinated by how talented he is," says Ray Johnson of the artist Bud Boller. "The shot in his studio just worked. Photographically everything was there: his arm, his hat, the table, the Dolly Pardon sculpture, and the light."  
PHOTOGRAPH BY RAY JOHNSON



LEFT: Artist and sculptor Bud Boller.  
PHOTOGRAPH BY RAY JOHNSON

RIGHT: Close-up techniques and blue skies capture this smile.  
PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID HAYDEN







Park Terrell fell in love with the remote landscapes of the Upper Wind River Valley. At 6:05 a.m. he snapped this shot of the Absaroka Mountains in the quiet wilderness at Brooks Lake. "Before I arrived in Dubois I had studied the forest service maps and knew I was going to drive to Brooks Lake. I am a solitary photographer and really enjoy photographing water and its many reflections. The clouds and a hint of sunlight were worth waiting for that morning," he says.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PARK TERRELL





Top to bottom and left to right at the Dennison Lodge, Dubois, Wyoming. ON RAILINGS: Darius Panahpour, Jeff Vanuga, Rob Moody  
 TOP ROW: Walt Hubis, Skeeter Hagler, Becky Dickman, Ray Johnson, Gene Potter, John Robinson, Carl Henry. MIDDLE: Jay Dickman, Humberto Guglielmina, Bryce Cole (upper), Park Terrell (lower with black shirt), Bert Fox, Lisa Satterfield, Cheryl Culbertson. BOTTOM ROW: Jay Kinghorn, Ryn Clarke, David Hayden, Connie Dines, Ellen Jungck.

Special thanks to photographer and local expert, Jeff Vanuga, whose knowledge and groundwork framed the success of FirstLight Dubois. A huge thanks to Margo Clark, owner of Wind River Gear, and Carol Petera of the Headwaters Conference Center, who provided their time, connections and invaluable knowledge of the area. Without these great friends this workshop would not have been possible. Many thanks to Tracy & Van Hayes, long-time friends of Jay & Becky, for introducing us to the magic of Dubois. FirstLight would not exist if not for the support and involvement of our good friend, John Knauer of Olympus. Last, but never least, FirstLight as well as my own dreams would have never have come true without the support of my wife, Becky. Thanks to All!!!

TEXT BY NICOLE BURDICK

## 2006 Dubois FirstLight Workshop Faculty



### Jay Dickman - Olympus Visionary

Jay Dickman, Olympus Visionary and Lexar Elite Photographer, is founder of Firstlight Workshops. A Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer and regular contributor to National Geographic, Jay's work has won numerous awards in the World Press International Competition. Jay recently co-authored Perfect Digital Photography with Jay Kinghorn, published by McGraw Hill.



### Bert Fox - National Geographic Photo Editor

Bert Fox joined National Geographic Magazine in August 1996 as a Picture Editor. He has edited over 100 stories for the magazine, including a 70-page cover story celebrating 50 years of mountaineering on Mt. Everest. His honors include being named "Magazine Picture Editor of the Year" five times by the University of Missouri, in its annual Pictures of the Year (POY) competition.



### Skeeter Hagler - Photographer

Skeeter Hagler won the Pulitzer Prize for photographs he made chronicling the lives of modern-day Texas Cowboy. The winning pictures appeared in books and magazine articles around the world. Skeeter's Pulitzer images will soon be part of HBO's eight-part miniseries on the stories behind the Pulitzer winning photographs. In his 34th year as a photojournalist, Skeeter is a freelance photographer in the editorial, advertising and corporate world, covering assignments for clients ranging from EDS Corporation to Budweiser.



### Jay Kinghorn - RGB Imaging

An Adobe Photoshop Certified Expert, Jay Kinghorn draws upon his background as an assignment and fine-art photographer to develop training programs that fulfill the essential needs of photographers. His approachable, comfortable and efficient training style makes Jay one of the most sought-after digital imaging specialists. In 2003, Jay created a landmark digital imaging survey with ASMP Colorado to assess the adoption of digital photography.



### Jeff Vanuga - Photographer

Jeff Vanuga lives in Dubois and has photographed professionally for over 25 years. His work has been published worldwide in magazine and major advertising campaigns including Outside, National Geographic, National Wildlife, Audubon, Sierra Club, Natural History. His work has won major international awards including first place in the BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year and the National Wildlife Competition. He has hosted TV shows on nature photographer for the Outdoor Life channel and Nature's Best Magazine



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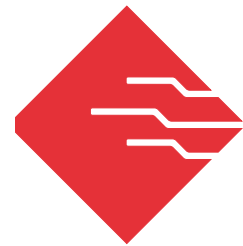




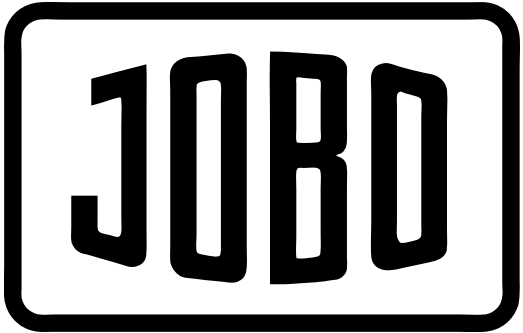
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BACK COVER: Wranglers gallop across the field. With the visual adventure complete, the photographers also turned tail for home... a bit wiser and each with a story to tell.  
PHOTOGRAPH BY CONNIE DINES



