## A Photographic Connection

By Sonali Khemka

For Loretta Ho, photography is more than just a hobby. Ever since her father passed way in 2009, photography has been a way of staying connected to him and honouring his craft. Over the last twelve years, Ho has found her own niche area of photography, with each shot taken reminding her of why she started in the first place.



"Mirror" Yosemite National Park, USA (2015) "鏡子" 美國優勝美地國家公園 (2015)





"Unfolding" Nami Island, South Korea (2019) "靜待" 韓國南怡島 (2019)

o's father was a passionate photographer, owning a wide range of photography equipment. When he passed, it left Ho and her mother shattered. "It was a very difficult time for me and my mother after he passed. We were packing his things and had no idea what to do with his cameras, but I was very reluctant to dispose them. I decided to keep them and that's when I picked up photography," she shares. "I feel a strong connection with him when I take photos with his cameras and lenses," she adds.

Ever since, Ho has committed time to photography outside of her day-to-day work as a family and divorce lawyer at Gall. "What I like most about photography is to be able to capture precious moments, particularly all the places I have visited with my family and friends," she explains. Ho has become deeply interested in landscape photography and tries to find any opportunity to take photos of her surroundings. "I continue practicing photography as I find it very calming when I do it, although the equipment can be quite heavy," she shares. Ho's love for landscape photography stems from the fact that the same location or surrounding can be photographed very differently by different people. "Personally, I think landscape photography is quite unique. For example, you can have a group of people sharing the same view (in nature) but have different perspectives. The photos they take can turn out to be very different even if they were taken at the same spot," she explains. "That is why I like landscape photography (as supposed to portrait photography). I also love the contrast in black and white photography," she adds.

Travelling and visiting beautiful places gives Ho an immense amount of inspiration and some of her best work has happened during such trips. "One of my fondest memories must be my trip to Northern Europe with my mother in 2018. The views were absolutely stunning (some of the photos for this article were taken during that trip)," she shares. Another fond memory for Ho is placing third place in a photography contest. "I participated in the 2020 Photography Awards organized by Carey Olsen and was awarded 3rd place which was very exciting," she shares. While Ho is currently unable to travel internationally for photographic inspiration due to the pandemic, she is finding avenues locally. "Although Hong Kong is a very crowded

"Captivate" Hyde Park, London UK (2013) "著述" 英國倫敦海德公園 (2013)

city, there are actually a lot of places which are unique and worth exploring for photography. Personally, I enjoyed visiting the outlying islands and places like Tai O," she shares.

Ho firmly considers her father to be her inspiration and role-model when it



Nami Island, South Korea (2013) "在林木中" 韓國南怡島 (2013)

comes to photography. "My inspirations definitely come from my father. He must be a way better photographer than I could ever be as back in the days there were no digital cameras and photoshop for editing photos," she shares. "I would say photographers from my father's generation, or further back, must be more skillful in terms of their techniques as there were not many tools such as photoshop for editing photos," she adds.

Besides allowing her to stay connected with her father, photography has also brought other benefits in Ho's life. "Photography has taught me to try to think and see things from other people's perspective, which I found useful in both my personal and professional life," she shares. "As mentioned earlier, even if people are sharing the same view at the same spot, the photos they take can be very different as everyone can have different perspectives even looking at the same thing or situation," she adds. The activity has also helped her become more patient. "I think photographers have to be patient. Sometimes you need to wait for a period of time before you catch the right lighting for the photos," she explains. For budding photographers, Ho recommends practicing and then practicing some more. "Set aside some time to explore the city and take photos (even with a smartphone). Practicing more helps fine tune your skills," she shares. "Take advantage of digital photography as we no longer need to develop photographs from films and digital photos do not take up any physical space," she adds. For Ho herself, despite her other interests in hiking, singing and dancing, photography holds a special place in not just her heart but also her memory.

## 攝影的連繫

文: 孔春秀



"Sunset Waves" Tai O, Hong Kong (2012) "暮浪" 香港大澳 (2012) 對於何卓怡律師來說,攝影不僅僅是一種 愛好。自從她的父親在 2009 年去世後, 攝影一直是她與父親保持連繫及紀念他的 一種方式。在過去的12年裡,何律師已經 找到了適合自己的攝影領域,每一次拍攝 都讓她想起了她最初開始攝影的原因。

(F) 律師的父親是一位熱愛攝影的攝影師,他擁有各種各樣的攝影部,他擁有各種各樣的攝影器材。當他去世後, 何律師及她的母親大受打擊。她說; 「父親的去世,對我及我的母親來說 是一個非常困難的時期。我們在收拾他的東西時,不知道該如何處理他的攝影器材,但我非常不願意扔掉這些器材。我決定保留它們,就在那時, 我開始學習攝影。」她補充說:「當 我用他的相機及鏡頭拍照時,我感到 與他有一種強烈的連繫。」

從那時起,何律師就在她作為高嘉力 律師行的家庭及離婚律師的日常工 作之外投入時間去攝影。她解釋說: 「我最喜歡的是能夠捕捉珍 貴的時刻,特別是我與我的 家人及朋友去過的所有地 方。」何律師對風光攝影 產生了濃厚的興趣,並試 圖找到任何機會來拍攝她 周圍的環境。她分享道: 「我繼續攝影,是因為我

發現當我拍照的時候非常平靜,儘 管攝影器材有時候也挺重的。」

何律師對風光攝影的熱愛源於這樣 一個情況:不同的人在同一個地點 或環境,可以拍出非常不同的照片。 她解釋說:「就個人而言,我認為 風光攝影是相當獨特的。例如,你



"A Walk To Remember" Stockholm, Sweden (2018) "難忘的同行" 瑞典斯德哥爾摩 (2018)

可以讓不同的人對著同樣的(自然 界)風景,但各自有著不同的觀感。 他們拍攝出的照片可以是非常不同 的,即使他們是在同一地點拍攝。」 她補充説:「這就是為什麼我喜歡風 光攝影(與人像攝影相比)。我也喜 歡黑白照片中的對比。」

旅行及參觀美麗的地方給了何律師 巨大的靈感,她一些最好的作品就產 生在這些旅程中。她分享道:「我最 美好的其中一個回憶,一定是 2018 年與我母親一起去北歐旅行。那裡的 景色絕對令人驚歎(本文中的一些照 片就是在那次旅程中拍攝的)。」對 何律師來説,另一個美好的回憶是在 一次攝影比賽中獲得第三名。她說: 「我參加了由凱瑞奧信舉辦的 2020 年攝影大賽,並獲得了第三名,這令 我非常興奮。」雖然何律師目前因疫 情而無法到其他國家尋找攝影靈感, 但她正在本地尋找靈感。她表示: 「雖然香港是一個非常擁擠的城市, 但實際上香港有很多獨特的、值得為



"Contrast" Canary Wharf, London UK (2013) "比照" 英國倫敦金絲雀碼頭 (2013)

攝影而探索的地方。就我個人而言, 我喜歡遊覽離島(例如大澳)等地。」

在談到攝影時,何律師堅定地認為 她的父親是她的靈感及榜樣。她說: 「我的靈感肯定是來自我的父親。他 一定是一個比我更好的攝影師,因為 在那個年代,還沒有數碼相機及用 於編輯照片的 Photoshop。」她補充 說:「我想説的是,我父親那一代的 攝影師,或者更早的攝影師,在技 術上一定是更熟練的,因為當時沒 有像 Photoshop 這樣的工具來編輯照 片。」



段時間,才能捕捉到合適拍攝照片的 光線。」

對於初出茅廬的攝影師,何律師建議 他們多加練習。她分享道:「留出一 些時間來探索這個城市並拍攝照片 (即使是用智能手機)。更多的練習 有助於改善你的技巧。」她補充說:

"Reflection" Oslo, Norway (2018) "反映" 挪威奥斯陸 (2018)

「有了數碼攝影的優勢,我們不再需 要從膠片沖洗照片,而且數碼照片不 佔用任何實體空間。」對何律師自己 來說,儘管她還有其他興趣,如行 山、唱歌及跳舞,但攝影不僅在她的 心中,而且在她的記憶中也佔有特殊 地位。■



"Up In The Clouds" Oslo Opera House, Norway (2018) "雲海" 挪威奥斯陸歌劇院 (2018)



"Lotus After The Rain" Nami Island, South Korea (2019) "雨後的蓮花" 韓國南怡島 (2019)