Introduction

Csilla Szabó, born in 1979, Budapest, lives and works in Berlin.

   After studying photography in Budapest, I moved to Berlin in 2007, where I have been an apprentice of fine-arts photographer Jeff Cowen. While there, I was trained in the art of traditional silver black and white printing of large format photographs on a masterful level, including numerous alternative processes. I then became a professional printer; in the last few years I have printed for international artists and their exhibitions, and I also conduct different workshops in the darkroom.

Even though I'm not against digital photography, and I admit the great possibilities in it I can't help but love analogue photography. Especially the darkroom part of it. In my opinion it is a beautiful craft with all its time- and money-taking difficulties.
First of all all the materials I can touch and smell. They are real, when they are properly handled, apart from fire or water disaster they cannot disappear. Every step I do with my own hands, you could put the "handmade" sticker on it. Even after several years I'm still amazed how the picture comes out on a blank sheet of paper, how I can see the grain through the magnifyer, how different chemicals and different methods can bring out completely different results from the same negative. The joy, when after many mistake I finally achieve the proper, balanced dodging and burning on a different picture, sometimes even smiling at myself when I look like a crazy magician cursing the paper; and of course, when after a long day in the dark I finally see the final prints on the light, drying on the glass: clean, amazingly flat, ready to entertain viewers for longer than I will live.

This love an attitude is what next to the common technical part I would like to share on my workshops.

I speak fluent English, so I hold my workshops in English, but I understand German as well, so in case your English is not the best, we will still get along in the classes.

Hope to see you soon!

Csilla Szabó
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