Macro Photography

Carol DeGuiseppi
Chester County Camera Club

Mentor Meeting

January 20, 2021

My Macro Journey

Definition of Macro

- Macro and Close-up Photography used interchangeably
- Close-up images are made at close distance to the subject
- Macro is about the magnification
- Size of image on your sensor is equal to size of item you're photographing
- Macros are super close-ups of objects at 1:1 (or greater)

What We'll Cover

- Equipment and Gear
- Subject Matter
- Depth of Field
- Focus Stacking
- Composition

Equipment / Gear

- Macro Lens
- Regular Lens
- Extension Tubes
- Close-up Lenses
- Reverse Lens
- Tele-extender
- Tripod
- Platypod
- Remote Shutter Release
- Loupe
- Focus rail
- Plamp

Macro Lenses

Extension Tubes

Close-up Filters

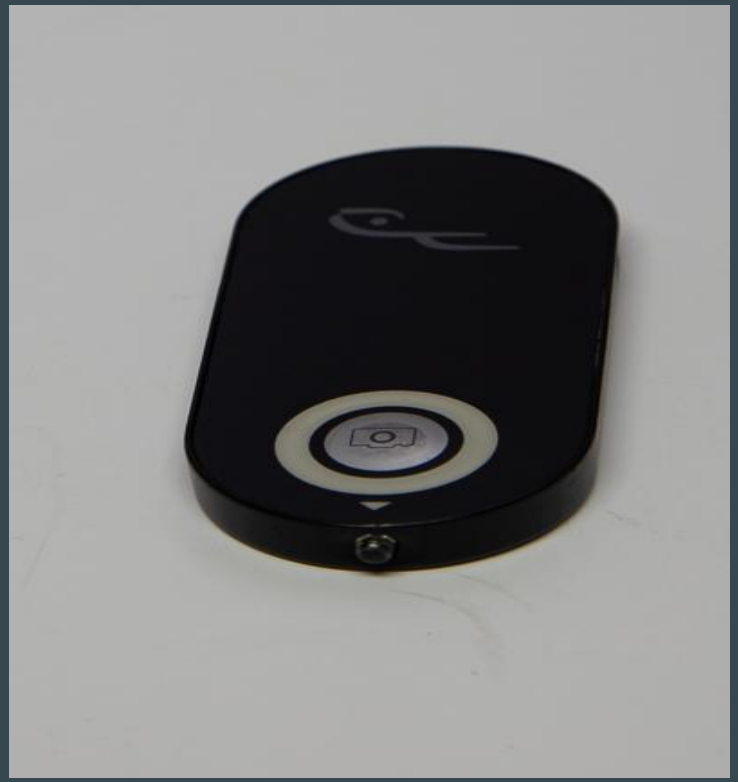
Reverse Lens Adapters / Tele-converters

Tripod

Platypod

Loupe

Remote Shutter Release



Focusing Rail

More Helpful Tools

- Reflectors
- Diffusers
- Plamp
- Flashlight / flexible light

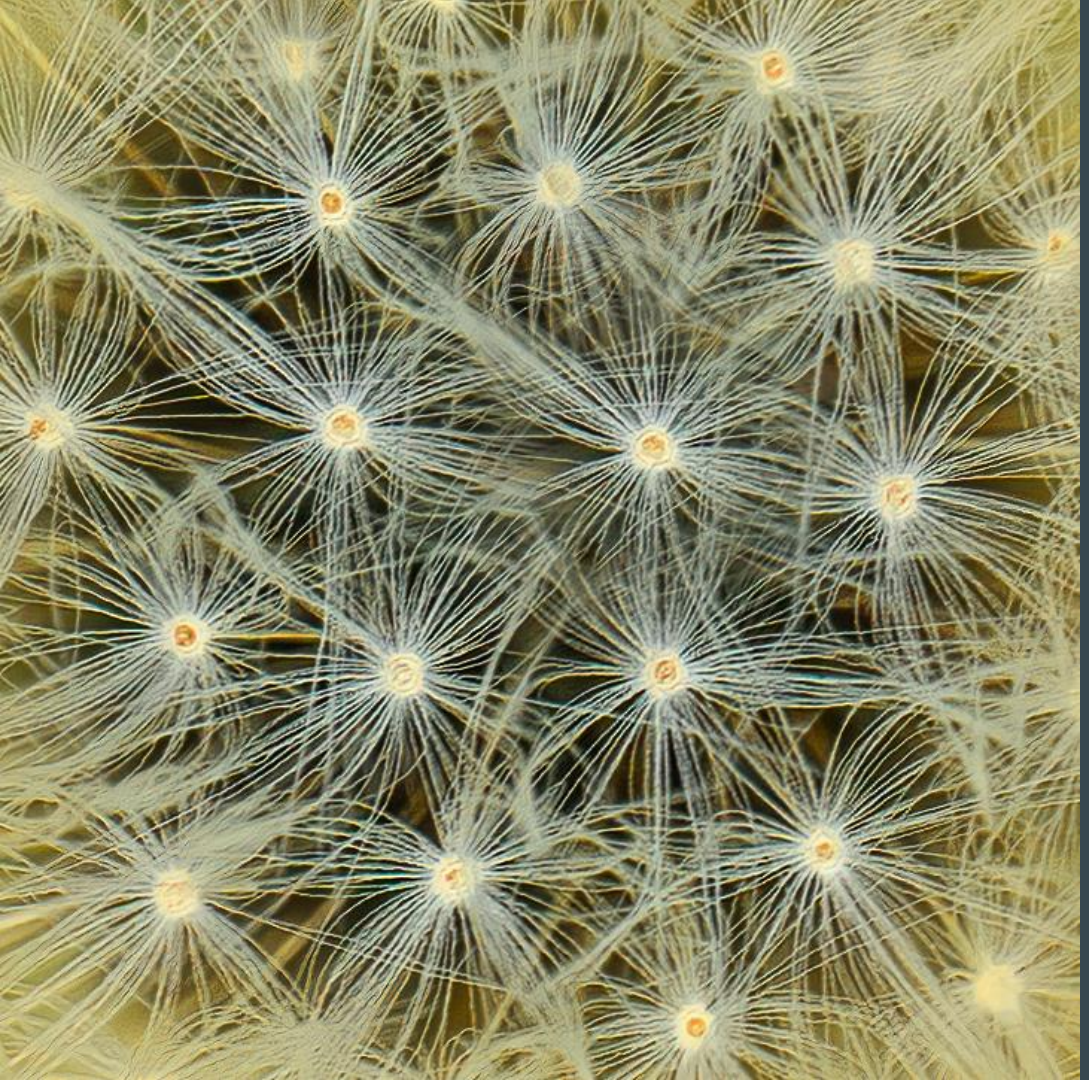
Reflectors and Diffusers

Plamp

Lighting

Subject Matter

- Flowers / nature
- Bugs / leaves / natural items
- Mechanical elements / gears
- Household items



Flowers and Nature

135 mm, f/5.6, 1/320 sec, ISO 100

100 mm, f/22, 4 sec, ISO 200

100mm
f/20
13 sec
ISO 400

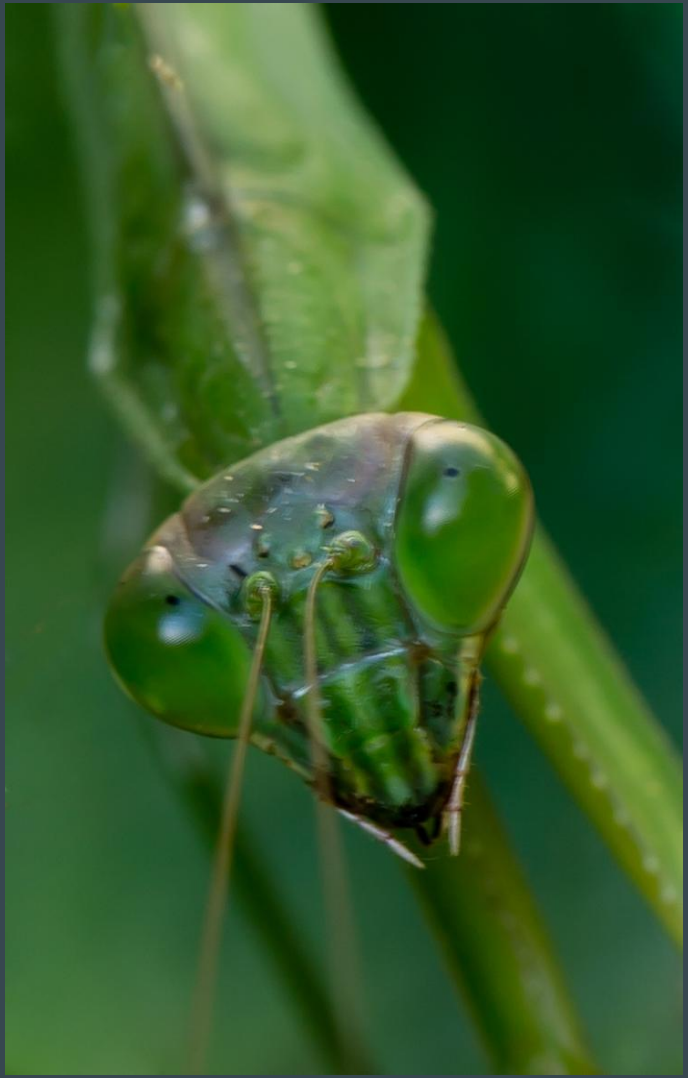
100 mm, f/2.8, 1/500 sec, ISO 400

180 mm, f/3.5, 1/160 sec, ISO 100

Bugs and Critters

100 mm, f/3.5,
1/800 sec, ISO 200

100 mm,
f/6.3,
1/25, sec,
ISO 100



135mm, f/5.6, 1/640, sec, ISO 400

135 mm, f/5.6, 1/400 sec

135 mm, f/5.6, 1/100 sec

Leaves and Natural Items

50 mm, f/10, 1/6 sec, ISO 100

100 mm,
f/5.6,
1/500 sec,
ISO 100

135 mm, f/5.6, 1/160 sec, ISO 160

Mechanical Elements

40 mm, f/4, 3.2 sec, ISO 100

100 mm,
f/32,
10 sec,
ISO 100

89 mm,
f/6.3,
.5 sec,
ISO 100

83 mm,
f/5.6,
1/160 sec,
ISO 400

Household Items and Everyday Objects

100 mm,
f/22,
25 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/2.8,
1/3200 sec,
ISO 200

105 mm,
f/4,
1.320 sec,
ISO 100

105 mm,
f/4,
1/80 sec,
ISO 400

100 mm, f/2.8, 1.6 sec, ISO 100

Depth of Field

- Aperture
- Focal Length
- Distance between you and your subject
- Distance between your subject and background

Depth of Field

Shallow

Softer Foreground and Background Focus

- Wider Aperture
- Longer Focal Length
- Closer to Subject

Deep / Long

Sharp Foreground and Background Focus

- Narrow Aperture
- Shorter Focal Length
- Farther from Subject

Small F stop number = Small area of Focus
Large F stop number = Large area of Focus

Experiment!!

- Use Different Apertures
- Change your Vantage Point
- Vary your Focal Point
- Be Aware of the Background
- Take your Time!!

Use Different Apertures

100 mm,
f/2.8,
1/125 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/5,
1/125 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/10,
1/5 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/14,
1/5 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/22,
0.5 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/32,
1.3 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/2.8,
1/125 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/11,
1/6 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/22,
0.6 sec,
ISO 100

100 mm,
f/32,
1.3 sec,
ISO 100

Change Your Vantage Point

180 mm, f/3.5,
1/1000 sec,
ISO 400

123 mm,
f/5.6,
1/25 sec,
ISO 100

Consider your Background

135 mm, f/5.6, 1/160 sec, ISO 250

118 mm, f/5.6, 1/250 sec, ISO 100

100 mm, f/32, 1/250, 4 sec, ISO 400

180 mm, f/16, 1/6 sec, ISO 100

100 mm,
f/7.1,
1/25 sec,
ISO 100

Focus Stacking

•••

Focus
stacked
10 shots

100 mm
f/4
1/250 sec
ISO 320

focus-stacked
seven shots

100 mm
f/2.8
1/250 sec
ISO 400

100 mm
f/11
1/800 sec
ISO 1600

Focus Stacking

Open as Layers in Photoshop
Edit / Auto-align layers
Edit / Auto-blend layers

Composition

- Fill the frame
- Diagonal placement
- Rule of Thirds
- Bulls Eye
- Contrast
- Look for character

Fill the Frame

100 mm
f/16
5 sec
ISO 200

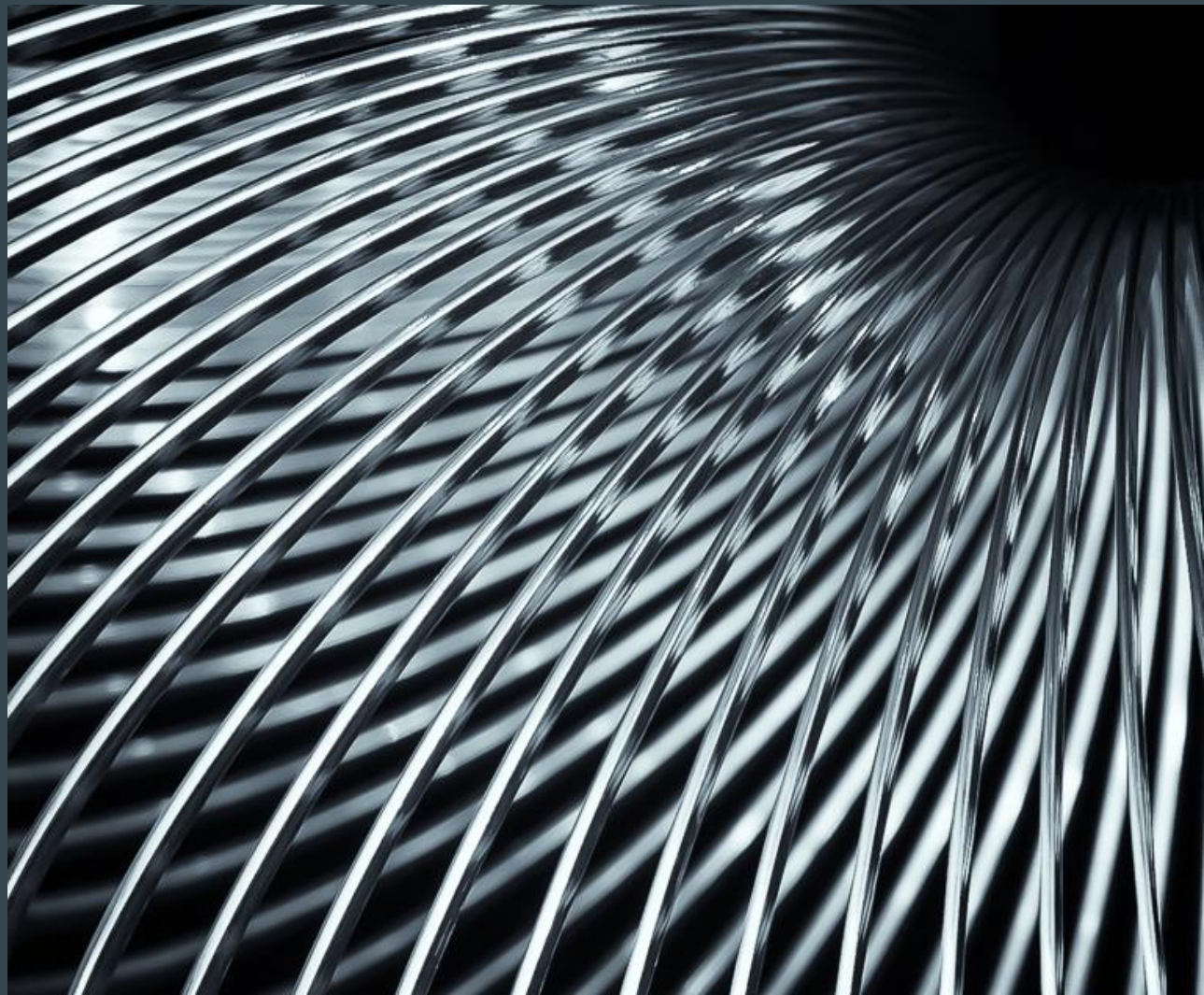
50 mm
f/2.8
1/320 sec
ISO 200

180 mm
f/3.5
1/6 sec
ISO 100

Diagonal

Placement

100 mm
f/8
1.3 sec
ISO 1000



180 mm
f/4
1/640 sec
ISO 400

100 mm
f/11
1/2000 sec
ISO 1600

Rule of Thirds

Bulls Eye

100 mm
f/2.8
1/25 sec
ISO 1400

13 shots

100 mm
f/2.8
1/25 sec
ISO 100

Contrast

100 mm
f/4.5
1/100 sec
ISO 400

50 mm
f/5.6
1/30 sec
ISO 400

Look for Character

100 mm f/2.8 1/50 sec ISO 100

100 mm f/7.1 1/20 sec ISO 100

Thank you!

...

Carol DeGuiseppi
www.caroldeguiseppi.com