

TO: CT CHAPTER of ASMP
FROM: Ron Glassman
CT ASMP Chapter President

Dear Members:

In early June CT ASMP was fortunate to have Platon address an audience at Yale University. Those in attendance heard him discuss the stories behind the many famous images he captured for his recent book, POWER. (For an interview with Platon, see Jane and Mike Shauck's article). Impressive as these images are, the photographer is a humble individual with striking aspirations. He is a well known photographer for a man in his forties and many years of shooting ahead of him. What I found so notable about his character was his willingness to explore and not settle for what could easily be defined as the "easy path." With his notoriety he could simply continue doing what has made him successful, but instead, and admirably, he is leveraging his fame to focus (excuse the pun) on the underserved throughout the world. As part of his presentation he acknowledged that he now has the power to use his reputation to document "those who have been robbed of power." He was in Cairo during the tensest days of the uprising setting up a make-shift studio in a public square documenting the faces of the revolution and he has sought out the political prisoners of Asian regimes, photographing them while trying to evade the authorities. These instances are an example of the power of imagery and how the camera can help be a part of change in the world. Although many of us do not have the means to travel the world there is much that we can accomplish close to home. Non profits are struggling and groups like Flashes of Hope can use our talents. A little bit of time invested can change a life. It is a hard economy to endure, yet it is still important that we help out those who need it most.

On the Chapter calendar August will be a quiet month. Activity will resume after Labor Day. Our programming is currently being put in place and we will provide you with ample time to plan. We can't be everything to everyone, but we'll attempt to present programs that educate, inform, and from time to time entertain. From our membership surveys, marketing, social media and technical programming are the topics that are of most interest to chapter members. If you have thoughts or ideas for a program, send them along. We're not bashful when it comes to suggestions. We'll also be offering some small workshops for a limited number of members (first come, first served) that I think will be of interest.

Enjoy the rest of the summer. See you in the fall.

Regards.
Ron Glassman
President, CT ASMP