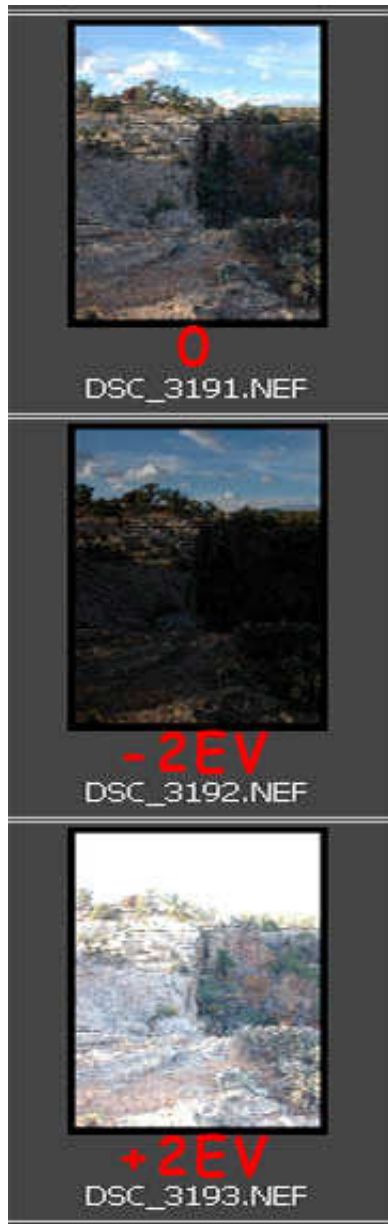


What is HDR?

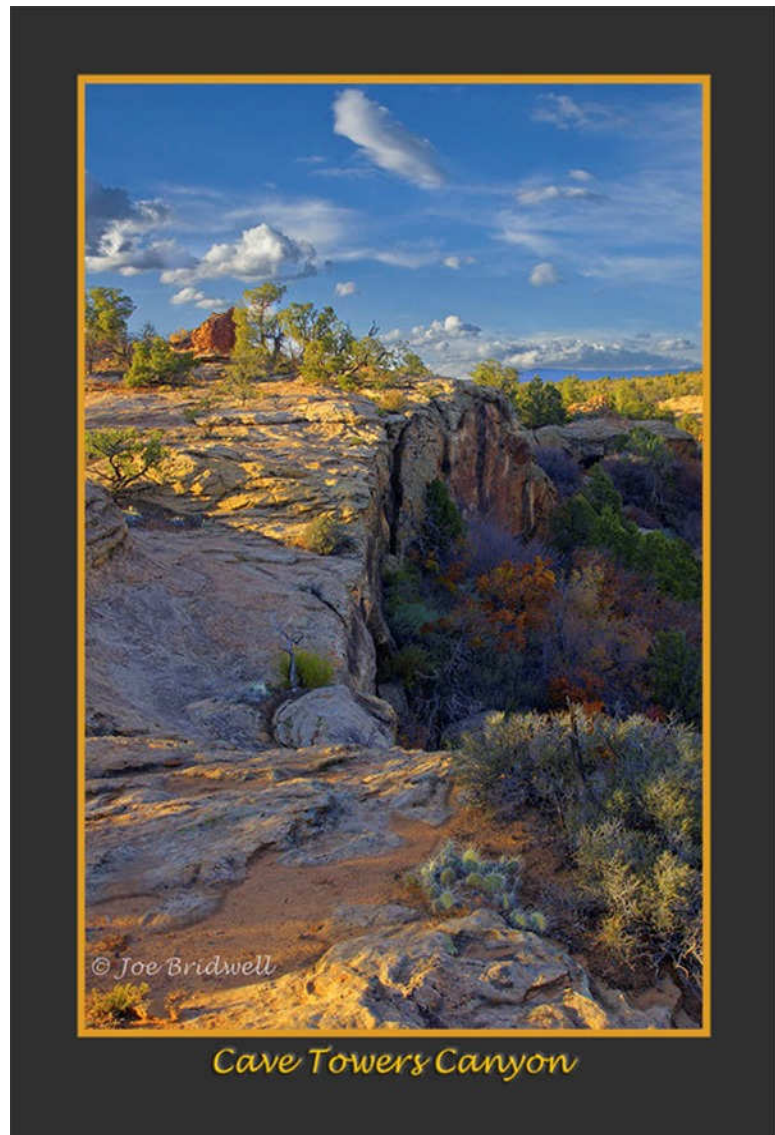
High dynamic range (HDR) is a growth technology.

We shoot landscapes at Magic Hour, that time surrounding sunrise and sunset when light can be most enchanting. At such times, strong shadows, bright highlights, and large scenes may require quite a series of camera, tripod, and software steps.

Let's talk about how we get *from* a high contrast scene such as this (A):



to an award-winning image like this (B)?



What steps can get you from A to B?

1. HDR Capture
 - a. Gauge the range of light your meter receives.
 - b. Choose the bracketing range to best capture at least 3 images.
 - c. If you're shooting a panorama, rotate your camera on a pano head.
 - d. Eliminate camera shake with a stable tripod.
2. Camera Raw Tonal Analysis
 - a. Archive your images, emplacing metadata, and saving separate sets.
 - b. Quickly evaluate gigabytes of data, searching for your keepers.
 - c. Maximize and sharpen the tonal range of your data.
3. HDR Processing
 - a. Create a 32-bit HDR image.
 - b. Tone map certain aspects of that image.
4. CS3 Processing
 - a. Repair inconsistencies coming from HDR processing.
 - i. Blue Sky Halos.
 - ii. Alignment.
 - b. Add special touches.
 - c. Prepare your marketing brochures.

The 3 original images are a ± 2 EV capture. The 12 steps outlined above are one of the many paths which can lead to the final award-winning HDR image.

In following examples, we enhance selected depths of presentation, yet can only skim parts of any HDR path. Moreover, HDR software is in its infancy. We expect these simplified steps to expand as more digital shooters find ways to capture and process realistic scenes.

You can download a preview of our actual HDR examples from our workshops by clicking on successive menus for the following items:

What is HDR

Choking on Gigabytes

HDR Capture

Adobe Camera Raw

Photomatix HDR

Photoshop CS3

©2008, Chopawamsic LC, All Right Reserved

BistiArt@Smugmug.com

www.BistiArt.Smugmug.com