

What's in a Landscape? Episode 1 - Transcript

[Soundtrack: Ambient music plays in the background throughout the video.]

[Text: What's in a Landscape Episode 1. A photography response to landscape artists Steve Messam's "Architect of Ruins" installation at Killhope for you to take part in.]

[Video: The camera pans along a narrow river toward a stone bridge.]

[Text: Listen and watch as professional photographer Lee Dobson shares his thoughts, hints and tips of landscape photography and encourages you to go out with your camera taking images which you can share with us by emailing your work to killhopeart@durham.gov.uk. Selected works will be included in an Anthology to be produced in the Autumn of 2021. Copyright Steve Messam.]

[Pictures: A piece of art featuring a large white balloon inside a wooden framed building. A stone building with red cone shaped balloons protruding from two sides. A road with stone hills on either side, the road ahead is blocked by a large red and yellow balloon. A piece of art consisting of a large red balloon and two stone stacks of stones to represent a rocket. An entrance to a mine shaft in the side of a hill blocked by a large golden balloon.]

[Image: A shot of a dark cloudy sky above the countryside]

[Lee Dobson] Hi my name is Lee Dobson and I'm a photographer based in and around the northeast of England.

[Image: A shot of a moor land area there is smoke visible in the distance on the moor.]

[Lee Dobson] And today I'd like to talk a little bit about how I approach landscape, landscapes in general.

[Image: A shot of building silhouetted against the side of a lake at dusk.]

[Lee Dobson] I mean this is in response to Steve Messam's 'Architect of Ruins' installation up at Killhope which can be seen from July until mid-September, and is also on Killhope's website so it's a must see. Fantastic work.

[Image: A shot of a small valley with grassy land on either side.]

[Lee Dobson] And today I want to talk a little bit just about how I approach or how I take some of my images that I've shot in and around County Durham.

[Image: A shot of a dark cloudy sky above the countryside.]

[Lee Dobson] Mainly because I live here and work here, and you know I go for lovely walks in and around the countryside as well.

[Image: A shot of moorland, below a cloudy sky.]

[Lee Dobson] So nine times out of 10 I have a camera with me, and I'm documenting the changing of the seasons that the weather and the different times of day.

[Image: A shot of a body of water with land in the distance, the light from the sky is reflecting off the water.]

[Lee Dobson] And I mean in my approach is a very simple one as well. I don't tend to use much technical ability when I'm looking through the camera or even using the phone. I tend to just be in that moment.

[Image: A shot of a forest path through trees in the sunlight.]

[Lee Dobson] Whether it be early evening sunsets, or early morning sunrises, or whether I'm caught in a rainstorm, or even midday in the beautiful hot sun by a river.

[Image: A shot of moorland, below a cloudy sky.]

[Lee Dobson] I tend to try and document a lot of this and you know a lot of what I do is dictated by the emotion in the sky.

[Image: A shot of a body of water as light breaks through the clouds. A landscape of trees is visible in the distance.]

[Image: A countryside landscape with a blue lake in the middle.]

[Lee Dobson] I mean as I'm out on evening walks one minute this one could be shining.

[Image: A shot of a forest path through trees in the sunlight.]

[Lee Dobson] And within moments you can see a storm approaching over the valley and then it's up on you and then you get you know a really angry sky.

[Image: A shot of a body of water illuminated by the sun breaking through the clouds.]

[Lee Dobson] Which is wonderful, because of a lot of the higher points in County Durham there's not a lot of focus of features.

[Image: A shot of a river with trees on either side of it.]

[Lee Dobson] And I tend look up at the sky and you see some wonderful emotion and wonderful things coming through.

[Image: A shot of a dark cloudy sky above the countryside.]

[Lee Dobson] So yeah, I tend not look at anything in two technical depth, but just document the seasons round me, you know.

[Image: A shot of a snow covered path through the countryside.]

[Lee Dobson] Whether I'm plodging through rain puddles, or kind of walking around a reservoir even through the snow.

[Image: A shot of a snow covered field with trees in the distance. The sky is bright with white clouds visible.]

[Lee Dobson] And having a camera at hand whether it be a phone or whether it be whatever you've got at hand. It's just wonderful to capture.

[Image: A shot of a light in the sky taken through a forest of trees.]

[Lee Dobson] And I guess as the years go on or as a year goes on, and your photographed all them seasons.

[Image: A shot of a body of water against a bright sky.]

[Lee Dobson] You start to get together a wonderful portfolio, wonderful resource of the environment around you and that that's kind of my year as a photographer.

[Image: A silhouette of a countryside landscape at dusk.]

[Lee Dobson] So, I urge you to go out there and just, you know, as the skies are changing.

[Image: A shot looking straight up at the sky through a forest of trees.]

[Lee Dobson] As the days changing, just document it, so yeah, get out there, have fun, look all around you, and you know, enjoy.

[Image: A shot of a stone building in the countryside at the side of a lake.]

[Lee Dobson] Okay thanks.

[Picture: An ariel shot slowly zooming in toward a lead mine building.]

[Text: Share you work with us at: Killhopeart@durham.gov.uk . Selected works will be included in an Anthology to be produced in the Autumn of 2021.]

[Text: Artist – Steve Messam. Photographs of “Architect of Ruin” by Steve Messam. www.stevemessam.co.uk]

[Text: (Killhope logo) www.killhope.org.uk. (Facebook logo) @Killhope (Twitter logo) @killhopemuseum Museum, Café, Walks, Wildlife.]

[Text: Photographer – Lee Dobson. Landscape and drone footage
www.leedobsonphotograpy.com]

[Text: Writer David Naphine Story Spinner Words.]