



Crystal Peer



Isabelle Bouchard on the job



Baby Peer nestled inside a cast of his mother's baby bump.



Isabelle Bouchard, self portrait

IN SEARCH OF THE PERFECT SHOT

By Lisa Crandall

Beyond the ubiquitous selfie in front of every touristy highlight and a plethora of not quite perfect shots at every social gathering, it is good to know that there are still those who specialize in making sure that every detail and angle of special occasion portraits is perfect. Isabelle Bouchard of Brockville and Crystal Peer of Prescott are two such perfectionists, independent photographers, each with a special vision of how their clients should be presented to the world.

Isabelle Bouchard of Brockville has been shooting professionally since 1999. She considers it her natural vocation, recalling that even as a teenager, she was the one who tended to seek out to collect the family images and their stories. Today it is those stories that she seeks to capture in the timeless and classic images she creates with her camera.

Her speciality is portraiture – corporate portraits, family legacy portraits,

weddings, maternity shots and whatever else her clients need her to capture. For several years she has worked out of a studio in Montreal, but last year she set up a home studio in Brockville. She still travels widely, in Eastern Ontario, to work with a vast range of clients.

She works closely with her clients to achieve their desired result. This includes guidance on what clothes to wear, as well as working with local professionals for hair and make-up. A shoot that includes hair and make-up can take as long as three hours to accomplish. The end result is a “reveal visit” where she presents a wall of the final images in 8x10 or larger sizes, mounted on archival quality mats.

In addition to doing portraiture, Isabelle teaches photography at The Professional Photography Institute in Montreal.

Crystal Peer of Prescott was given her first camera at age 10. Her career began with a two-year photography course at

Humber College in Toronto. She returned to Prescott to be close to her family. After spending several years doing quick turn-around portraits at a local grocery store studio, she decided to strike out on her own as an independent photographer.

Her executive portraits are classically elegant and she travels between Kingston and Ottawa at the request of her clients. It is in her other work that her sense of fun gets a chance to shine. She does sassy boudoir images for her adult clients, but her true speciality lies in working with children. She delights in cake smash sessions with toddlers and looks forward to maternity and infant sessions, perhaps because she is a new mother herself.

The end result of a session with Crystal is a CD package that includes a license to print the images.

Both these photographers have detailed websites that highlight their specific areas of expertise. They are both easy to talk to and committed to making their clients very comfortable, while at the same time, turning out a finished image that enhances the individual and suits the needs of the client. You'll find Isabelle Bouchard (Abelle photographie) at www.abelle.ca and Crystal Peer at www.crystalpeerphotography.com

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