

InFocus

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Bruce Captures Hockey With Infrared Camera

Author: [Bruce Bennett \(/profile/bruce-bennett\)](#)

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Sports photographer Bruce Bennett decided to shoot two NHL games using an infrared camera and the results are stunning.

I'm always on the lookout for new techniques... or really old ones that haven't been done recently. This breaks up the long season for me as the different techniques helps stir up my creative juices.



Bruce Bennett / Getty Images Sport

In this case, I had seen some infrared images shot at outdoor events and wondered what this would look like indoors. With just a passing familiarity with the technique and equipment needs, I scanned the Internet for more information and then settled on a company that would convert my Canon 1D Mark III to recording infrared images. In addition, they 'mated' a Canon 28-80mm lens to assist in focusing. I also shot some photos with a 16-35mm lens where the wider field of view helped alleviate any focusing issues.



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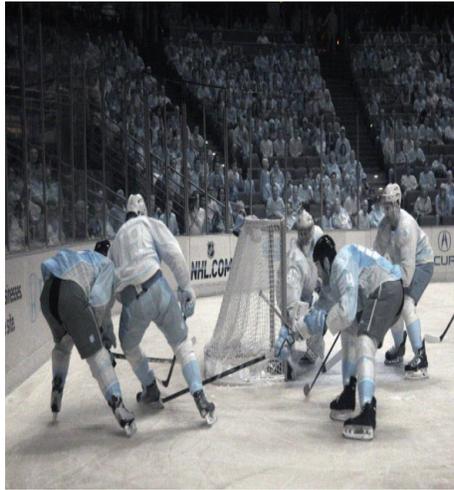


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Infrared equipment sees and records light from a different spectrum and the resulting images from your typical method of autofocus would simply be... out of focus. The conversion I decided on was a color interpolation (715nm) as I felt that infrared photography is usually rendered in black and white, and the color might add another dimension to my work. Images could be converted to black and white later.



Bruce Bennett / Getty Images Sport

The fact is that I simply had no idea what to expect when using the camera indoors as infrared images can be breathtaking when foliage or living beings (and a lot of infrared light) are in the picture. In fact, one of the better images I captured seems to be the exterior of the Staples Center with these elements in the frame.

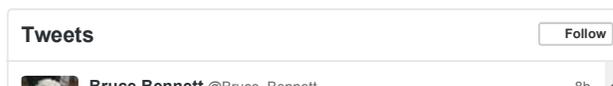


Bruce Bennett / Getty Images Sport

I had the camera modified for a western swing through Las Vegas, Hoover Dam, and Phoenix and ending up with Los Angeles and Anaheim. I also posted some scenic images that can be found by searching "[Bennett Infrared](http://www.gettyimages.co.uk/Search/Search.aspx?contractUri=2&language=en-GB&family=editorial&assetType=image&p=bennett+infrared)" (<http://www.gettyimages.co.uk/Search/Search.aspx?contractUri=2&language=en-GB&family=editorial&assetType=image&p=bennett+infrared>) on the Getty Images site.

Editor's Note: Bruce's pictures received amazing pick-up in *SB Nation* (<http://www.sbnation.com/lookit/2014/3/19/5525410/infrared-sports-photos-getty-images-nhl>), *USA Today* (<http://ftw.usatoday.com/2014/03/a-photographer-used-an-infrared-camera-to-take-photos-of-a-hockey-game-and-the-results-are-stunning/>), *Yahoo! Sports*, (<http://sports.yahoo.com/blogs/nhl-puck-daddy/infrared-hockey-photos-majestically-creepy-gallery-183643434-nhl.html>) *Fox Sports*, (<http://msn.foxsports.com/west/story/photographer-captures-capitals-ducks-with-infrared-camera-031914>) *Sports Illustrated* (<http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/nhl/photos/1403/nhl-infrared-photos/>) and many more!

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