

# Publisher's Comment

Gary W. Schnitz

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*Welcome to the Journal of Biocommunication's issue 42-1. This represents our first issue of 2018, and our fourth issue designed for our new mixed publishing format. Just as a reminder, this new JBC publishing model supports those authors and content creators who wish to retain a traditional copyright to their work. Our Galleries and Showcases are examples of this. However, this new publishing model also supports open access articles written by authors who are reporting on grant-funded or state-supported research.*

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## OPEN ACCESS

The *JBC* Management Board, editors, and reviewers continue to look for opportunities to present innovative content to our readers that will benefit them professionally. In addition to our regular *JBC* columns, issue 42-1 contains a new Published Abstracts section that serves as a showcase for abstracts related to biocommunication.

In our column "25 Years Ago in *JBPA/JBP*," Thomas St. John Merrill reviews content from *JBP* Vol. 61, No. 1 through 4 (1993). These *JBP* issues included a wide range of subject matter and photographic techniques that are still important to photographers and illustrators alike. In addition to his historical journalistic reporting, Thomas offers some keen insight into the photographic techniques being discussed by these authors in these older issues.

Beloved AMI member and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Neil O. Hardy passed away on June 3, 2018. As a tribute to Neil, we are republishing his 1979 *JBC* article in its entirety within this issue. This 39-year-old article was first published in *JBC* Vol. 6, No. 1. In the article, Neil discusses the concept and production of an illustrated book, *Childhood Injury*. Neil's article is a personal reflection of his approach to the business of book publication; it is humorous and as insightful today as it was in 1979. Be sure to read the short *JBC Editor's Note* at the end of Neil's article that describes Neil's fondness for hiding his children's initials within his illustrations. (The *JBC* Editors wish to thank Advisor, Tonya Hines, for her suggestion to republish this article as a tribute to Neil's contribution to the profession.)

"Illuminating Roman Vishniac: A Career in Biological Photography and Cinematography" is authored by long-time BCA members Howard J. Radzyner and Norman J. Barker. "Illuminating Roman Vishniac..." is without question a landmark article about a true pioneer in the field of bioscientific photography. This historical overview, complete with video clips, focuses on Vishniac's life and his amazing work.

With the discovery of Michelangelo's concealed neuroanatomical images in "Separation of Light from Darkness," by Ian Suk and Rafael Tamargo, there remained a need to investigate in greater detail the reasoning behind Michelangelo's depiction of imagery of the brain, brainstem, spinal cord, eyeballs, and optic nerves in the Sistine Chapel. In this article the authors attempt to provide key evidence to reveal the meaning and symbolism behind Michelangelo's concealed anatomic representations. "Neoplatonic Symbolism by Michelangelo in Sistine Chapel's Separation of Light from Darkness" is truly a remarkable work.

Research posters are widely used in the academic community to report on educational, clinical, and scientific research. In this issue we include 12 research posters (with abstracts) from recent medical illustration graduate students. These research posters, presented at the 2017 AMI annual meeting, provided a summary of the student's research, final project, and/or graduate thesis.

Our 42-1 Showcase recognizes the accomplished work of AMI member Neil O. Hardy. Neil's work continues to impress us all, as he combines simplicity of style with his illustrative creativity. We include 40 of Neil's illustrations for your review.

The *JBC* Gallery for this issue includes the 41 award winners from AMI's 2017 annual meeting Salon exhibition. We hope that you will take a fresh look at these award-winning illustrations, animation, and media.

We continue to rely on our readership for feedback about the *Journal*, and we invite you to share your thoughts with us about any of our columns and articles. We always appreciate your suggestions for improvement.

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For a list of *JBC* Board members, Editors, and Advisors, please visit: <http://www.jbiocommunication.org>

## Author

Gary Schnitz is a Past President and Past Chair of the Board of the Association of Medical Illustrators. He is a recipient of AMI's Lifetime Achievement Award, and is a Past President of the Vesalius Trust. He is a board certified medical illustrator living in Carmel, Indiana.

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