

Practical Photography Magazine, the UK's largest circulation photography magazine, published an image by Mike Smith of AsiaPhotoStock of Singaporean model "Rebecca" in its December 2009 issue. Rebecca is clad in a bikini & posing on the swing bridge on Sentosa Island Singapore.

**IMAGE WORKSHOP**

### Rope bridge model

by Michael Smith, Singapore

I stood in the sea with Rebecca, one of my favourite models, on a wooden suspension bridge. We took lots of pictures but this is one of my favourites - I used the ropes to frame her. Look care with head positioning, focused on the eyes and shot upwards for an uncluttered background and left the rest to the model.

**James says:** You had a great model and location for this shot. The sky on the beach has fortunately clouded over giving soft and even light, which is perfect for a natural light portrait. And the rope has provided a frame for the model's face and has allowed her to lean on a pose that would otherwise be impossible. I like the use of the ropes in the shot but think you could have used them in a better way. By positioning your model with the rope behind her and shooting through the gaps of the rope in front, you'd have a less busy background. A touch of contrast and some retouching would freshen the shot off nicely. Overall a good shot, well done.

**Creativity** ★★★★★  
**Technique** ★★★★★

**TRY THIS**

**Clear out distractions**  
Avoiding the ropes in the background would be possible at the shooting bridge, but it was possible to remove them using a combination of the Clone Stamp tool and the Healing Brush.

The image also looks original on the left side, so by creating an L-shaped curve (Curves box right) you can add the contrast necessary to improve the shot on.

**SUMMARY**

- 1. Great model, exotic location, soft and even light - perfect portrait conditions.
- 2. The suspension bridge provides the model with something to lean on, however...
- 3. The ropes could have been used in a better way. Shooting out the back of the model makes a page difference.

**REBECCA**  
Katty B...  
increasingly there. I love and hope...



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