



Male bellbird taking off. Flashes at 1/10,000 sec. 100 ASA 120 film.

40 x 50 cm) has heightened by awareness of what sort of negative or positive is required to make a good print.

In spite of a big outlay on equipment and materials, years of practice and using up all of my spare time, approximately 98 percent of my exposed negatives are failures. I would strongly advise anyone contemplating doing the same thing to save up and buy adequate supplies of film. If you are mean with your film, forget about trying this sort of technique.

When I photograph birds, I do so without damaging the surroundings. This means

that, instead of breaking off a branch which is in the way, I either move the camera or temporarily tie back the branch with string. This applies to small branches as well as big ones. There are people who have actually threatened species in other countries in their total obsession with getting a good photograph.

When a hide is set up in the trees, no nails are used. A platform is tied to trunks and branches with rope and the hide is placed on top of this. A ladder is used for access. I repeat, no nails are used at all. ♀

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