

# FIELD TESTING THE LUMIX LEICA LENS

“MANY PHOTOGRAPHERS HAVE BEEN CONVINCED  
THEY HAVE TO ‘SUPER SIZE IT’—THINKING BIGGER  
CAMERA GEAR IS ALWAYS BETTER.”—COX



Whooper Swans, Lake Kussharo, Hokkaido, Japan. Leica lens at 280mm; 1/1600 sec at f/9; ISO 500; hand-held.

*A month before Panasonic’s official release of the new 100-400mm f/4-6.3 lens, pro photographer Daniel J. Cox began putting it to work in the USA, Africa, and Japan. Traveling with heavy, cumbersome equipment is now a distant memory.*

“A PHOTOGRAPHER’S GEAR can reflect a passion for both photography and the environment,” says seasoned pro, Daniel Cox. Over the past years, he has watched technology take on the challenges photographers face when traveling in the field. He appreciates the steps taken by Panasonic to design a smaller, lighter professional zoom lens. Cox’s life philosophy to down-size whenever possible is mirrored by his choice of cameras and lenses as a way to make that statement.

“In a world where excess seems to be the norm, many photographers have been led to believe the more expensive gear leads to better photos. Today, this is no longer the case,” claims Cox.

Panasonic and Leica have teamed up to design a new paradigm of incredible optics. Made with Leica glass and technology, this new lens creates high-quality, sharp images—perfect for wildlife and landscape photography. Housed in a compact, durable metal frame, it weighs only about two pounds and measures less than seven inches in length.

“Panasonic is on the right track,” declares Cox, “this lens can operate as a serious telephoto. When paired with Panasonic’s Micro Four Thirds cameras, the full-frame lens is an equivalent of a 200-800mm lens with tremendous focal range. The sensor takes over and gives me more of the light needed with

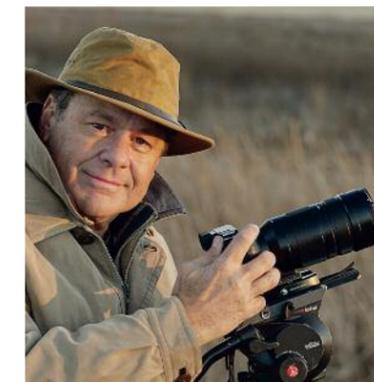
higher ISOs.” In the field, Dan Cox discovered that the Leica lens could shoot “wide open” at its lowest aperture without impeding the sharpness of his compositions.

The lens is outfitted with various controls: full/limit focus, focal length lock ring, auto/manual focus, and built-in tripod collar. A focus limiter allows you to constrain the range of focus for fast and more accurate autofocus—particularly useful to photograph birds in flight. When operating in 4K video mode, Cox will often attach the 100-400mm to a tripod for maximum

stability. He says, “If the action gets really exciting, it’s a simple flip of the tripod lever to remove the entire rig—the dual image stabilization enables quick and effective hand-held shooting.

The lens is also equipped with Power Optical Image Stabilization (OIS). When connected to certain Panasonic cameras, it has Dual IS because the OIS exists in both the camera and the lens. This empowers the photographer to be able to shoot hand-held images with more confidence. Cox explains, “The lightweight

lens allows me to carry multiple cameras making it easier to walk longer distances and spend more time creating images. Photographers all over the world will appreciate the advantages of this powerful, high-performance Lumix Leica lens.”



PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANIEL J. COX  
All photos taken with the Panasonic DMC-GX8  
camera and Leica DG 100-400mm f/4-6.3 lens.

“THIS LENS MAKES IT EASY TO MOVE WITH YOUR SUBJECT  
TO CAPTURE PORTRAITS, FAST-APPROACHING WILDLIFE, OR BIRDS  
IN FLIGHT WITHOUT LOSING FOCUS.” —COX

BELOW: Kirk's Dik-dik, Samburu National Game Reserve, Kenya. Lens at 124mm; 1/1000 sec at f/6.3; ISO 640; hand-held.

BELOW, RIGHT: Reticulated Giraffes, Samburu National Reserve, Kenya. Lens at 124mm; 1/1000 sec at f/6.3; ISO 640; hand-held.

OPPOSITE, LEFT: Lion, Maasai Mara Game Reserve, Kenya. Lens at 364mm; 1/800 sec at f/6.1; ISO 400; hand-held.

OPPOSITE, RIGHT: Snow Geese, Bosque del Apache, New Mexico, USA. Lens at 167mm; 1/1000 sec at f/6.3; ISO 500; hand-held.



See more from Daniel J. Cox of Bozeman, Montana: [WWW.NATURALEXPOSURES.COM/LEICA-LUMIX-100-400MM](http://WWW.NATURALEXPOSURES.COM/LEICA-LUMIX-100-400MM)

Learn more from Panasonic: [WWW.LUMIXLOUNGE.COM](http://WWW.LUMIXLOUNGE.COM)

