**P**HOTOGRAPHIC **H**ISTORICAL SOCIETY OF

# **VOLUME 18-07, JANUARY 2019**

## BREAKING

Fit to Print'

## The New York Times



ETHIOPIAN FORCES MITCHELL, HALDEMAN, EHRLICHMAN IN FIERCE CLASHES ARE SENTENCED TO 21/2 TO 8 YEARS, WITH CUERRILLAS MARDIAN TO 10 MONTHS TO 3 YEARS ets, Armor and Artillery Hit

By THOMAS A. JOHNS





for 4 Convicted in Watergate Case



Costs in Metropolitan Area Up Only 0.2% in January

investigation into their role in the Watergate break-ins.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY On January 1, 1975, top aides to American President Richard Nixon: Attorney General John Mitchell, Domestic Affairs Advisor John Ehrlichman and Chief of Staff H.R. Haldeman, were found guilty of obstruction of justice. The front page (above) from the New York Times features headlines from the day that sentencing was handed down. At the time, these were among the most photographed men in America, rivalling Burt Reynolds and Clint Eastwood. The charge of obstruction of justice was in regard to intentionally interfering and impeding law enforcement and prosecutors. Nixon's aides had obstructed the

The order, among other criminal activities, to bug DNC chair Lawrence O'Brien's office at the Democratic National Committee's headquarters in the Watergate complex in Washington, D.C. could not unequivocally be traced to Nixon. However, a hypothesis regarding why such a decision might be made by the president, to be arranged by his aides, involved O'Brien's knowledge of a large loan from millionaire Howard Hughes to Nixon's brother. This money allegedly ended up in Nixon's house in Florida. A loan of this kind would have fallen into the category of an emolument: profit or compensation for services rendered. Since presidents are forbidden from accepting gifts in exchange for favours, finding out what O'Brien might say to others about the loan would have been of significant interest to Nixon. Does it all sound familiar? Hang around for a contemporary déjà vu.

#### Sources

"9 questions about Watergate you were too embarrassed to ask" by Dylan Matthews, May 17, 2017 vox.com.

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#### **PHSC NEWS**

Editor - Sonja Pushchak Distribution - David Bridge Contributors - David Bridge, Louise Freyburger, John Morden



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Pictured above: The Hasselblad Model C/M equipped with a f1:2.8 80mm Planar lens with a leaf shutter. This camera, popular between 1970 and 1994, followed in the footsteps of the landmark modular Model C design. While some American press photographers would have used the Nikon F2, Hasselblad would have been one camera of choice for Canadians shooting the Watergate affair.

## PHSC PRESENTS



## Kodak Canada: The Early Years (1898-1938)

A Masters Exhibit at the Student Gallery, Ryerson Image Centre

33 Gould St. Toronto, Ontario

**January 23 – February 24, 2019** 

Opening reception 6 - 8pm, January 23

In collaboration with the Kodak Canada Corporate Archives and Heritage Collection, the Ryerson University Library and the generous support of the Photographic Historical Society of Canada.





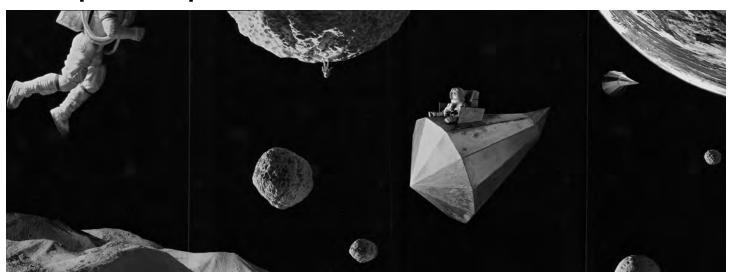




Instead of our usual third Wednesday presentation at Memorial Hall in North York, join us on **January 23th**, the fourth Wednesday of the month, for a special PHSC PRESENTS at the **Ryerson Image Centre**, **33 Gould Street**, **Toronto**. We'll be exploring the fascinating early history of Kodak in Canada in an extensively-researched exhibit of rare images and artefacts out of the Kodak archives. Mounted by the Photographic Preservation Conservation and Management Masters program, the evening runs from **6pm to 8pm**, commencing with curatorial remarks and refreshments, and concluding with self-conducted tours through the exhibits. Curators will be on hand to answer questions. Interested in vintage Kodakery with a Canadian twist? This is the place to find it.

## PHOTO BOOK 101 BY SONJA PUSHCHAK

#### The Apollo Prophecies



Before H.G. Wells even envisioned writing The First Men in the Moon (1901), he would have heard of the lunar daguerreotypes taken in 1851 by John Adams Whipple and George Phillips Bond. He would have been deeply inspired by the alien nature of its topography as Edward L. Allen, Frank Rowell, Maurice Leowy and Pierre Puiseux followed up with sharply-detailed landscapes in carbon prints and photogravures. These images would have been the springboard for dashing off an exotic tale of voyaging off-world complete with a Cavorite flying machine (named for its inventor), moon mushrooms and a race of insect people. Though Wells' story had more in common with H. Rider Haggard's pulpy Victorian safaris, The First Men still gave astronomy enthusiasts a taste for the rollicking thrill of a cosmic expedition.

Anyone reading Wells today can sort of guess that Cavor's spaceship couldn't make it downtown, let alone to the moon. But what if some other Edwardian team had pulled it off? Therein lays the premise for The Apollo Prophecies (2006),

a surreal, accordioned photographic account consisting of two 19 foot panoramas presented between covers like a conventional book. As the slipcase relates, it is an imagined record of turn-of-the-last-century explorers who are said to have achieved the real first moon landing. Mystifyingly, they manage to stick around to greet astronauts from the American twentieth-century space program (as gods no less). Accompanying the text-less two-sided foldout is a fun explanatory pamphlet that only retail cannabis consumption can make sense of. Photographers Nicholas Kahn and Richard Selesnick worked with actual locations, miniature models, props and self-portraiture to create an engaging fantasy reminiscent of a Wellsian plot. Now ridiculously cheap on used book sites, buying one and unfolding at least part of it on your sideboard could raise your galactic freakiness quotient and put the history of space travel in a whole new light.

#### Sources

The Apollo Prophecies by Nicolas Kahn & Richard Selesnick (2006).



### The Photographic Historical Society of Canada

PRESENTS





## AUCTION!

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## **CASHIERS**

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## EQUIPMENT REVIEW BY DAVID BRIDGE

#### 4x5: NO DARKROOM? NO SCANNER? NO PROBLEM!





Left: A camera with the Paterson developing tank and the fabulous MOD 54 reel for 4x5. Right: Copying 4x5 negative with camera and a tablet light table.

What with the current shutdown of many famous U.S. National Parks, some of us at PHSC labs were musing, "What would Ansel Adams do?" One suggested that perhaps he would simply quit lugging his 4x5 and larger equipment around, and spend the days cosily in his darkroom. This thread led to an even more depressing realization that many don't have the luxury of a darkroom, so for them the wonders of large format often go unexplored.

Wanting to end this tyranny, your keen lab scientists embarked on a test of a nifty accessory "reel" which allows 6 sheets of 4x5 film to be coddled and developed in the ubiquitous Paterson "daylight" tank (alas, the grande 3-reel version is required). This object, with the scintillating name "MOD 54," is produced in the land of Fox-Talbot (the UK), and although magnificently expensive for a piece of plastic, gets the job done. Loading the film is somewhat tricky (well, incredibly tricky) in the confines of a light-tight black changebag, but once this is done processing can proceed in daylight in the usual rollfilm way. Do this sitting down, and before the seventh morning espresso.

And then another fly in the ointment: 4x5 negatives are fun to look at, but still lacking a darkroom, the intrepid film fan must resort to scanning. A familiar chorus complains, "4x5 scanners cost about the same as a flight to Yosemite!"

But 4x5 is also big enough to be copied quite well with a modern DSLR. Experiments with backlighting the negative with a computer tablet were successful, as long as the film was a few cm. from the tablet (if not, the camera picked up the lattice-like tablet LCD display). Another fun part of this exercise is producing an all-white image on your tablet. We suspect there's a light-table app for this on your local app emporium.

Holding the film above the light source is a bit finicky, particularly if you try to use a pile of tongue-depressers as shown above. This problem can be worked out at home, but do this sitting down before the sixth morning espresso. To finish the rant, parallelism and focus can be very tricky, so use the camera self-timer and manual focus for best results.

Our outcome with a 24 megapixel camera was in line with those from our now unobtainably-expensive flatbed scanner. Medium format negatives can also be camera scanned like this, but are more challenging due to their relative tinyness. Now if we just had a few of Ansel's 8x10 negatives to scan...

Disclaimer: PHSC labs has no commercial or financial connection with the MOD54 or any other manufacturer, government body or foreign operative. Darn.

## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

#### Yva and Helmut: Master and Apprentice





Helmut Newton, née Helmut Neustädter, was one of the most discussed, innovative and prolific commercial photographers of the 1970s, 80s and 90s. He started his career in Berlin, escaped the Nazis by fleeing to Singapore, spent time working in Australia and finally became the darling of New York and Paris with a distinctively eroticized urban style. It was a look that eclipsed all other approaches to fashion photography in the final quarter of the twentieth century (see images below). Yet Newton was not a self-made man in terms of developing acuity for the avant-garde image. Instead, he had been fortunate enough to apprentice under a master of the modern genre: Yva (Else) Neuländer-Simon.

Simon (1900-1942) was born in Berlin and, as the youngest of nine children, was compelled to seek employment when her father died. She picked up a knack for cinematic lighting during a short tenure at a Berlin movie studio and opened up shop in her brother's old apartment. Demand quickly grew for Simon's photography (see images above), work that could pinpoint exactly what made an ensemble, shoe or stocking desirable. With a keen eye for body geometry, she consistently composed a model's most sinuous features into tableaux that captured the vitality of the jazz age. Her images became known for a sophisticated, lustful femininity that thrust aside the nineteenth-century









reserve imposed on European women. By the height of her short career, her studio employed ten assistants and a host of apprentices, with Helmut Newton as one.

The rise of Nazism in Germany forced Simon to give up ownership of her studio to continue working but by 1938, increasing anti-Jewish sentiment compelled the studio to close. Working temporarily as an x-ray technician at a Jewish hospital, Simon, along with her husband, was nevertheless deported to Majdanek concentration camp in Poland. No record exists of their eventual fate but Simon was declared legally dead in 1944. This January 27th, International Holocaust Memorial Day, reflect on the tragic loss of a talented photographer, as well as the thousands of other innocent people who lost their lives before their time. It's also an appropriate time to consider the political players, throughout history and in the unconscionable present, who choose to scapegoat vulnerable populations in order to divert attention from their unethical, cowardly and self-interested deeds.

#### **Sources**

Yva (Else Neuländer-Simon) <u>u.osu.edu/</u> <u>berlin2798yva/2015/05/14/biography/</u>





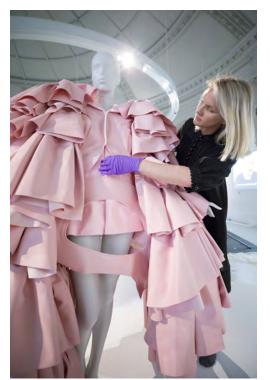
PHSC NEWS January, 2019

## WEB LINKS COMPILED BY DAVID BRIDGE

Photography on the edge: Part 1 Written by Antonia Laurence-Allen, National **Trust for Scotland** 

www.nts.org.uk/stories/photography-on-theedge-part-1

By the 1860s commercial photography was on the rise in Scotland. George Washington Wilson of Aberdeen had one of the most successful studios, and St Kilda became an especially popular subject... St Kilda's photographic collection illustrates how images have reinforced the Romantic notion of a sublime place located at the edge of the world..



Notman, Visionary Photographer, Canadian **Museum of History** 

www.historymuseum.ca/notman/

Experience 19th century Canada through the lens of a pioneer of photography. See the iconic images produced by William Notman (1826-1891), the first Canadian photographer to gain an international reputation. Introducing a modern approach to photography, Notman created some of our most stunning windows onto the past. Through 300 vintage prints and objects from the McCord Museum, this exhibition presents a comprehensive portrait of Victorian Canada and celebrates the innovation and artistry of the man who captured it.

> "Milkmaids" at the Art Gallery fair, Wm. Notman & Son. Montréal, 1888, II85919 © McCord Museum



Glass plate negative of Boreray in the St Kilda archipelago, #192 © National Trust for Scotland, St Kilda

10 of the Best Fashion Museums in the World by Stefanie Waldek, Galerie, July 2.2018

www.galeriemagazine.com/10-best-fashion-museums-world/?fbclid=lwAR2-IIBI8ft4mub5DNIXvAeXCNLRnsUCbEL5NLeF6D-Mlgb2dF0jQMoX134

While most museums hold paintings or dinosaur bones, the late 20th and early 21st centuries brought about the advent of a new type of institution: the fashion museum. From encyclopedic collections that span the centuries and continents to monographic institutions dedicated to a single designer, these fashion museums give visitors insight into the costumes of the past

Installation, "Balenciaga: Shaping Fashion," which was on view at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London. Photo: Courtesy of the Victoria & Albert Museum



PHSC NEWS January, 2019

### PHSC TALKS

Don't miss our special event on January 23rd from 6-8pm at the Ryerson Image Centre, 33 Gould Street, Toronto. Join us for the opening reception in support of the Masters exhibit of KODAK CANADA: THE EARLY YEARS (see listing below). Our regular PHSC PRESENTS, on the third Wednesday of every month, will resume in February on the 20th (see listing below). Check our website for details and hope to see you there.

#### THE HISTORIC BICYCLE October 17, 2018

Lorne Shields brings in some of his most striking finds in historical bicycle technology and photography.

#### DIGITIZATION AND PRESERVATION IN BRITISH MUSEUMS

November 21, 2018

Ryerson FPPCM Masters thesis prize winner Daphne Yuen speaks on her research on current digitization approaches.

#### SHOW AND TELL & SILENT AUCTION December 19, 2018

The Xmas party for members and guests, along with the Show and Tell and Silent Auction. Everyone welcome.

#### **SPECIAL EVENT:**

KODAK CANADA: THE EARLY YEARS (1898-1938)

SPECIAL DATE & TIME - January 23, 2019, 6 to 8pm SPECIAL LOCATION - RYERSON IMAGE CENTRE, 33 Gould St, Toronto, ON

Join us for the opening of the Masters Exhibition at the Ryerson Student Gallery, sponsored by the PHSC.

#### SNAKE CHARMER WITH A CAMERA February 20, 2019

Erin Levitsky, winner of the 2018 Thesis Prize Award, will present selections from her research on twentieth-century fashion and advertising photographer Nina Leen.

#### VIDEO EDITING: FROM BLAH TO BRILLIANT & JAPANESE PHOTOGRAPHY

March 20, 2019

There's a lot to putting together a tight instructional video that will get people interested. Mark Holtze will be in to demonstrate the basics and some of the tricks involved in making a marginal subject entertaining on film.

Japan has had a deep, dedicated and complex relationship with photography and its technology. Celio Barreto will reveal some its intriguing history and contributions in rarely seen images.

### PHOTOGRAPH PRESERVATION AND ITS DISCONTENTS

April 17, 2019

Chloe Lucas answers your questions.

## PHSC EVENTS

## CONSIGNMENT AUCTION ALL BUYERS WELCOME!



#### SELLERS! RESERVE YOUR SPOTS DUE TO HIGH

**DEMAND - Email** <u>auction@phsc.ca</u>
Sunday. March 17, 2019

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION #101 3850 Lake Shore Blvd. West, Toronto

Items accepted 8:30am to 10:00am
View Items 10:00 to 11:00 Auction starts at 11:00am
Free admission & parking
Clint Hryhorijiw - Chairman
Details at www.phsc.ca

#### **SPRING FAIR**

Sunday, May 26, 2019 TRIDENT HALL



#### 145 Evans Avenue, Toronto

(south of the Gardiner, east of Islington Avenue) 10:00am to 3:00pm Admission \$7 / Students free / Free parking Mark Singer - Chairman - fair@phsc.ca



## DOT **ASKS** VI

#### About what we tend to overlook in the dawn of the new.

**Dot**: Happy New Year! We've been doing some celebrating, although I'm not sure that we've done anything new this year. I drank just as many champagne cocktails and ate as many angels on horseback and devilled eggs as I did last year.

**Vi**: People often stare down good and evil at a New Year's buffet.

**Dot**: I've been wondering lately about the term "new." Is everything called new "new"?

**Vi**: Good question. Take, for example, German photography after World War I. Germany was defeated in that war and endured a humiliating political aftermath which depressed its economy. The dispirited artistic community thus fell under the influence of Soviet Constructivism, an artistic movement born of the October (Russian) Revolution. Constructivism was a rejection of the worship of nature and traditional art forms associated with the past, and made use of infinite



Untitled (Geometric Shapes) by Herbert Bayer, 1930s.

space, geometric shapes and technology, especially the camera. Artists, eager for some measure of hope and recovery, embraced these ideas as "The New Photography."

Dot: Was it really new?

**Vi**: Not really. Photographers followed the lead of Hungarian László Moholy-Nagy, who said he invented the photogram (random objects placed directly on photo-sensitive paper then exposed to light). In the 1920s and 30s, suddenly everyone saw the beauty in machines, the abstract and the non-organic. Had Moholy-Nagy invented the contact print? No. Anna Atkins, the British botanist, had made use of the technique in the 1840s. Had Moholy-Nagy invented Constructivism? No. Russian Kasimir Malevich likely set that ball rolling in 1913. Yet even Constructivism wasn't new on its own, having logically grown out of Cubism, Malevich's artistic style before Constructivism.



Photographs of British Algae by Anna Atkins, cyanotype, 1843 (left); Fotogramm by László Moholy-Nagy, 1926 (right).

**Dot**: But surely a broad cultural interest in technology and the machine was new?

**Vi**: I hate to disappoint you. Hermann von Helmholtz, the nineteenth-century German physicist, saw the universe and everything in it as a machine. In fact, he thought people were machines and could be used in the same way. He wasn't alone; a community of scientists throughout Europe shared his perspective, thinking that technology and unlocking the secrets of thermodynamics would ultimately perfect the human race. From there, it couldn't help spilling over into the public imagination. If you want to see a culture obsessed with the machine, look at the Victorians.

**Dot**: Is this your way of telling me that nothing is new?

**Vi**: It's my way of telling you that it pays to know history.

#### Sources

The New History of Photography by Michel Frizot (1998) The Human Motor by Anson Rabinbach (1990)

## THE **CLASSIFIEDS**

#### **Camera Shows**

#### CAMERAMA CAMERA SHOW

Sunday, January 20, 2019 9:30am to 2:30pm

Cameras .. lenses .. darkroom.. binoculars & scopes .. collectibles.. video .. digital .. images " etc. Edward Hotel North York 185 Yorkland Boulvard, Toronto, ON Admission \$7 - Free Parking Tables are available Contact Gary Perry - 905-550-7477 Facebook.com/TorontoCameraShows

#### 36TH ANNUAL ANTIQUE PHOTO SHOW, WASHINGTON DC

Sunday, March 10, 2019 10:00am to 4:00pm

Everything photographic. Tables are available.

Holiday Inn, 1900 N Ft. Myer Drive, Arlington, VA 22209.

Admission \$10 - Students free 1-4pm antiquephotoshow.com/

Contact Mary Martin 410-939-0999 marymartinpostcards@gmail.com

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#### **Publications**

## GRAFLEX

The latest Graflex Journal is available for download at *graflex.org/journal*. Plus ongoing calls for articles and for contemporary photography utilizing Graflex cameras. Contact Ken Metcalf at *metcalf537@aol.com* 

#### **Exhibitions**



#### PHOTOGRAPHY: FIRST WORLD WAR, 1914 - 1918 (PART II)

November 10, 2018 – April 14, 2019 2019 AGO, 100 Queens Park Toronto, ON

Free Admission Wednesday 6-9pm.

ago.ca/exhibitions/photography-firstworld-war-1914-1918-part-ii

The history of the First World War is often presented as a simplified story of winners and losers, one that diminishes the complexity of war and the diversity of experience. To mark the centenary of the end of the conflict, this exhibition invites visitors to explore the AGO's significant collection of photographic albums and objects from this period, donated in 2004 by a private collector.

#### Wanted

Looking for help. My favourite old **Nikkor lens (300mm f2.8 AF)** needs two parts which are not now readily available. Without it (the lens), I'm lost.

Product # JAA32201 Part # 1K475-354 - diaphragm base (lens mount diaphragm base) Part # 1K485-133 - index ring

Suggestions for possible sources (Nikon wasn't one) and any help really appreciated.

lesiones.covershots@gmail.com

#### **Exhibitions**



#### WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

December 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019 Royal Ontario Museum 100 Queens Park Toronto, ON

www.rom.on.ca/en/wildlifephotographer-of-the-year-2018

A selection of the best wildlife photographs from across the globe in the Natural History Museum at the ROM. An entertaining and educational winter-break experience for the whole family.



## SANAZ MAZINANI "Light Times" January 12 - February 23, 2019 Stephen Bulger Gallery 1365 Dundas Street, Toronto, ON

The camera-less photographs reappear across different media - unmade, reconstituted and recontextualized as sculpture, scent, sound, or technical print. These physical iterations come together to construct a consideration of the discipline's material capacity to register and document while drawing attention to new realities.