

The PHSC E-MAIL

Volume 8-10, Supplement to Photographic Canadiana, April 2009

The Photographic Historical Society of Canada

Wednesday, April 15, 2009...

Making Limited Edition Photography Books at Lumiere Press

Toronto's Lumiere Press, founded in 1986 by Michael Torosian, has established itself in the art world as the ONLY fine press devoted to hand-made, limited-edition books on photography.

Michael's books have been acquired by more than 100 public institutions around the world. The books have been recognized for



Michael Torosian setting text on the intertype machine for another book.

design and production excellence – notably, inclusion in the American Institute of Graphic Arts venerable “Fifty Books of the Year” and two successive First Prize awards from the Alcuin Society.

Our guest speaker, Michael Torosian will discuss the history of Lumiere Press and how the books are created from beginning to end.

The Annual General Meeting will also be held to hear reports from the officers and introduce the incoming executive.

Meetings in the Gold Room, (basement) of the North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge Street. Handy TTC Subway stop and underground parking

JOIN CANADA'S MOST ACTIVE PHOTO HISTORY SOCIETY. IT COSTS BUT \$35.00 – THAT'S A REAL BARGAIN FOR ALL THE BENEFITS GAINED. APPLICATION FORM AT: www.phsc.ca/member_form.PDF

PHSC Monthly Meetings

are held on the third Wednesday from September to June in the Gold Room, of Memorial Hall in the basement of the North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge St., North York, Ontario. The meeting officially begins at 8:00 p.m. but is preceded by a Buy & Sell and social gathering from 7:00 p.m. onwards. For information contact the PHSC or Felix Russo, 33 Indian Rd. Cres., Toronto, ON, M6P 2E9, Phone (416) 532-7780.

Programming Schedule:

April 15th, 2009

-Michael Torosian of Toronto's Lumiere Press produces fine-art limited-edition books on photography. He will describe company history and how the books are made. The AGM will also be held to introduce the new executive.

May 20th, 2009

-Tony Makepeace on Quicktime VR.

Sunday May 31st, 2009

-The Spring Photographica Fair is at the Soccer Centre in Woodbridge, ON. Doors open at 10:00 am. For table space contact Mark 905-762-9031 or marksinger@gmail.com

June 17th, 2009

-Reg Holloway will offer a Powerpoint presentation on “Pictures in the Paper - the beginnings of press photography.” It will trace the use of illustrations in newspapers, from artists impressions via woodblock engravings to halftone photographs.

Offer program suggestions to Felix Russo at (416) 532-7780 or e-mail to felix@photoed.ca.

FOR PROGRAM UPDATES

www.phsc.ca

our E-mail address is

info@phsc.ca

Robert A. Carter – Webmaster

Toronto Notes

Reported by Robert Carter

— COME ENJOY OUR NEXT MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH, 2009

Andrew Patrick has many years of experience in photographic sales and is currently with Epson Canada. His talk introduced many of us to the present state of digital printing and how it compares to early digital versions and the traditional silver-halide processes.

Andrew began with a brief primer on digital imaging. His first eye-opener for me was that the modern inkjet printer can make prints with a colour gamut 42% larger than possible with silver-halide processes - which means more colours for subtle shades in the print. Add to this, digital prints now have an estimated fade resistant life five times greater than silver-based colour prints. To illustrate the comparison, Andrew used an image he took with a c2000 Canon D30 - the first Canon with a non-Kodak imager. The camera records 3 megapixels creating a 10 megabyte, 10 bit (1,000+ shades of gray) raw file. The comparison image was shot on 35mm colour film and scanned, creating a 27 megabyte file. At 20x magnification, the film scan was very grainy and muddy while the Canon image showed cleaner colour and no grain.

A 60 x 40 inch print of a Nikon 200 (10 mpx) night scene shows the odd bit of digital artifacts on very close scrutiny -- totally invisible at normal viewing distances. A picture of a boat sitting in snow was snapped with a pre-release Nikon D1 (a grab shot in program mode). The resulting print shows good highlight and shadow detail. A film image would have had blocked shadows or blown highlights. The digital image benefitted from the 7 to 8 stop dynamic range of the D1.

To print a B&W image, today's inkjet printers use an algorithm to

convert the print file to RGB data (in spite of using CMYK inks). The result is always a colour cast (look closely at a B&W print, and you can see the tiny specs of colour that create a gray shade). Using software like Photoshop, there are a number of ways to create a B&W (monochrome) image file.



ANDREW PATRICK OF EPSON CANADA

Colour management is an important part of good colour printing. The colours seen onscreen must be accurately duplicated in the printed image. Today, colour goes well beyond the old sRGB gamut still used in jpeg files created by digital cameras (raw files do not have this gamut restriction). Even the slightly larger Adobe RGB gamut has given way to the ProPhoto RGB gamut. Using ProPhoto RGB colour space, inkjet printers can generate subtleties of

colour beyond what can be seen on your monitor.

Photoshop preceded digital photography as a tool to adjust images intended for magazine printing with its small colour gamut. Colour outside the printing press gamut were simply cropped or abruptly compressed to fit. Out of the box Photoshop, Lightroom and Aperture still default to the old magazine standards. For photographic use the Color Settings in each program must be changed to preserve colour data in the image files.

While correct colour settings will preserve colour data in modified files, they do not ensure the print colours will match those on the monitor. You must know your monitor is showing colours correctly. This is done using a device that measures the screen colours and creates a profile of any variations. This profile is then used to correct the monitor colours so that an image file you adjust will display correctly on any other properly calibrated monitor. New monitors need to be profiled and re-profiled every month. Programs like Photoshop use the profiles to adjust the data sent to the printer. Andrew recommends visiting the maker's website to download the most recent printer drivers and profiles.

For example, the Epson drivers were revised to match the 16 bit capability of the Macintosh OS X 10.5 (Leopard). A number of calibration devices are on the market ranging from the inexpensive "Huey" to the high end Gretag Macbeth.

Pick up a book such as Andrew Rodney's "Color Management for Photographers" or sign up for an "Epson Print Academy" seminar when it's next in town.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROBERT LANSDALE

Correcting Faded Kodacolor prints... according to Susan Price

Searching for information on Kodacolor I stumbled upon an interesting web site by Susan Price in Rochester, N.Y. She has a most interesting website where you can spend an hour or two to understand her background. "Maddie", as she is nicknamed, took early retirement to pursue interests in video, radio, writing, and family history, and to manage her husband's collections in photography, books, postcards, etc. When confronting technical problems and struggling to overcome them, she writes tutorials so she can refer back to them next time she meets the same problem. We are the benefactors of one of those tutorials which can be found at < http://www.madinpursuit.com/Tutorials/ColorRestore/ColorRestore_1.html>. Her home page is found at < <http://www.madinpursuit.com/>> enjoy the visit. Susan explains how she used Photoshop to bring life back to an old faded Kodacolor print.

My image: a classic 1956 group picture of the Price cousins, scanned at 300 dpi (about 900 pixels square). I'm working in 8-bit color mode, but 16-bit is preferred for the least risk to the final image as you rearrange the pixels. Crop off (or mask out) any white border because it will distort your color analysis.



The Histogram Palette (Window > Histogram > All Channels View, Show Histograms In Color) demonstrates the off-kilter color distributions. I originally thought the photo was "too red" and that the correction would require subtracting out the red somehow. But it is the red dye that has apparently broken down — as seen by the shift to the right in the histogram and the faded red channel view (thumbnail at the right).

Step 1. Correct Red Channel

Add a Levels Adjustment Layer from the Layers Palette button. **Isolate the Red channel.** (See the Figure to the right.)

Move the black and white sliders to where the red color begins. Adjust the gray slider till the photo color looks most balanced.

The result will look something like the corrected photo at right. The red channel histogram and thumbnail look much healthier — even though the spikiness of the histogram mean some information is lost. (Too much and the photo will start to posterize — a reason for trying to work in 16-bit color mode.)



CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Step 2. Overall Color Correction

Add a Levels Adjustment Layer from the Layers Palette button. Select: **Options... Enhance Per Channel Contrast**.



The resulting image will be brighter, with enhanced contrast:

Step 3. Final Colorization

The photo is vastly improved, but let's not leave well enough alone. Add a new layer on the top and, with ALT held down, **Layer > Merge Visible**.



Dresses. It is Easter, after all. I added a layer, changed the blending mode to Hue. With a soft brush, I painted a few of the dresses with some pastels.

Grass. What's up with that? I made a selection of the grass area. When a Hue/Saturation Adjustment layer is added, the selection becomes a clipping mask. Set Hue to a credible green, with Colorize checked. Set blending mode to Multiply and Transparency to 80%. (Hmm... I probably could have just carefully painted the grass like I did the dresses and avoid the hassle of a complex selection.)

Final result is above left image. The photo could still use some work but — how improved it is!

Step 4. One More Tweak by using the Burn Tool for a final polish:



Merge your work into a copy on top of your stack of layers (CTL-ALT-SHIFT N E) to give yourself a chance to play without messing up prior work. Use a soft Burn Tool brush set on Shadows at 10% Exposure to go over that upper right area that is still badly faded.

Burn the girls in that area and a few dabs here and there where density would improve the image. Then, on the upper left and across the top, burn the area down to near-black and some on the fence.

Compare this to the original image on previous page. — Thanks Susan.

FROM THE 'NET

Dour news continues to be the top consideration in files received.

Feinmechanik & Optik, Braunschweig, Germany, the cradle of the legendary Rolleiflex, has filed for insolvency, reports PMA Newline Europe. The company sells and markets professional camera systems under the Rolleiflex brand, Rolleivision slide projectors, and components for the Hy6 analog and digital medium-format camera system, which is marketed by the Swiss-based Sinar AG.

While the future of the company is unsure while negotiations continue, production and sales are currently being continued, and spare parts are still available for the time being.

As previously reported Ritz Camera Centers, Inc., America's largest specialty camera and image products and accessories retailer, has announced that it will close more than 300 stores nationwide as part of a court-supervised bankruptcy reorganization. The move will leave approximately 400 Ritz Camera stores still open around the country.

Retail inventory valued at more than \$50 million will be liquidated at the stores that are being closed. Store closing sales offering substantial discounts on all inventory at those locations will begin on Saturday, April 4 and are expected to continue until everything is sold to the bare walls.

Beginning with a single store in Atlantic City, N.J., in 1918, the Beltsville, Maryland-based privately held chain quickly grew to become the country's leading supplier of photography products, equipment and services. At one point, after acquiring Wolf Camera, Kits Cameras and a number of other companies, Ritz Camera had over 800 stores in more than 40 states across America. Financial troubles, however, caused the company to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in February.

Leonard Goh at CNET reports on a number of oddities: "We've seen some quirky thumbdrives, but this ought to hit the sweet spot for photographers. The



CANON THUMBDRIVE

acclaimed Canon EOS 5D Mark II has been miniaturized and fitted with a USB plug in the rear of the lens. The lens is screwed into the faux camera body to protect the contact points. We're guessing this USB peripheral is as petite as the Glico-issued Nikon collectible, though the difference is that the Canon thumbdrive actually works and is available in only 4GB capacity. It can be found on eBay for US\$95."

"With large telephoto lenses, dSLR optics look quite intimidating. This makes it difficult to take candid street shots with them. But



PHOTOJOJO SPY LENS

Photojojo has a solution – the *Super-Secret Spy Lens*. This attachment fits onto most lenses via adapters, and the opening along the side shows a precision mirror which reflects light into the optics. Photojojo's web site lists the price for the Super-Secret Spy Lens from US\$50 to US\$85, depending on which combination of adapters you require."

CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival will be on stage again during the month of May. CONTACT is an annual month long festival of photography with over 500 local, national and international artists at more than 200 venues across the Greater Toronto Area. As the largest photography event in the world, and a premiere cultural event in Toronto, CONTACT stimulates excitement and discussion among a diverse audience that has grown to over 1,000,000 and is focused on cultivating even greater interest and participation this year. Plan to participate.

A new exhibition *Canadian Wings: A Remarkable Century of Flight* was opened to the public in February at the Canada Aviation Museum in Ottawa to commemorate the centennial of powered flight in Canada. Making extensive use of the museum's incredible collection of aircraft, aviation-related artifacts, archival materials and artwork, the new exhibition tells the story of the significance of aviation in the lives of Canadians through the past 100 years. Themes include pioneer innovation and the development of the aircraft during the First World War, the interwar years and the growth of bush flying, the importance of aviation during the Second World War and the growth of commercial air travel from the 1950s to the present. For more information on the museum, please visit <http://www.aviation.technomuses.ca>.

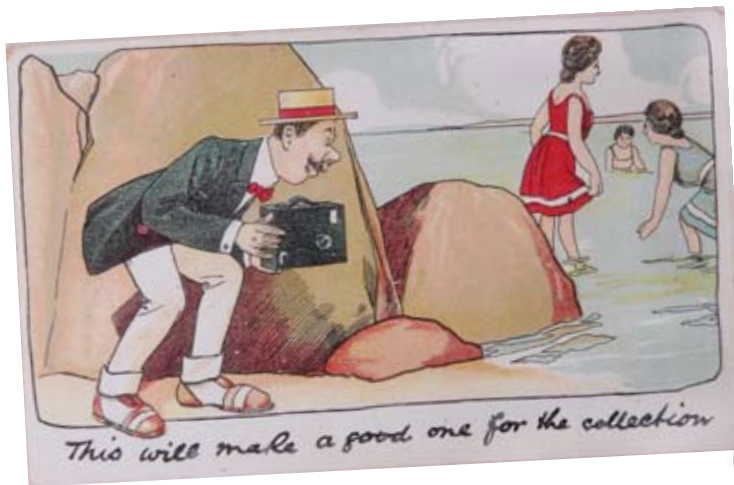
Canon has announced that it has produced over 10 million consumer D-SLRs (digital single-lens-reflex) worldwide since the launch of the EOS 300D in 2003. Canon's D-SLR products have achieved consecutive no.1 rankings in GfK's consumer hit list since 2004. Starting with the Canon EOS 300D, the market-leading spot was passed to the 350D in 2005, the EOS 400D in 2006 and the EOS 450D in 2008. It is hoped the trend will continue with the recent release of the EOS 500D.

Assembled with thanks from reports by Fastlens, Rolf Fricke and CNET Asia.

Collecting Paper Photographica

by Prof. M. Lindsay Lambert

Over the years Lindsay Lambert of Ottawa has collected various forms of paper photographica. He has assembled here a collection of coloured post cards which feature photography in one form or another. It does seem that photo artists were made the brunt of a joke with amorous hints and innuendo implied in the imagery. We offer a sampling of cards that date from the turn of the century (1900 that is).



Collecting More Paper Photographica



"But, Madam won't you take that cord from round your ankles?"
 "Oh, no! I know your little tricks, young man; when you look through that machine I shall be upside down."



Photographers seem to have received special attention from the post card manufacturers.



There is much to be learned from the collecting of post cards beyond the appreciation of the imagery and puns. Cards here were printed from far away Germany, England and America with most dating to the 1906-1916 era. Much was built upon the fact that women's bathing suits were becoming more revealing (showing legs) and the handy box camera made it easy to steal a photo.

Addresses of card recipients vary from across Canada. Some cards were printed in series and it becomes a challenge to find the missing card to complete a set.

MONTREAL PHOTOGRAPHIC FLEA MARKET

Sunday, April 19, 2009,

Sol Hadeef invites members to Montreal for the 44th Photographic Flea Market to be held at the Holiday Inn Pointe-Claire, 6700 Trans Canada Hwy., Pointe-Claire, Quebec. Follow HWY 40, exit 52 Boul. St-Jean, facing Fairview Shopping Centre. Doors open 10:00 am, \$6.00 fee. Contact: sol@therangefinder.com or (514) 938-1860.

VANCOUVER CAMERA SHOW AND SWAP MEET

Sunday, April 26, 2009,

Vancouver's original and largest camera fair will be held at the Cameron Recreation Centre, 9523 Cameron St., near Lougheed Mall, Burnaby, British Columbia. Sponsored by the Western Canada Photographic Historical Assoc., doors open 10:00 am, \$5 admission fee. Info - 604-941-0300 or noblex-canada@shaw.ca

PHOTOHISTORY XIV October 16-18, 2009

The 14th Triennial Symposium will be held in Rochester at the George Eastman House, International Museum of Photography. With world-wide attendance, it is held ONCE every three years so should not be missed. **Friday:** Registration; **Saturday:** Symposium lectures; **Saturday evening:** Banquet; **Sunday:** Trade Show. 585-288-6359 or jbloem@Rochester.rr.com. Reserve rooms NOW at Double Tree Hotel, Rochester, N.Y.

For Sale

Early Photography in Kingston (biographies of 60 photographers) by Jennifer McKendry. Available at \$15 plus \$3 for shipping. For copies contact: J. McKendry, 1 Baiden St., Kingston, ON, K7M 2J7

Wanted

Cash paid for collections, liquidations and estates containing cameras, lenses, photographs, documents, books, negatives etc. Courteous service and references. Please call Tom for no obligation evaluation 416-888-5828.

IN THE NEXT PHOTOGRAPHIC CANADIANA



You are looking at a very rare red version of the Holly (1950) camera – quite uncommon to find. John Kantymir will discuss this item in our next *Photographic Canadiana* for May-June 2009. Since we print the journal only in Black and White we take the opportunity to preview here in colour. Produced by Gomag (Allgauer Kamera werkstatt). Production was taken over by Dr. Riemerschmid & Co. in 1951. It was Bill Kantymir who had the passion for collecting odd coloured cameras which have been passed down to son John. Join the PHSC and read all about it.

Harkening Back to the 1967 Montreal EXPO

This "Dancing duo!" consists of two young photo journalists attending a press tour of the Montreal EXPO in 1967. Boris Spremo (of Toronto) and Ted Grant (now Victoria, B.C.) were adding to their personal collection of "assignment location photos." Says Ted: I don't even remember it being taken. But given it's 42 years ago, who would remember? Does any one know who the photographer was?



Wanted

Ed James is looking for Russian F.E.D. and Zorki 35mm type cameras, NO Zenits! Contact: Ed James, P.O. Box 69, Elkhorn, Manitoba, R0M 0N0, Tel: 204-845-2630.

Research Available

Access a digitized version of the *British Colonist* which is now up to the year 1910. <http://library.uvic.ca/site/spcoll/digit/colonist/>

Buying or Consignment

Vintage cameras wanted by experienced Ebay seller. Professionally

presented with pictures and description. Contact at 905-994-0515 or douglas@dugwerks.com

Wanted

Bicycle & Motorcycle photography – all related items. Contact Lorne Shields, P.O. Box 87588, 300 John St. P.O., Thornhill, ON., L3T 7R3, lorne-shields@rogers.com.



Coming Events

Information Wanted

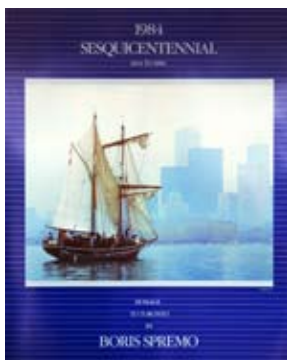
Gems and cartes de visite tintypes **in Canada** - seeking history and examples for an article and for my website www.tiny.cc/tintypes. Marcel Safier, Brisbane, Australia msafier@ozemail.com.au

Moved to New Location

Archives of Ontario closed its 77 Grenville St. location and has re-opened on the York University's Keele campus as of April 2nd. Phone numbers and email addresses remain the same. The specific address is 134 Ian Macdonald Blvd, Toronto, M7A 2C5. Best Google for a campus map to check for easiest parking locations.

For Sale

Boris Spremo offers this limited edition poster 30x24" of *Toronto Sequicentennial 1834-1984* which



carries one of his photographs. Only a few left. Offered at \$50 each with personal autograph - Commercial shops are selling a framed version at \$180. Contact at borisspremo@rogers.com

Wanted

Looking for DIOPTERS +1 for Nikon cameras FE, F90 and F3. Also require LENS HOOD for early Nikon ED: AF Nikkor 300mm f2.8 lens. Les Jones at 416-691-1555 or lesjones@ca.inter.net

For Sale

CD ROM of *Biographical Index of Daguerreotypists in Canada 1839-1871* by Graham Garrett. Best resource for earliest photo process in Canada. via Archived Books at www.archivedbooks.ca/acdbcanada.html OR also www.se-photo.com.

RESERVE YOUR TABLE NOW AT CANADA'S BIGGEST PHOTOGRAPHICA FAIR SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2009.

Contact Mark Singer 416-879-7168
for table information and registration



Reserve your table for the P H S C 's Annual Spring Fair held at the beautiful and well appointed Soccer Centre up in Woodbridge, ON.

Spacious, well-lit and with plenty of FREE parking. Doors open at 10:00 AM running through to 3:00 PM. Entree fee \$7.00.



SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2009

Come to Buy, Sell, Barter, or Just Ask Questions



**From Digital to Antiques, Darkroom to Studio
you'll find much variety to choose from.**

Students with valid ID cards get in free