

IN FOCUS

January
2020

Newsletter of the Latow Photographers Guild
Burlington, Ontario

Help represent Latow in the international challenge!

Paul Sparrow

I'm looking for your best images for our 2020 International Challenge, this year with the Bangladesh Photographic Society.

The challenge is designed to foster a friendly competition between clubs. We challenge another club from a different part of the world to send us 30 images and we do the same, sending them 30 of our best. Each club holds a judging session that judges all 60 images.

In the past we have challenged clubs from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, the U.K and the U.S.

The concept is to make this an event for the participating clubs. The judging is done live in front of the respective memberships. Our judging event will be held at our Explorations Group meeting on **March 17th** so the members can hear the judges' comments and learn from the experience.

But I need your images well in advance of the March judging date to get them organized! Please send two of your best images (same specs as the Evaluation entries) to me **no later than our February 18** Explorations Group meeting. Please e-mail them to me at psparrow@cogeco.ca. I'm looking forward to seeing your images.



Photo by **Norman Chan**. This month we are featuring some images from recent Studio Group shoots.

Message from the President

James Elliott

Are you like me and rather shy about showing your personal work? In this day of Instagram and Facebook, the opportunity for sharing an image is just a click away. But for some of us, the thought of putting a piece of personal work out there for the world to judge is a terrifying prospect!

If you find yourself similarly inhibited I'll let you in on a little secret: Latow is here to help. Don Munro and Tim Story run the New Exposures evening. This is a safe place to display your images with no worries about harsh criticism. The emphasis is on seeing the positive qualities of a piece and then offering constructive comments.

The first piece I submitted for New Exposures was a shot I did of my Mom riding a camel during a trip to Israel. Essentially it was a happy snap that I grabbed as our tour guide and the camel's person coaxed my 86-year-old Mom into the saddle.

I love the shot because she is laughing in disbelief at finding herself perched atop this magnificent beast. But would anybody else love it? It received a warm reception plus a couple of suggestions for improving the crop. A successful first outing. For my New Year's resolution I'm committing to putting my work out there...no matter how terrifying!

What's happening in January?

Photographing dog sports: Jan. 9

Lorie Hughes

Dog sports - Dog Agility, Flyball, Disc (frisbee) Dog, Dock Diving - dog sports offer an opportunity for photographers to combine a passion for dogs with the challenges of capturing them in action.

I have been and remain involved in the "dog world" from various aspects (dog breeding, showing, rescue organizations, dog sports, demonstrations) and currently work part time as a professional dog trainer.

Pairing that with an interest in photography has afforded me an opportunity to combine two passions into something that I find challenging and rewarding - photographing dog sports.



The rewards of capturing the connection between dog and handler, the energy of the sport, demonstrating the abilities of the athletes, combine with the challenges of fast action, distracting backgrounds, limited accessibility and poor indoor lighting.

I will share some of my images, discuss the various aspects of the different sports and the process I used to capture the shot. From the amateur teams to the serious competitors - those that participate casually, to those that compete world wide - dog sports are accessible to anyone who wants to get out and have some fun with their dog.

New Exposures: Jan. 14

Don Munro

Tim and I are looking forward to some fun and informative evenings at New Exposures. This program provides an opportunity for friendly and constructive critiques of one or two of your digital photos. We take a light hearted approach and you are sure to come away with some great suggestions for improving your images.

If you wish to submit a digital image, please come a bit early so Tim can download it on the computer. The image should be on a USB key and the format should be 1400 wide by 1050 height.

Due to a lack of prints entered in the past, we have not planned to include prints at this point. However, if we find there is interest, we will be happy to set aside some time to include prints as well at one of our meetings.

Put January 14 on your calendars for our next New Exposures evening. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Members Project Night: Thursday Jan. 16

Jim Lait

At our first Members Project Night, we had 5 excellent presentations by members showing projects that they are either working on or have completed.

January at a Glance

Tues. Jan. 7	General Meeting: Evaluation #2 results
Thurs. Jan. 9	Photographing Dog Sports
Tues. Jan. 14	New Exposures: bring an image for friendly critique.
Thurs. Jan. 16	Members' Projects
Tues. Jan. 21	Explorations: What makes a successful photograph?
Thurs. Jan. 23	Board Meeting: members are welcome to attend.
Tues. Jan. 28	Studio Night: Product photography
Thurs. Jan. 30	Wildlife Photography: Why and how?

(Continued from page 2)

The night was well attended and the variety and quality of the projects was amazing. Our next night is Thursday January 16th and that night has a full schedule with another excellent lineup.

The agenda for the 16th is:

- John Larsen - "Full of Hot Air"
- Frank Myers - "Environmental Portraits"
- Annemarie Toth-Waddell - "Opening Doors"
- John Pingree - "Dundas Old and New"
- Glen Jones - "The Gehry Project"
- Jim Lait - "A Walk in the Woods"

So come out and enjoy fellow members' projects. If you have a project that you would like to share with other members, we plan to run another session next season (November/December time period). In fact, we already have half the spots booked so contact us at programs@latow.com if you are interested.

Explorations: Jan. 21

Paul Sparrow

What makes a successful photograph?

From initial pre-visualization, to in-camera execution, to post processing and the final presentation, I'll look at what elements go into making a "successful" image.

Studio Group News: Jan. 28

James Elliott

It has been an absolute blast playing with our new Elinchrom strobes during recent studio nights! During the session at the end of November members were encouraged to try different lighting set-ups while shooting our two fabulous models. December's rare Thursday evening event was a little more structured as we focused on using two lights per set with a fitness theme. We did haul out the Paul C. Buff gear so new member Brian Neill could demonstrate his favoured split side lighting set-up.

For January's meeting we'll be shifting gears...it's going to be a product photography evening. Members are encouraged to bring something to photograph. There will be a couple of table top sets available as well as studio leaders to help, if required. Oh ya, don't forget your camera!

There has been some interest expressed in a Miguel Jacobs workshop. Miguel is a Toronto fashion photographer and educator. He is open to having a one- or two-day workshop in our Studio. Cost would be between \$500 and \$700 dollars each. At this point we are looking at holding the workshop in late Spring. If you are interested or would like more information please contact James Elliott at president@latow.com.

Wildlife Photography: Thursday Jan 30

Jim Lait

Our Wildlife Photography *Why and How* Night has been rescheduled to Thursday, January 30th.

Bring some of your wildlife images and share how you took them, or stories about them. I will introduce the evening and present some wildlife photographic styles and Tim Story will present a few tips, tricks and equipment.

Bringing stuff? Please RSVP to Jim Lait laitjames@gmail.com to help me plan the evening.



Three by **Jim Lait**

February 1 deadline to apply for solo Fireside shows:

Every year, Latow members have four opportunities to mount a solo, two- or three-person show in the Fireside Lounge of the Art Gallery of Burlington. These shows are an opportunity to showcase and sell high-quality work by Latow members.

If you are interested in taking part in a show next year please contact James Elliott at president@latow.com by **February 1**. Participation is determined by a random draw of eligible applicants to be made at the Board's meeting in February.

Criteria:

While not strictly juried (and thus not described as "exhibitions" by the AGB), there are clear criteria for members to be considered for a Fireside show:

1. Be a paid-up member, and have been a member of the Guild and Art Gallery for the year before the exhibition.
2. Have previously shown at the annual Latow juried show or any other juried show including AGB Art Auctions, Kaleidoscope, galleries, local shows and auctions; or attained Gold Level in Latow Evaluations.
3. All work must be the original work of the artist and be of photographic origin. It must be suitably mounted for a gallery setting, with or without a frame. (For further details on the Guild's expectations, see the Guidelines for Hanging). More information is available on our website in the member's download section.

Call for Entries: Shoreline Room Big Poster Project

James Elliott

As of now the number of entries for the Big Poster Project is...ZERO! If you have an image that you've wanted to see printed **huge**, now's your chance.

Images will be selected for the April and July editions of the poster project at February's board meeting. Criteria for being considered are that the member must be in good standing, all work must be the original work of the artist and be of photographic origin.

Additionally, the work must also be of high enough resolution to be printed to a width of 42 inches! Lower resolution JPEGs are acceptable when submitting for consideration.

All interested members should have their images to James Elliott at president@latow.com by **February 1**.

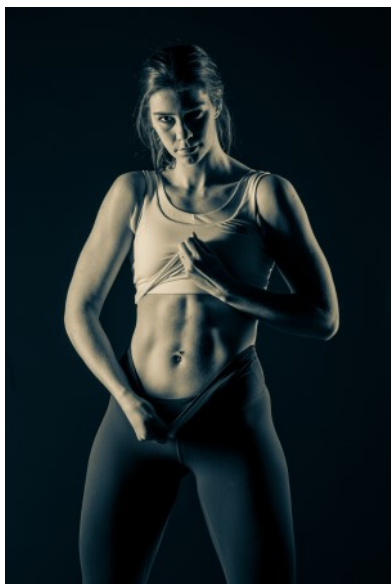


Photo: **James Elliott**
Lighting: **Brian Neill**

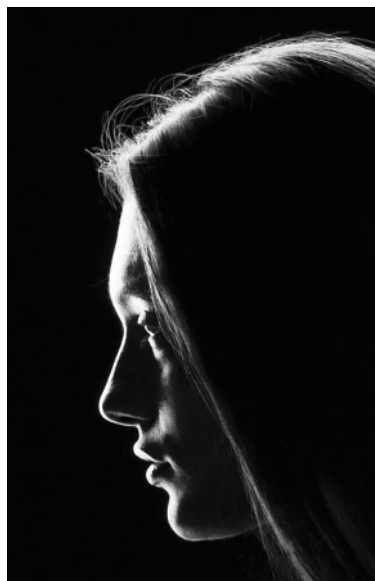


Photo: **Keith Marshall**

Super Saturday for the Annual Photography Weekend

Photo Weekend Organizing Committee (Ort Baldauf, Gary Beaudoin, Debbie Forbes, Frank Myers, Paul Sparrow, Tom Stephens)

Seminar Speaker Kas Stone has put together a terrific program for the first day of our Annual Photography Weekend. For many years now, Saturday has consisted of four distinct sessions, each with its own theme. Kas's Saturday will also be built around four sessions, but they are integrated in a way that will add up to a particularly instructive and inspiring day.

Kas will answer four questions for us on Saturday:

- *Why* am I making this photograph? (Inspiration, Motivation & Meaning)
- *How* do I make this photograph? (Craftsmanship & Creativity)
- How *should* I make this photograph? (Ethical & Environmental Concerns)
- What can I *do* with this photograph? (Personal Projects)



Kas Stone

What will you learn as a result? How to use each step in the photographic process to help you explore and express your personal connection with the natural world.

Calls for entry:

We occasionally receive calls for entry for exhibitions and events. As a new feature, the newsletter will bring relevant calls to the attention of our members.

The **Toronto Outdoor Art Fair**, Canada's largest and longest-running outdoor art fair showcasing the works of 360+ visual artists and makers to an audience of 130,000 visitors in the heart of downtown Toronto. The **59th Toronto Outdoor Art Fair** will take place this July 10-12, 2020 and our Call for Artists is open until March 9th. Documentation is available on the fair's [website](#).

Overzealous Fine Art Exhibition invites emerging and established artists to apply to participate in our 4th Juried Show. Overzealous 2020 aims to bring together artists practicing in diverse media and approaches, both traditional and contemporary, while showcasing artwork of the highest standard. Overzealous 2020 will be exhibiting at Neilson Park Art Gallery at the Neilson Park Centre, 56 Neilson Park Dr., Toronto.

Visit www.overzealous.ca for application form, fee and further details. For information please contact overzealousfineart@gmail.com

The **8th annual SPARK Photography Festival** is scheduled for April 1 to 30, 2020. The SPARK Photo Festival is a celebration of photography and the artists, dreamers, innovators, storytellers, professionals and enthusiasts behind the lens. Every year the month of April marks the arrival of numerous photographic exhibits and artists in locations throughout the Northumberland, Peterborough and Kawartha Lakes regions. For more details on the theme, prizes and the submission process please go to our [website](#).

"Do not fear to be eccentric in opinion, for every opinion now accepted was once eccentric."

Bertrand Russell

Three-Club Evening

Roger Crysler

I have on my kitchen table a stack of tickets for the 3-Club show and exhibit. It takes place March 7, beginning at 7p.m. with the AV presentation at 8p.m. Again this year, it takes place at the Burlington Seniors' Centre, 2285 New Street in Burlington.

Tickets are available from Roger Crysler. Call or text 905-648-1742; or e-mail rcrysler@sympatico.ca. Or, see me at the club.

Also, since Chuck Burdick has moved to Vancouver Island, I could use some help. If you have a few hours to volunteer, please contact me.

Moments By Monique

Monique Campbell

If I had to pick one book that I've read in 2019 that tops the list, *Blanket Toss Under Midnight Sun, Portraits of Everyday Life in Eight Indigenous Communities* would be it.

Author Paul Seesequasis gathered photos from digitized collections of archives, libraries and museums as well as private collections of photographers. In 2015 he started posting photos over a three year period on social media. He gained followers who commented on the photos and brought life to them by identifying the people and places in the photos.

The photographers were for the most part non-Indigenous who embedded themselves in the community long enough not to be as obtrusive and to become accepted by their subjects.

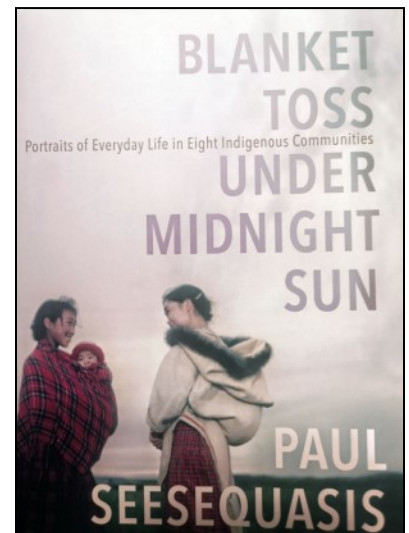
The discussion of how these photographers brought to light the daily living of the Indigenous communities is intriguing as a fellow photographer.

The history of colonization is a recurring theme but as Seesequasis wrote that his mother, a residential school survivor remarked, that she was "tired of hearing just negative things about those times" and that "there had been positive and strong things in Indigenous communities then."

This book goes out of its way to show the positive side of life of the Indigenous living in Cape Dorset (Kinngait), Nunavik, James Bay, Hudson Bay Watershed, Saskatchewan, Montana and Alberta, Northwest Territory and Yukon Territory. But the dark history is also shared as I learned for the first time how in the 1950s and 1960s across Nunavik that Quebec provincial police officers killed more than a 1,000 sled dogs without any consideration for the integral role the dogs played in the Inuit way of life. Utterly shocking.

This book opened my eyes further to the struggles but it gave me hope for the Indigenous people and their way of life. An Inuk photographer featured in the book, Peter Pitseolak explained his purpose, "I am telling the true things I know. I am not adding anything and I am not holding anything back." His photos and stories along with the others certainly do not hold anything back.

I highly recommend reading this book and following the posts on Instagram @pseesequasis.



"It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation."

Herman Melville

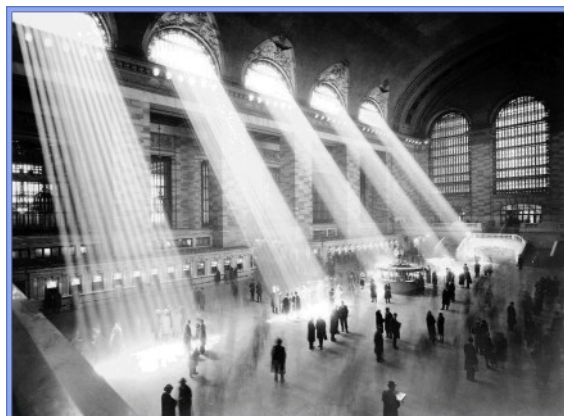
Viewfinder – Quotes to Inspire You

Annemarie Toth-Waddell

I didn't decide to be a photographer, I just happened to fall into it – Berenice Abbott

I was toying with the idea of writing about one of my favourite photographers, Man Ray, when I came across the interesting fact that a woman he hired as an untrained darkroom assistant ultimately became not only his rival in success in Paris, but also a person with accomplishments some say are wider ranging than anyone else in the history of American photography.

Berenice Abbott attributed her self reliance, strength and independence to her difficult start in life in Ohio in the early 1900s. She quickly left home for New York where she worked a number of jobs until discovering her love of sculpting. When this didn't work out, she bought a one way ticket to Paris where she came across a previous acquaintance. Man Ray wanted someone without photographic knowledge to work in his studio, one he could mould to work as a darkroom assistant. Abbott leapt at the chance.



Grand Central Station, New York 1934

Initially she had no interest in photography, but she discovered she enjoyed it and began to work long hours honing her technique. Man Ray allowed her to take some studio portraits that became so successful that it caused problems between the two friends. She went on to open a successful studio in Paris later returning to America in 1929.

Finding old New York rapidly disappearing, she was driven to document every aspect of the city. This work and her ongoing initiative to preserve the archive of the fin-de-siecle French photographer Eugene Atget, led her to become an advocate for a documentary style of photography for the rest of her life.

She went on to write a revolutionary best selling guide to photography that provided not only technical expertise, but also her ideologies of photography in essay form. A strong interest in science led her to invent and patent photographic-related equipment and gadgets while her experiments with photography as a tool to illustrate scientific phenomena set new standards that continue to today.

When asked if she had any gems of wisdom for the photographer, she said:

None. They should just go out and photograph and stop talking about it. That's the only way they are going to find themselves. They can't do it in their heads – they have to go out and do it in the camera and get it on film – Berenice Abbott

Unless otherwise noted, all images in this column are © the photographer or their estate.

Marketplace

For sale:

Manfrotto 055 CLB aluminum tripod. Great for taller photographer. Excellent condition. At \$75.00 it's a steal. Contact Wayne at wayne.elliott48@gmail.com or (905)338-5097.

You may be interested in:

Visual Expressions with Denise Ippolito

Advance sales available for Latow members started December 6th and seating is limited. Spend a full day with world renowned, award winning photographer, Denise Ippolito. Saturday, October 17, 2020 at the Downsview Event Centre, 49-40 Carl Hall Road Toronto.

Limited Seats. \$50 per person. Lunch Option \$20 extra.

To register online visit <https://o3c.ca/gtccc-home-page/speakers-day/di-day2020/>

Jason DiMichele at Grimsby Photo Group

At their January 8, 2020 meeting , the Grimsby Photo Group is having, as a presenter, Jason DiMichele. Everyone is welcome. The event takes place at the Grimsby Town Hall and the fee for non-members is \$10.

Canadian Wildlife Photography of the Year

On exhibit until April 26, 2020 at the Royal Ontario Museum, this travelling exhibition features award-winning wildlife photographs promoting the beauty, diversity, value, and vulnerability of wildlife by highlighting the most striking and unique photography depicting natural subjects.

The exhibition features beautiful photographs from the following categories: mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, insects, wildlife in the water, and young photographers. This exhibit was created by the Canadian Museum of Nature .

At the galleries:

In December, the Stephen Bulger Gallery (1356 Dundas St. West, Toronto) featured a retrospective exhibition by photojournalist Larry Towell. He is the first Canadian-born member of the prestigious Magnum Photos Agency, whose photographers bridge the divide between journalism and art, and between the objective statement and the personal point of view.

The [Stephen Bulger Gallery](#) exhibits only photography and it is one of the best places in Canada to view contemporary photographic art.



Monique Campbell captured this image of Frank Myers studying one of Larry Towell's images. In the second photo, Monique and Frank are scouring the excellent selection of photography books stocked by the Bulger gallery.

If you know of a photography exhibition at one of the area's many galleries, let the editor know. If the news is timely enough, we'd love to be able to pass on the information to members who enjoy seeing photographic art.

"The more pictures you see, the better you are as a photographer."

Robert Mapplethorpe



Photo: **Robert Hall**



Photo: **Martin Renters**

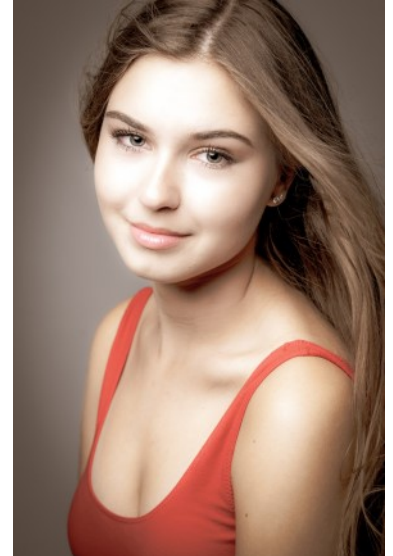


Photo: **James Elliott**

Latow members' advertising

*This space is offered **free** to Latow members who wish to advertise their photography-related business to the membership. If you do not have an ad graphic, simply send text.*

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e-mail info@corbyframing.ca or call at [905-689-1976](tel:905-689-1976) The gallery is open daily 9-5 and Saturdays until 3pm. 26 Carlisle Road, Freelon, ON.



**Let the ink flow!
Economical Canvas
prints are here!**

Gear: Printed on Epson SureColor P6000 printer using Epson Ultra Chrome HD ink. Epson

Exhibition Canvas Satin in stock, others by arrangement.

Uses 24 inch wide rolls so print size limits are: if long edge exceeds 24 inches, 24 by whatever the long edge is. If long edge is less than 24 inches, short edge by up to 24 inches. Free gallery wrap resizing and setup. (Some image dimension allowance required for gallery wrap.)

Why Canvas? No glass and no glass-darkening of the image; no breakages; much lighter and more easily transportable; no reflections; no fingerprints. Anti-dust and anti UV coating. Clear, bright, sharp images.

Stretcher mounting available. If you must, the piece can be framed.

This printer loves work, which eliminates ink clogging problems. Happy to offer economical printing to keep her ladyship running smoothly.

Contact: **Mark Emmerson**; 905-849-0014; markemmerson@wellfoundphotography.com

About Latow

Photographers Guild

We meet every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. from September to June at the [Art Gallery of Burlington](#).

General meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month and other meetings on various interests and topics occur on other Tuesdays and Thursdays each month. Board meetings are held monthly and any Latow member in good standing is welcome to attend. There are also many special events throughout the year, often on weekends.

To ensure you do not miss any of these great offerings, there is an annual calendar that is frequently updated on the Latow website at: latow.com. For your convenience a hard copy can be downloaded and printed.

Latow Board of Directors

President	James Elliott president@latow.com
Vice-President	Gail Burstyn gburstyn1@gmail.com
Past-President	Andrzej Pradzynski a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca
Secretary	Ron Savoline ronsav@cogeco.ca
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Group and Activity Coordinators

All-Guilds Show	Glen Jones	gjones76@cogeco.ca
Annual Photography Weekend	Tom Stephens	tom@tomstephens.ca
Arts Burlington	John Pingree	pingree@cogeco.ca
AV Festival	Paul Sparrow	psparrow@cogeco.ca
B & W Group	Don Mallory	imaginemallory@gmail.com
CAPA	Tom McCormack	tom@metroeconomics.ca
Christmas Potluck	Gail Burstyn	gburstyn1@gmail.com
Christmas Sale	Fred Oliver	fred.oliver@cogeco.ca
Communications and Newsletter	Frank Myers	fmyers4@gmail.com
Darkroom Lockers	Paul MacDiarmid	pamacdiarmid@gmail.com
Explorations Group	Paul Sparrow	psparrow@cogeco.ca
Evaluations	Toni Browning	tonnie@cogeco.ca
Fireside Room Exhibitions	Ort Baldauf	omnione@hotmail.com
Kaleidoscope	Fred Oliver	fred.oliver@cogeco.ca
Membership	Joyce Munro	jdmunro@cogeco.ca
New Exposures	Don Munro	98benz@gmail.com
NFRCC	Andrzej Pradzynski	a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca
OCCC	Tom McCormack	tom@metroeconomics.ca
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Three-Club Evening	Roger Crysler Jay Trout	rcrysler@sympatico.ca jtroutmail@gmail.com
Volunteers	Ort Baldauf	omnione@hotmail.com
Website: Webmaster	David Walther	daw4063@hotmail.com
Calendar updates	Jim Lait	laitjames@gmail.com
Member galleries	Tori Martin	tori.martin@gmail.com

