



IN FOCUS

February
2020

Newsletter of the Latow Photographers Guild
Burlington, Ontario

Outstanding speakers coming to Latow in February

Frank Myers

Latow's motto is that we are "not just another camera club," and the coming month's programming offers some proof of that statement. In February we are featuring two speakers who are not to be missed.

Freaktography is the name our first speaker (Tuesday, Feb. 4) uses to describe his exploration of abandoned buildings and off-limit spaces. Dave, he prefers his last name not be used, calls it "recreational trespassing."

The work of *Freaktography* has been featured worldwide in print, online and broadcast appearing in Warner Brothers's "The Flash" and the major motion picture "Lavender." His adventures have been featured on BuzzFeed, The Weather Channel, Canadian Geographic, CTV News, Petapixel, HGTV and more. Globally he has been featured in The Daily Mail and The Telegraph in the UK as well as dozens of news outlets from Italy to Australia, Germany, Portugal, Spain and Hong Kong. Dave hails from Burlington, so there might even be some familiar locales.



Self-portrait by Dave of *Freaktography*, location unknown!

Other clubs that have seen this show call it "the best presentation we have ever had," so this is an evening not to be missed.

On Tuesday, Feb. 11, we will welcome Leah Denbok, who began photographing the homeless at the age of 14. Now 19 and studying photography at Sheridan, Leah already has an incredible career underway, with two books published and a third coming soon.

For the past four years Leah has been traveling, with her dad, to cities throughout the world, such as Toronto, New York, and Brisbane, photographing the homeless and recording their stories.

In the summer of 2017 CBC's *The National* aired a documentary about Leah's photography and stories of people experiencing homelessness. Since then Leah's work has attracted worldwide attention. In the Fall of 2017 the BBC ran a story about her, as have newspapers in the United States and the Netherlands. In 2018 the Corriere della Sera, Italy's largest daily, did a two-page spread about Leah.



Leah Denbok

In an article in the Las Vegas' Daily Chronicle, Buford Davis wrote, "[Leah's] photographs are not great photographs for a teenager to have taken; they are great photographs and a teenager has taken them."

Interest in these speakers will be high, so we have opened both evenings to the public. Spread the word and bring along a friend!

What's happening in February?

Urbex Photography: Feb. 4

Freaktography is the name Dave, who prefers his last name not be used, uses to describe his exploration of abandoned buildings and off-limit spaces. He calls it "recreational trespassing." (There's more about Dave on page 1.)

Studio Group: Feb. 6

James Elliott

Thanks to Rolly Astrom we are going to have a couple of fabulous dancers to photograph during February's studio night.

Make sure to pack an energy bar with your camera...you're going to need it to keep up with these dynamic performers!

All Guilds Cross-Pollination Day: Feb. 9

"Are you a painter who has always wanted to play with clay? Are you a photographer with a deep secret desire to weave something? Are you a sculptor or woodcarver who wants to use soft fibre and colour? Then the All Guilds Cross Pollination Day is for you!"

Marnie Saskin Handweavers and Spinners Guild

Marnie is extremely jealous of the kids that get to play in the darkroom during Kaleidoscope. And this was her inspiration for a "Cross Pollination Day".

Her thinking is that if she wants to play in the darkroom then perhaps other guild members would like to try their hand at the art forms practised outside their own guild. Details about the various events and how to sign up will be sent in an eBlast in early February. Latow is participating in Cross Pollination by running activities in the Darkroom and Studio. Black & White Group members who are interested in helping out should contact Don Mallory imaginemallory@gmail.com. Members of the Studio Group should contact James Elliott president@latow.com.

Street Photography: Feb. 11

Frank Myers

Since the age of 14, Leah Benbok had made it her mission to humanize the homeless through photography. Now a photography student at Sheridan College, Leah has already established herself as a photographer of note and public speaker. She also has two books in print with a third about to be released. (More about Leah Denbok on page 1.)

New Members: Feb. 18

This is an evening devoted to meeting new members and seeing samples of their work. Those who joined since last August are invited to this evening.

On behalf of Latow's Program Committee, we invite new members to participate in a New Members' Evening on Tuesday, February 18. It is an opportunity to get to know them better, to see some of their photography and learn about their interests. Time will be limited to 6 minutes,

(Continued on page 3)

February at a Glance

Tues. Feb. 4	General Meeting: Urbex photography with Freaktography.
Thurs. Feb. 6	Studio Group: Photographing dancers.
Sun. Feb. 9	All-Guilds Cross-Pollination Day
Tues. Feb. 11	Street Photography: Guest speaker Leah Denbok, "Nowhere to Call Home."
Tues. Feb. 18	New Members: Meet our new members and see some of their work.
Wed. Feb. 19	Evaluation #3 intake deadline
Thurs. Feb. 20	Board Meeting: members are welcome to attend.
Tues. Feb. 25	Wildlife Photography, why and how.
Sat. Feb. 29	Darkroom Group: Cafenol developing with Mike Wilde.

(Continued from page 2)

but sufficient, we think for us to see a sample of work: favourite subjects, new directions, challenges, whatever a New Member wants to share.

The evening will be co-hosted by Marguerite Botting, Wanda Lane and Joyce Munro. We will handle introductions, moderate discussion and keep an eye on the clock.

Evaluations Deadline: Feb. 19

Toni Browning

The next evaluations entries are due on Wednesday, February 19 @ 11.59p.m. The theme is *Country*. Definition of country: Countryside, nothing urban or the suburbs. Possibilities could be animals, meadows, streams, waterfalls, landscapes, wildflowers etc.

The results evening will be on Tuesday, March 5. Hope that some new members will enter this evaluation.

Wildlife Photography: Why and How: Feb. 25

Jim Lait

Our *Wildlife, Why and How Night* will be on Tuesday, February 25. This night is in our series where we learn and share. Bring some images (up to 5) and share how you took them...or stories about them...or just come and enjoy some wildlife photos!

Tim Story and I will introduce the evening and present some wildlife photographic styles and a few tips and tricks. We hope to see you there!

Darkroom Group: Feb. 29

Mike Wilde

Alternative Film Developing with Mike Wilde: Saturday Feb. 29, 10:30a.m. to 4p.m.

Come out and play at developing film without worrying about commercial film developer being on hand. Say you find yourself travelling, and want to develop a black and white film far, far from your usual film processing spot.

This workshop shows you that between the grocery store (Vitamin C and cheap instant coffee) and a pool supply shop (Ph Up) we can source ingredients to combine to develop your film. Sorry, we will not be using MacGyver fixers, but fixer concentrate brought along is stable anyways.

The second formula we will discuss still needs the pool supply and the grocery store, but a tiny bit of photo chemical too. The upside is that once mixed it is a concentrated gel that has a stable shelf life of more than 3 years. Dilute 10mL into a 500mL tank of water, add in the pool supply ingredients by the teaspoon, and you again have a film developer.

Bring an exposed film of test shots and we will have fun processing. (Ilford HP5 or similar works great). We may even use the club densitometer to fine tune our results.

Film stages a comeback

2019 was a great year for film photography. Nearly 10 new film stocks have been released around the world, and Kodak is expanding their manufacturing capacity after months of backorders or "out of stock" signs for a lot of their film at most retailers. Used departments at camera stores that had previously seen a more limited interest in film cameras have started to see more turnaround in their stock. (Source: [Fstoppers](#))

Message from the President

James Elliott

I finally did it. I made my initial foray into the world of juried competition with Evaluation #2!

As I mentioned last month, I have always been shy about showing my personal work. I may be very pleased with one of my pieces but how do others, who have not been intimately involved in its creation, feel? I have been hesitant to seek an answer to that question!

This year Toni Browning took over the helm of Latow's Evaluations from Rolly Astrom. This means that she has the dubious honour of selecting the judges who render decisions on the quality of the submitted works. Not a big deal if there is no emotional involvement by the works' creators. But let's be honest with ourselves, we all have very fragile egos when it comes to our photography. Consequently, being in charge of Evaluations is not for the faint of heart. Fortunately for us, Toni is fearless!

I submitted three pieces under the theme of Long Exposure. I shot the images in the Latow studio using a combination of studio strobe, to freeze the model as she danced across the frame, and continuous light, to show her movement.

Evaluation #2 results were provided on the evening of January 7th. For me it felt like I had just finished a very intense downhill ski competition. Of course with photography you are being evaluated against a stated rubric as opposed to your fellow competitors. Nonetheless, the anxiety from waiting for the results in both cases is very similar.

All three images scored well, in the mid 20s with at least a couple having honourable mentions. I was very pleased, and also a little relieved, with the result.

Well...that was until our resident photo club judging expert, Tom Stephens, stood up and expressed the opinion, rather strongly I might add, that the judge had been overly generous in her marking! Did I mention that Toni has a tough job?

Evaluation #3 Theme: Country entries are due February 19th with results on March 3rd. Race you to the bottom of the hill!

Joanna Muckle

It is with sincerest regret that we share the news of Joanna Muckle's passing. During her time with Latow, many of us had an opportunity to get to know her well and we all appreciated the enthusiasm and passion for photography that she offered to our guild.

Joanna was always willing to lend her support and for several years was involved in representing Latow on the Kaleidoscope Committee. She helped in a variety of capacities during our Photography Weekends and volunteered during many AGB events as the Latow representative.

Joanna worked in non-profit management consulting and was an avid and accomplished Nordic walker. She enjoyed many unique and wonderful adventures during her travels around the world.

We will remember her contributions to Latow with fondness and gratitude. Unfortunately, we have no further details about funeral arrangements at this time.

Respectfully submitted by Joyce Munro

A request from our Treasurer

Latow's treasurer, Elizabeth Szell, asks that members submitting reimbursement for Latow expenses send their request and scanned receipts to treasurer@latow.com rather than her personal email address. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Images still needed for International Photography Challenge!

Paul Sparrow

As announced last month, I'm looking for your best images for our 2020 International Challenge, this year with the Bangladesh Photographic Society. In the past we've competed with 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 17** so the members can hear the judges' comments and learn from the experience.

Please send two of your best images (same specs as the Evaluation entries) to me **no later than February 18**. Please e-mail them to me at psparrow@cogeco.ca. I'm looking forward to seeing your images.

Darkroom volunteers needed for Kaleidoscope

Mike Lindsay/Don Mallory

The Black & White Group has been running a photogram workshop for kids of all ages in the darkroom for over 20 years during Kaleidoscope. We need volunteers to help make this program a success. While darkroom experience of any level is helpful, it is not required and all volunteer time will go towards your AGB and Latow volunteer hours.

The only requirement is a willingness to interact with kids and you will be required to apply for a [Vulnerable Sector Check](#), as we are working in close quarters with children.

Latow will provide a letter to accompany your application and **reimburse you for the \$30 cost**. Please get in touch with Mike Lindsay mike@bearkat.photography or Don Mallory imaginemallory@gmail.com as soon as possible to start the somewhat lengthy process of the VSC.

We need a minimum of five folks with Vulnerable Sector Check papers at all times to run the program during Kaleidoscope. Last year unfortunately we could only run one day. We still broke our 2018 total numbers in the one day though. However, we couldn't get enough bodies to crew the Sunday.

Basically the staffing requirements are two (at all times) in the darkroom, two in the finishing room, and one floating/crowd control. The volunteers in the finishing room are there to instruct the visitors on what photograms are and help the participants layout their trays (as well as run prints through the drier) before heading into the darkroom.

Historically, we've broken the days into three shifts and if everyone is comfortable in the darkroom then we all just float; some prefer to stay in the light and interact with those waiting. I'm hoping one or two of the usual suspects will also hang out for a full day as well.

Please contact Mike Lindsay mike@bearkat.photography if you can help.

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. 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 away, I could use some help. If you have a few hours to volunteer, please contact me.

Viewfinder – Quotes to Inspire You

Annemarie Toth-Waddell

We must remember that a photograph can hold just as much as we put into it, and no one has ever approached the full possibilities of the medium. – Ansel Adams

A number of years ago, my husband Bill and I spent time in the Santa Fe area enjoying the beautiful landscape and spectacular light that has attracted many famous artists and photographers to New Mexico. In town, we were lucky to find a special exhibit of original Ansel Adams photographs that was the largest ever assembled by a private collector. As most people know, Adams is one of the most celebrated landscape photographers of all time and an inspiration to anyone like me who is struggling to improve my black and white photography in particular.

The exhibit featured the very first print ever made of his legendary photograph "Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico" taken in 1941. The story behind the taking of this photograph was fascinating. Adams had been on assignment photographing parks for the Dept. of the Interior when he drove by the village of Hernandez on a late afternoon in November. From the road he saw a spectacular full moon rising over snow capped peaks and in the distance a small adobe church with a cemetery full of white crosses. "Sometimes I do think I get to places just when God is ready to have someone click the shutter!"

His reaction on seeing the scene was so strong he said he almost drove off the road. He rushed to set up his tripod and camera and make the many mental calculations needed to expose the image since he was unable to find his exposure meter. He exposed for what he described as a long second at f32 then went to take a second shot when the sunlight suddenly went off the crosses.



Moonrise, Hernandez, NM by Ansel Adams

I got the picture by about 15 seconds... So there's always an element of chance in photography. If you have practiced and practiced, the process is intuitive. You suddenly recognize something, and you react. – Ansel Adams

Later in that trip we took a tour that stopped on the road in the exact spot Adams had taken his photograph from. It was a scene that was quite unremarkable, but in that magic second Adams had captured something very beautiful that night. Adams spent a long time dodging and burning to achieve the balance he wanted in the photograph. His early prints showed the sky in a mid grey tone, but in later years he printed the image to increase the exposure to the sky to a deep black.

Dodging and burning are steps to take care of mistakes God made in establishing tonal relationships. – Ansel Adams

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

Members News

Many members know our member **Janet Jardine** is also a fine painter. Recently Janet was excited to learn she was juried into the Ontario Society of Artists' Emerging Artist Exhibition. The exhibition, at Queen Elizabeth Cultural Centre in Oakville, runs until January 31.

Big Poster Project in the Shoreline Room

A late surge of submissions to be considered for the Big Poster Project has given us a great selection of fabulous images to choose from. Thanks to all members who submitted an image. The Board will make a decision at February's meeting.

Super Sunday for the Photography Weekend, 18-19 April

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

Last month, we described the innovative and inspiring program for the first day of our upcoming Photography Weekend. This month, we provide an overview of the two Sunday sessions. (Do you need to attend Saturday to get some benefit from Sunday? Not at all, but it will help. Indeed, most of the people who have purchased tickets for Saturday are also planning to attend on Sunday. This includes a number of people from distant locations who will stay overnight.)

On Sunday morning, 19 April, Kas's topic is "How to Craft a Landscape Photograph." She says, "The emphasis of this workshop is on the rationale for various camera and processing decisions, and on general techniques that can be achieved with any of today's equipment and software. It is designed to be accessible and non-intimidating to people of all skill levels (i.e. this is not a how-to-do-things-with-Photoshop tutorial)." What will you learn? A fresh perspective and the ability to make the familiar seem novel.



Forlorn by Kas Stone

Sunday afternoon will see a novel and interactive approach that is new for our Weekend speakers: After describing guidelines you can use to evaluate your own images, Kas will lead a moderated group discussion of approximately 15-20 images submitted earlier by those in attendance. What will you learn? How to look more thoughtfully at images to evaluate not merely their technical and compositional competence, but also their emotional, aesthetic and storytelling power.

You can find more detail online at the updated [Weekend website](#). Check it out and mark your calendar.

You may be interested in:

In 2016 the **Art Gallery of Ontario** acquired the world's second largest collection of photographs by **Diane Arbus**. On February 22 the AGO will open a major exhibition featuring 150 of these photographs. Diane Arbus revolutionized portraiture through the range of subjects she captured and her distinctive style. Arbus worked in and around New York City, selecting her subjects for their uniqueness – including couples, children, nudists, suburban families, circus performers and celebrities, among others she encountered in public spaces. This is the first solo Arbus exhibition in Canada in almost 30 years

Latow members get a discount to see **World Wildlife Photography of the Year Exhibition**. The Royal Ontario Museum is offering a 15% discount to Latow members during the World Wildlife Photography of the Year Exhibition. Book your tickets at [Wildlife Photographer of the Year](#) and use discount **WILDLIFELP19**. There is currently a call for entries to the 2021 competition and Latow wildlife photographers are invited to enter. Details can be found here [ROM Wildlife Photography of the Year Contest](#).

The Lambton Heritage Museum has just opened a new feature exhibit for 2020 on the history of photography. It is called [Capturing the Moment: The History of Photography in Lambton County](#) and it features antique cameras, great vintage prints, and the work of some of our local camera clubs. The museum is also hosting a variety of workshops and lectures from May to September. The full list of workshops and lectures is in the link above. Lambton Heritage Museum is located just south of Grand Bend off Highway 21, directly across the highway from Pinery Provincial Park.

**CALL FOR ENTRY:
2020 ALL GUILDS EXHIBITION
ART GALLERY OF BURLINGTON
MAY 1 - 31, 2020**

This annual exhibition celebrates the Guilds of Arts Burlington including the Burlington Fibre Arts Guild, Burlington Fine Arts Association, Burlington Handweavers and Spinners Guild, Latow Photographers Guild, Burlington Potters Guild, Burlington Rug Hooking Craft Guild, and the Burlington Sculptors and Woodcarvers

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY & ELIGIBILITY:

NO themes. NO size restrictions.

Members can enter up to three works for consideration.

All work must be suitable for gallery presentation.

Works must have been created within the last two years and not been previously shown at the AGB.

Submissions will be reviewed by a panel of guest curators.

HOW TO SUBMIT:

Format as a single PDF including

Contact information (name, phone, email)

Title, Medium, Size, Year

Artist statement (max 150 words)

Image(s) for up to three works

CONTACT:

All questions and submissions allguilds@agb.life

IMPORTANT DATES:

Entry to be submitted by Friday, March 20

Notice of Acceptance: Monday, March 30

Works to be delivered to Lee-Chin Family Gallery: Monday April 20 & Tuesday April 21, 9am – 7pm

Exhibition dates: May 1 - 31

Exhibition Reception: Friday May 8, 6 - 9pm

Marketplace

Wanted:

Limited edition Latow Photographers Guild camera bag. These bags were sold by a local camera store with the Latow name and logo embroidered in them many years ago and are a satchel type bag. If you are interested in selling one please contact **John Larsen** at the following email address: jlarsen@photograffics.com

For sale:

Canon EOS 5DmkII w/ 2 Batteries & Charger (body only) = \$700.00

Canon EF 24-105mm f4L IS USM (lens only) = \$650.00

Canon EOS 5DmkII w/ 2 Batteries, Charger + Canon EF 24-105mm f4L IS USM = \$1300.00

Contact: **Adrian Smith** grainfedphoto@gmail.com

"It is one thing to photograph people. It is another to make others care about them by revealing the core of their humanness."

Paul Strand

Latow Photo Weekend April 18-19, 2020



featuring
Kas Stone

41st annual seminar:

**Landscape Photography
and the Meaning of Life**



latowseminar.com



Colourful Ride by **Victoria Martin**

This month we are featuring some top-scoring images from Evaluation #2.



Dancing Mystery Man by **Rolly Astrom**



Kylemore Abbey by **Laurie Hughes**

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.*

Corby Custom Framing

We provide quality framing with a lightning-fast turnaround and at very competitive pricing.

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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
Treasurer	Elizabeth Szell treasurer@latow.com
Directors	Martin Renters martin@teckelworks.com John Larsen jlarsen@photograffics.com Tom Stephens tom@tomstephens.ca Debra Kanfer deborah.kanfer@gmail.com Tom McCormack tom@metroeconomics.ca

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
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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

