

March 2021

## A/V Festival Lineup Set

*Paul Sparrow*

The lineup of shows for this year's Latow International Audio-Visual Festival showcase is now finalized and this year the presentations are some of the most diverse ever.

Going back to the 1970s the AV medium has gone through a lot of changes from the banks of projectors that lined the back of the main gallery. Now the Latow International AV Festival showcase uses different audio-visual techniques to create an emotional response, tell a story or to show off an artistic vision and is the focal point for seeing great photography through this unique medium.

This year shows came in from countries including Canada, the UK, Ireland, Australia, the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland and South Africa and the productions that will be presented include far-off lands, thoughtful storytelling, a look into the mind, a magical journey, a humorous fairy tale, where elephants go to die, the lockdown, the great cathedrals of France and the legend of eternal youth. (See the festival poster on page 8 for the full lineup.)

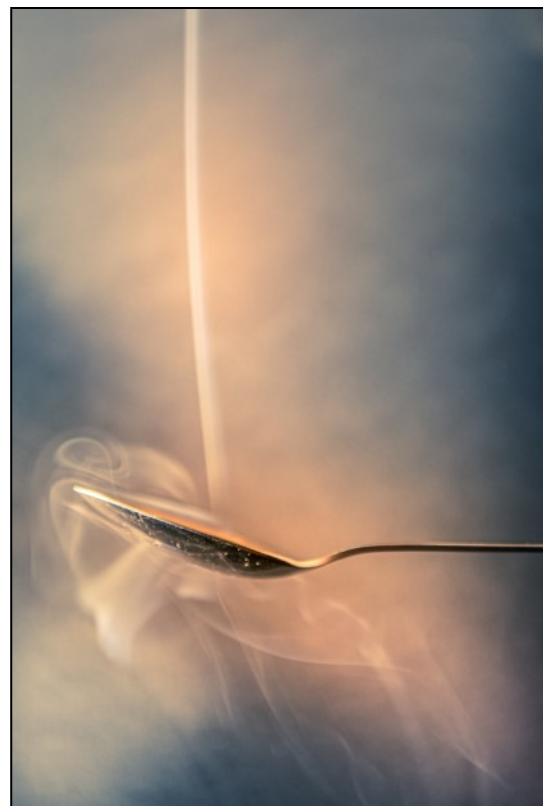
Given jointly by the Art Gallery of Burlington and the Latow Photographers Guild, one of this year's shows will also receive the "Award for Artistic Merit".

The award was established in 2018 as a way of recognizing the artistic qualities of the AV medium and is determined by a panel of artists outside of Latow from the other guilds at the AGB who screen all the shows in a private screening to determine the recipient.

The award will be announced on the night of the Festival presentation and is accompanied by a \$500.00 cash honorarium.

Tickets for the AV Festival are included if you register for the Kas Stone seminar and/or one of her workshops, however you can purchase AV Festival tickets for \$10 on their own through the Latow International AV Festival web site at: <https://latowseminar.wpengine.com/av-festival/>

So join us online for a wonderful evening of audio-visual shows that will spark the imagination.



*Medicate* by **Dennis Martin** was among the top-scoring images in Evaluation #2.

**"When subject matter is forced to fit into preconceived patterns, there can be no freshness of vision. Following rules of composition can only lead to a tedious repetition of pictorial cliches."**

**Edward Weston**

## What's Happening in March?

### Evaluation #3 Results: March 2

*Toni Browning, Evaluations Chair*

Evaluation #3 just closed, we had only 88 entries. I would have thought that with the pandemic, that everyone had lots of time to look through their images and enter (but I have to say, I have not entered this year as yet, so maybe I can see it.)

Entries are due for the next evaluation (#4) on Saturday March 13. Get them ready now (8 are already entered). The optional theme is "Freedom".

The fourth evaluation was due to have live judging, but due to Covid-19, it will be online.

### March Members Sharing Nights: March 4 and March 30

*Jim Lait*

On Thursday, March 4th, our theme for the Members Sharing Night is **New to You - a different genre or technique**. Have you tried a genre that is new to you or a new technique recently? The techniques may be in-camera like long exposures or in-camera movement or macro or focus stacking or maybe a new processing software, plugin, procedure? This night is an opportunity to share your results.

On Tuesday, March 30th, our theme is **Your 3 Favourite Images from 2020**. This is an opportunity to share some of your favourite images from 2020 and talk about why they are your favourite. Note these are your favourite images for 2020...not necessarily your best images.

And Looking Further Ahead:

We have some other nights this year for sharing work, so here's a reminder and a chance for some forward planning. These were all suggested by members this past summer:

- Apr 15 - **Diptychs, triptychs, other collections**
- May 6 - **From the Archives**
- May 27 - **Different treatments, e.g. old-film look and other filters**

As usual, we're looking for a few images, up to four minutes per member. Any questions, please contact either Tom Stephens or Jim Lait. Closer to the date, look for an invitation and instructions on where to send your images.

### New Exposures: March 9

*Mark Emmerson*

I'll be hosting New Exposures and I welcome submissions for the next session scheduled for March 9. Emphasis is placed on the merits of images and their potential rather than personal likes and preferences and, hopefully, this provides a better indication of how the image might fare if entered in evaluations or another judging environment.

### March at a Glance

(All events via Zoom. Watch for invitations in your email.)

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Tues., March 2   | General Meeting: Evaluation #3 results.                                   |
| Thurs., March 4  | Members sharing: New to You.  |
| Tues., March 9   | New Exposures: Bring an image for friendly critique                       |
| Sat., March 13   | Evaluation #4 intake deadline   |
| Tues., March 16  | <b>International Challenge is cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions.</b> |
| Thurs., March 18 | Board Meeting: Members are welcome to attend                              |
| Tues., March 23  | Studio Group: Guest speaker: Wayne Simpson                                |
| Tues., March 30  | Members Sharing: Your 3 favourite images of 2020                          |

(Continued on page 3)

## March cont'd.

*(Continued from page 2)*

Most evenings, sessions are about an hour and a half of useful time. At 4 minutes per image, we are at capacity with about 22 images.

We try to strike a delicate balance between encouraging a constructive discussion and managing time limits. So, for the next session, March 9, members are invited to forward a single jpeg image in sRGB, labelled for New Exposures and with your name, to [Markemmerson@wellfoundphotography.com](mailto:Markemmerson@wellfoundphotography.com) before 5PM on March 9.

To look their best using the Zoom technology, the long axis of images should be at least 1900 pixels. Larger files are ok and might be sent using WeTransfer.

## The Best of the Best – Thursday, March 11

*Wanda Lane and Tom Stephens*

On March 11<sup>th</sup> we will be seeing the work of our two members who achieved masters level this season -- Monique Campbell and Don Munro -- originally scheduled for February 16.

In the second part of the evening we will review some of the top images in a recent series of CAPA contests. This is an opportunity to view some of the best work of peer photographers across Canada. Keith Marshall, Glen Jones and Ort Baldauf will analyze what makes these images outstanding.

Please join us to see our "best"!

## International Challenge: March 16 (Cancelled)

*Paul Sparrow*

The International Digital Challenge with the Melbourne Camera Club of Australia was supposed to take place this month on the Explorations March 16 date. However as you've probably surmised, it can't go ahead this year due to the Covid restrictions at the AGB and in Australia.

## Studio Night Guest Speaker, Wayne Simpson: March 23

*James Elliott*

Wayne will be sharing images and discussing the work he created for his upcoming book *Resilience*.

Here is a little synopsis: Many people wear a lifetime of experiences on their face, yet who that person is and what they have experienced often remains a mystery.

*Resilience* is a haunting collection of portraits accompanied by individual stories of inspiration, tragedy and humanitarianism. With compassion and respect, Wayne Simpson has befriended unique individuals and forged relationships based on mutual trust and respect over the span of approximately five years.

Simpson's portraits are each created with storytelling at the forefront and the atmosphere and mood are often crafted with multiple studio lights on location. Many of Simpson's portraits are graced with intricate details each adding additional layers of complexity to the portrait – in turn making each portrait a visual story on its own.



## Message from the President

*James Elliott, President*

The other day I came across [this article](#) in The Globe and Mail that talked about the revival of mail art. With COVID severely restricting access to galleries, artists are seeking new (old!?) ways to connect with their audience.

The postcard has become one of those ways. Going analogue in a digital world and connecting physically while still observing lockdown rules struck me as a brilliant and beautiful concept. Plus, as featured Waterloo artist Paul Roorda says "It's a novelty to get anything personal in the mail these days".

Can you imagine receiving a moving John Pingree landscape, a moody Gail Burstyn tulip, a striking Deborah Kanfer B&W, or a Glen Jones masterpiece capturing the magnificence of Frank Gehry in your mailbox? Heck, I'd even take a Rolly Astrom ballerina! (Just kidding Rolly, I'd be overjoyed to receive a sample of any of your works.) My mailing address is available upon request.

It was approximately two years ago that I received a phone call from long-time but now former member Chuck Burdick asking me if I would consider being a candidate for President in the upcoming elections.

I remember I was looking out our kitchen window, phone pressed to my ear, thinking he must have me mixed up with someone else! When he assured me that there was no mix-up, I figured that he must just be filling out his candidate roster. On that assumption I agreed to stand for President. Well, we all know how that worked out.

I did find it rather ominous that Chuck departed for British Columbia shortly after I was confirmed as President. I was reminded of this as it is once again time for the changing of the guard.

Membership coordinator Joyce Munro has accepted the task of finding candidates to be considered at May 4th's Annual General Meeting. I know Joyce is working on her list of potential candidates and would welcome suggestions.

## Latow Members Show: A Bill Warren Monochrome Photo Tribute

*Ort Baldauf*

The Latow Members Show will commemorate Bill Warren's contributions and leadership in promoting black and white and monochrome photography at Latow. Exhibition space is available and one entry per member will be accepted for selection on a **first come, first served basis**. There is no entry fee.

The photographs submitted must be done using plain **B&W or monochrome tones**. Your photograph must be wired and ready for hanging.

Entry date: **Tuesday, March 16th**, 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Exhibition dates: Wednesday, March 17th to take down on Tuesday April 27th.

Pick up: After 1 pm on Tuesday April 27th. Work not removed by 3:30 pm Tuesday April 27th will be stored in the Finishing Room.

We're hoping many members will participate in this show! Please email the following information to Ort Baldauf ([omnione@hotmail.com](mailto:omnione@hotmail.com)) **ASAP** for your label:

- title:
- name of photographer:
- sale price (or NFS):
- phone number:



## Landscape Photography and the Meaning of Life (continued)

Tom Stephens for the Photo Weekend Organizing Committee

In the last issue of this newsletter, the focus was on the [Seminar](#) with [Kas Stone](#). We have split her presentation over two mornings – April 10 and 11 -- to prevent screen fatigue. This was the format adopted by last October's O3C seminar with Denise Ippolito, and it proved very popular with those in attendance, according to a follow-up survey.

So we plan to extend this approach to the following weekend, with workshops over two mornings – April 17 and 18.

Tickets can be purchased for one or [both workshops](#), and most customers have opted for both because of the way they complement each other:

**April 17: How to Craft a Landscape Photograph** will teach a fresh perspective and the ability to make the familiar seem novel.

**April 18: How to Look at Images** will help you look more thoughtfully at images to evaluate not merely their technical and compositional competence, but also their emotional, aesthetic and storytelling power. Ticket-holders will be able to submit an image of their own, with the possibility that Kas will use it as a teaching example.

Each workshop will cost \$25, and Latow members get a 15% discount on all purchases. Simply enter your email address as the coupon code at check-out to claim your discount. And there's more! Every ticket-holder will receive a set of notes after the Seminar, access to a video of Kas's presentation for two weeks, and a chance to win an hour's consultation with Kas.

One more goodie: buying a ticket for the Seminar or the Workshops will also get you a pass for the **International AV Festival** on Saturday evening, April 10. Once again this year, it really is international and varied in subject matter. Check out the poster elsewhere in this edition for details.



*Grounded by Kas Stone*

### Latow Photography Seminar & Workshops

Four Mornings April 10-11 and 17-18, 2021

Landscape Photography  
and the Meaning of Life

featuring  
**Kas Stone**  
[www.kasstone.ca](http://www.kasstone.ca)

**LATOW**  
INTERNATIONAL  
AUDIO-VISUAL  
FESTIVAL  
2021  
A CELEBRATION OF PHOTOGRAPHY

**latowseminar.com**

**Seminar**

**Saturday April 10 from 9am – 12:15pm**

- Inspiration, motivation & meaning:**  
*Why* am I making this photograph?
- Craftsmanship & creativity:**  
*How* do I make this photograph?

**Sunday April 11 from 9am – 12:15pm**

- Ethical & environmental concerns:**  
How *should* I make this photograph?
- Personal projects:**  
What can I *do* with this photograph?

**Workshops**

**Saturday April 17 from 9am – noon**  
**How to craft a landscape photograph**  
Mindful camera and digital darkroom techniques

**Sunday April 18 from 9am – noon**  
**How to look at images**  
The technical, emotional and storytelling power of images

*Participants receive PDF summary notes, two-week video access for every session, and the chance to win an hour of one-on-one photo help from Kas.*

**41<sup>st</sup> Annual**  
This Year Online  
Join Us From Anywhere!

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## On the Longevity of a Photograph

Mark Emmerson

It is over five miles from the nearest hamlet. The local population is sheep. Occasional farmsteads peep from the hills and around crags. The single track road is more than enough for the traffic. Vikings raided these parts. So did everyone else.

MacCormaig's cave, an anchorite retreat, a religious man's sanctuary, lies offshore on an islet. Suitably windswept. Suitably small. Suitably barren. Castle Sween, across the Loch, hulks in the mist - a Norman-style keep, circa 1200, affirms hostilities, fear and uncertainty.

It came much later than the Celtic cross at Keills, within sight across the water to the west. Carved by a craftsman, or men, in the 700s. These were people of practiced skill. Driven by the early Celtic Church, not of Rome, just monastic Christian. Resonating skills and idioms from neighbouring enclaves, their work was art, albeit religiously inspired, but essentially art.

I climbed the hill. Fences limited the sheep's propensity to roam. The stone wall surrounding the chapel looked in better repair than I remembered some 60 years ago. Gone were the nettles and overgrowth and half buried grave markers. The sheep-gate creaked as I passed. I tried the door handle, nobody would witness should I fail. Surprise. It opened. Unguarded.

The mantle of responsibility weighed down. Entry carried a covenant of trust. On the walls hung carved gravestones of antiquity. Interpretive plaques explained.

A modern roof and skylight protected and illuminated the space. Skills and traditions permeated. The cross, some 1300 years old, recently moved from its original open air place on the hillside, now sheltered, cast its pre-eminence among the assembled artisanship and art. A time capsule, carved in stones. Despite its unguarded vulnerability, not the slightest trace of graffiti, despoilment or disrespect.

Could there be some essence of affinity with a future, then incomprehensible, art form driven by cameras, printers and myriad technology? That our creations should last as long!



Another high-scoring image from Evaluation #2, *Swan Lake* by **Micheline Godbout**.

## Is it all about competing?

From Wayne Elliott

This was written by **Cole Thompson**, an American black & white photographer, and the quote is by Kurt Vonnegut.

"I recently read this quote by Kurt Vonnegut and it made me think about those who are intent on winning, earning likes and beating others."

*"When I was 15, I spent a month working on an archeological dig. I was talking to one of the archeologists one day during our lunch break and he asked those kinds of getting to know you questions you ask young people: Do you play sports? What's your favorite subject? And I told him, no I don't play any sports. I do theater, I'm in choir, I play the violin and piano, I used to take art classes.*

*And he went 'WOW. That's amazing!' And I said, 'Oh no, but I'm not any good at ANY of them.'*

*And he said something that I will never forget and which absolutely blew my mind because no one had ever said anything like it to me before: 'I don't think being good at things is the point of doing them. I think you've got all these wonderful experiences with different skills, and that all teaches you things and makes you an interesting person, no matter how well you do them.'*

*And that honestly changed my life. Because I went from a failure, someone who hadn't been talented enough at anything to excel, to someone who did things because I enjoyed them. I had been raised in such an achievement-oriented environment, so inundated with the myth of talent, that I thought it was only worth doing things if you could win at them."*

- Kurt Vonnegut



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## Changes to the Latow Constitution

The Latow Board approved two changes to the Constitution at its February meeting. These changes involve the Latow logo and the definition of the Guild's name "Latow". *Schedule A* referred to below in Article 1 is attached the email that delivered this newsletter.

Please review the changes below. Members will be asked to approve these changes at our Annual General Meeting on May 4.

### Proposed version

#### Article I. Name and logo

The name of this organization shall be *Latow Photographers Guild* and the logo shall be the design shown here.

The name "Latow" is from the Zuni language, meaning "Wings of the Sun" or "Sunbeam".

All use of the logo shall be in keeping with the guidelines in *Latow Logo Formats and Brand Document (Schedule A)*.

### Current version

#### Article I. Name and logo

The name of this organization shall be Latow Photographers Guild. The logo shall be the design above, and may be used either in the colors shown or in black & white.

The name "Latow" is an aboriginal word meaning "Beam of Light".



### A note regarding use of the new logo:

Any members who have a use for the Latow logo should contact the Communications Coordinator, Frank Myers [fmyers4@gmail.com](mailto:fmyers4@gmail.com).

He will supply the correct file format and the design guide to ensure the logo is used appropriately.

The lineup for this years Latow International A/V Festival has been announced and it is truly outstanding.

A feature of our annual Photography Weekend, it will be presented online Saturday, April 10.

Check out the poster (left) for details.



## About Latow Photographers Guild

We normally 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.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions affecting the Art Gallery of Burlington facilities, Latow is making all meetings available via ZOOM, so that members have the option of participating from the comfort and safety of home.

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](http://latow.com). For your convenience a hard copy can be downloaded and printed.

### Latow Board of Directors

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| President      | James Elliott<br><a href="mailto:president@latow.com">president@latow.com</a>   |
| Vice-President | Gail Burstyn<br><a href="mailto:gburstyn1@gmail.com">gburstyn1@gmail.com</a>  |
| Past-President | Andrzej Pradzynski<br><a href="mailto:a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca">a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca</a>  |
| Secretary      | Ron Savoline<br><a href="mailto:ronsav@cogeco.ca">ronsav@cogeco.ca</a>  |
| Treasurer      | Gerda Wolker<br><a href="mailto:treasurer@latow.com">treasurer@latow.com</a>  |
| Directors      | Micheline Godbout<br><a href="mailto:m.r.godbout@gmail.com">m.r.godbout@gmail.com</a><br>Keith Marshall<br><a href="mailto:kimarshall@cogeco.ca">kimarshall@cogeco.ca</a><br>Tom Stephens<br><a href="mailto:tom@tomstephens.ca">tom@tomstephens.ca</a><br>Debra Kanfer<br><a href="mailto:deborah.kanfer@gmail.com">deborah.kanfer@gmail.com</a><br>Steve Loates<br><a href="mailto:steve@aissolutions.ca">steve@aissolutions.ca</a> |



## Group and Activity Coordinators

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| All-Guilds Show               | Glen Jones<br><a href="mailto:gjones76@cogeco.ca">gjones76@cogeco.ca</a>   |
| Annual Photography Weekend    | Tom Stephens<br><a href="mailto:seminar@latow.com">seminar@latow.com</a>   |
| Arts Burlington               | James Elliott<br>Micheline Godbout<br><a href="mailto:m.r.godbout@gmail.com">m.r.godbout@gmail.com</a>   |
| AV Festival                   | Paul Sparrow<br><a href="mailto:psparrow@cogeco.ca">psparrow@cogeco.ca</a>   |
| B & W Group                   | Don Mallory<br><a href="mailto:imaginemallory@gmail.com">imaginemallory@gmail.com</a>  |
| CAPA                          | Andrzej Pradzynski<br><a href="mailto:a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca">a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca</a>   |
| Christmas Potluck             | Gail Burstyn<br><a href="mailto:gburstyn1@gmail.com">gburstyn1@gmail.com</a>   |
| Christmas Sale                | Fred Oliver<br><a href="mailto:fred.oliver@cogeco.ca">fred.oliver@cogeco.ca</a>  |
| Communications and Newsletter | Tori Martin<br>Frank Myers<br><a href="mailto:fmyers4@gmail.com">fmyers4@gmail.com</a>   |
| Darkroom Lockers              | Paul MacDiarmid<br><a href="mailto:pamacdiarmid@gmail.com">pamacdiarmid@gmail.com</a>  |
| Explorations Group            | Paul Sparrow<br><a href="mailto:psparrow@cogeco.ca">psparrow@cogeco.ca</a>   |
| Evaluations                   | Toni Browning<br><a href="mailto:tonnie@cogeco.ca">tonnie@cogeco.ca</a>  |
| Fireside Room Exhibitions     | Ort Baldauf<br><a href="mailto:omnione@hotmail.com">omnione@hotmail.com</a>  |
| Kaleidoscope                  | Fred Oliver<br><a href="mailto:fred.oliver@cogeco.ca">fred.oliver@cogeco.ca</a>  |
| Membership                    | Joyce Munro<br><a href="mailto:jdmunro@cogeco.ca">jdmunro@cogeco.ca</a>  |
| New Exposures                 | Mark Emmerson<br><a href="mailto:markemmer-son@wellfoundphotography.com">markemmer-son@wellfoundphotography.com</a>  |
| NFRCC                         | Andrzej Pradzynski<br><a href="mailto:a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca">a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca</a>   |
| OCCC                          | Tom Stephens<br><a href="mailto:tom@tomstephens.ca">tom@tomstephens.ca</a>   |
| Program Committee             | Tom Stephens<br>Jim Lait<br><a href="mailto:programs@latow.com">programs@latow.com</a><br><a href="mailto:programs@latow.com">programs@latow.com</a>   |
| Studio Group                  | Andrzej Pradzynski,<br>James Elliott<br>Martin Renters<br><a href="mailto:a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca">a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca</a><br><a href="mailto:jameselliott2112@gmail.com">jameselliott2112@gmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:martin@teckelworks.com">martin@teckelworks.com</a> |
| Three-Club Evening            | Roger Crysler<br>Jay Trout<br><a href="mailto:rcrysler@sympatico.ca">rcrysler@sympatico.ca</a><br><a href="mailto:jtroutmail@gmail.com">jtroutmail@gmail.com</a>   |
| Volunteers                    | Ort Baldauf<br><a href="mailto:omnione@hotmail.com">omnione@hotmail.com</a>  |
| Website: Webmaster            | David Walther<br><a href="mailto:daw4063@hotmail.com">daw4063@hotmail.com</a>  |
| Calendar updates              | Jim Lait<br><a href="mailto:laitjames@gmail.com">laitjames@gmail.com</a>   |
| Member galleries              | Tori Martin<br><a href="mailto:tori.martin@gmail.com">tori.martin@gmail.com</a>  |

