Message from the President

April 2021

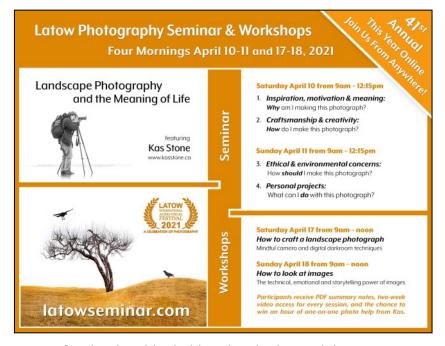
James Elliott, President

Who was your first?

One of the things I like best about April is the Photo Weekend. I love photographic workshops! It is a real joy to hear photographers speak about their craft, share their experiences and stories behind their images.

My first Latow Photo Weekend showcased the talents of Daryl Benson. At the time, all I knew about Latow was that it was a camera club with an unusual name. I did, however, know of Mr. Benson's talents.

In the 90's, I, usually along two or three other photographer colleagues, would spend our coffee-time poring over just released Masterfile catalogues to find his most recent creations. We were continually amazed by the stunning images he captured of his excursions across Canada and trips around the world.



Technically, his photographs were most impressive for the detail he held in the shadows while retaining a perfectly exposed sky. And this was long before Photoshop was a thing! Seeing his images again and hearing the stories behind those images was very inspiring.

And that's what these weekends are all about, being inspired. Encouraging us to get out there and pursue our passion. Plus, when I hit a roadblock in my own efforts, I find it reassuring to recall the challenges these masters have faced and overcome.

Inspiration and reassurance have never been in short supply during the many Photo Weekends that I have attended. Like with the self described creative instigator, David duChemin in 2016. The previously unknown to me but now a continuing source of gripping, motivational imagery, Dave Brosha in 2018. And the master of colour and our last presenter in the Before Times, Richard Martin in 2019.

But I have not attended every Photo Weekend. In 2017, I decided to skip Denise Ippolito. I had categorized her as a nature and wildlife photographer and I don't do wildlife. Big mistake! This became very evident when I saw her last October at O3C's online event featuring Denise. She is more than just a wildlife photographer! The passion she has for this craft crosses boundaries. Her approach is applicable regardless of what type of photography you enjoy. Which I think is an important point. Our Photo Weekend presenters have something for everyone. It's more the why and how as opposed to the what they shoot that's important.

This year, Nova Scotian photographer Kas Stone is our presenter. COVID forced us to cancel her scheduled in-person presentation last Spring. However, she generously consoled us with an online "teaser" evening. If you saw that evening, you know this year is going to be awesome! Plus, there's good news for my fellow procrastinators who have yet to buy their tickets. Being an online presentation means we don't have to worry about it being Sold Out. Still, don't wait 'til the last minute. Because if you miss it, you miss it!

What's Happening in April?

Evaluation #4 Results: April 6

Toni Browning

Results night for Evaluation #4 will be presented at our Tuesday, April 6 meeting. The optional theme was "freedom" and we had a total of 96 images entered.

Next up are our Annual Awards. Images are due on May 12 and must have been submitted in this season's Evaluations.

Judging will be done as in/out basis to select the top 10% of the images, which will receive an Honourable Mention. There will be 3 judges.

New Exposures: April 13

Mark Emmerson

Members are looking forward to the next New Exposures session on April 13.

We have enjoyed lively discussions on image merit and strengthening and have, at times, had somewhat extended sessions. An evening of about 22 images seems to work well. However, we don't know how many will show up by 5pm on the day and having too few is worse than too many.

April at a Glance			
(All events via Zoom. Watch for invitations in your email.)			
Tuesday, Apr. 6	General Meeting: Evaluation #4 results		
Saturday, Apr. 10, Sunday, Apr. 11	Latow Annual Photography Weekend seminar with Kas Stone		
Saturday, Apr. 10	Latow Annual AV Festival launches online		
Tuesday, Apr. 13	New Exposures: bring an image for friendly critique		
Thursday, Apr. 15	Members Sharing: diptychs, triptychs and other collections		
Saturday, Apr. 17, Sunday, Apr. 18	Latow Annual Photography Weekend workshops with Kas Stone		
Tuesday, Apr. 20	Explorations with Paul Sparrow		
Thursday, Apr. 22	Board Meeting: members welcome		
Tuesday, Apr. 27	Street Photography: guest speaker Justin Anantawan		

So members are invited to submit up to two images for April 13th. Please label them with your name and indicate if they are your #1 or #2. In the past, the #1s have been given full time and consideration but the #2s less so. That means that your #2 has already been shown, is no longer "new", but maybe got less than its due.

So here is a compromise: We screen all the #1 images allocating about 4 minutes each and work through as many of the #2s as we can until 9:15pm at which time we call it a night. Any unscreened #2s are welcome to be submitted on subsequent New Exposure sessions. No image is treated as a 'make weight' or rushed out at closing time.

Please adhere to the tech specs of sRGB colour; minimum of 1900 pixels on the long axis; label with event, your name and image number. Large files can be by WeTransfer. See you April $13^{\rm th}$.

April Members Sharing Night: April 20

Jim Lait

On Tuesday, April 20, our theme for the Members Sharing Night is *From the Archives*. Now is the time to dig out those hidden gems in your archive and maybe apply new processing skills to bring them to life. If you like, you can show before and after versions. For an added challenge, try to find images that have not been shared before at the club.

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:

- May 6 Diptychs, triptychs, other collections
- May 27 Different treatments, eg. 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 tom@tomstephens.ca or Jim Lait laitjames@gmail.com.

Street Photography Group presents Justin Anantawan: April 27

Justin Anantawan

Hi! My name is Justin Anantawan (@justin_anantawan) and I am a fashion photographer/photojournalist from Mississauga, Ontario.

I am a contributor for National Geographic Yourshot and have been featured regularly in publications such as One Day in My World, Where Love is Illegal, Vulkan Magazine, Lewis Magazine and Pornceptual. I specialize in portrait photography and have been practicing my craft for over a decade. I have photographed in Canada, Gambia, Senegal, Kenya, Hong Kong and Jamaica.

I will be presenting *Every Human Has a Story*, an online workshop about documenting people's stories through portraiture. I will talk about my experiences working internationally, photographing various groups such as the LGBTQ community in Jamaica, people living with Albinism in Gambia, HIV+ individuals in Canada and the Deaf community in Kenya. I will cover topics such finding a story of interest, the ethics of photojournalism, composition, connecting with the subject and how to get published.



Mariama Blue by Justin Anantawan

It is my hope that by participating in my workshop that you will develop the confidence, empathy and skills needed to create portraits that illuminate the truth of the human condition.

Annual Members Exhibition on through April

Our annual exhibition *A Bill Warren Monochrome Photo Tribute* is on until April 27 in the Fireside Room at the AGB.

The show commemorates Bill Warren's contributions and leadership in promoting black and white and monochrome photography at Latow.

This year's exhibition features the a great mix of photographic styles and themes by 19 members.

Behind the masks are **Ort Baldauf** accepting prints from **Dennis Martin** and **James Elliott**.

Thanks **Ort** for coordinating this exhibition!





Gingham Girl by William Waddell

High-scoring images from Evaluation #3



Ione Iceberg by Norman Chan

All-Guilds Show is On

In a recent e-blast, we provided key information about this year's All-Guilds Exhibition. What follows are the full details as they pertain to Latow. They have been summarized from a letter to the guilds from Suzanne Carte, Senior Curator at the AGB.

Overview:

- Due to this year's disrupted exhibition schedule, the all-guilds show will be digital. The
 exhibition will remain on the AGB website until next year's event. Next year's exhibition will
 return to the gallery.
- This will be a juried exhibition. Submissions will be reviewed by a panel of guest curators and artists.
- There is a limit of 3 entries per member. Members who belong to more than one guild are still limited to 3 entries.
- Work must have been completed in the past two years and not exhibited previously at the AGB.
- There is no theme and it is an exhibition only. There are no sales or prizes.

Specific to Latow:

- Latow's submissions will be digital. (Other guilds will bring in work to be photographed.)
- Submit up to three Images (jpeg between 1500 and 2500 pixels wide at 300 dpi)
- Email images to hitoko@aqb.life with contact & artwork information by May 5.
- Notice of acceptance will be by email May 12.

The call for entries and entry form are attached to the newsletter email.

Direct questions to Hitoko Okada, Head of Programming hitoko@agb.life

Members News

Connie Munson, Monique Campbell and **Frank Myers** had prints accepted for the *Everything Beaux*juried exhibition at Beaux Arts Brampton. *Everything Beaux* invites artists to illustrate where they find beauty during difficult times caused by the pandemic.

They met up at the gallery when dropping off their prints on March 21.

Due to Covid restrictions, you must book a time to visit the gallery and the exhibition is also online at https://www.beauxartsbrampton.org/

Beaux Arts is in a brand new location at 16 Queen Street E. in Brampton.

Visions: 2020, the 125th Annual Juried Exhibition of the Women's Art Association of Hamilton, features **Franca Marazia's** piece *Living On The Edge*. Franca's photograph is the only one in the exhibition of painters.

She made the image while in Tourettes-Sur-Loup in France before she had to return to Hamilton because of the pandemic. Franca is a member of the Latow Photographers Guild as well. A canvas version of her piece is also going to be in the Dundas Valley School of Art Auction running April 12-17, 2021.

The Women's Art Association of Hamilton (WAAH) was founded in 1894 with the vision to promote the city's

women artists and to safeguard the artistic life of the community. A grass-roots organization, open to women artists and non-artists, WAAH is a volunteer-run organization.

Due to Covid restrictions, the Art Gallery of Hamilton is currently closed. The exhibition is on until April 25, so check the gallery for opening information.





A Note from your Nominations Committee

Joyce Munro

Alas, the time is quickly approaching when we must bid a fond farewell to our Latow President, **James Elliott** and Secretary for the Board, **Ron Savoline**. We are mighty sad to see these two dedicated board members leave their posts.

James, our fearless leader has done an admirable job of steering us through these turbulent Covid times. He will tell you he had lots of help, which is true, but an organization such as ours needs one person to serve in that central role – and that person has been James Elliott. He has been an extremely personable, conscientious and enthusiastic president of our guild.

Also moving on is our steadfast, minutes-taking, efficient secretary Ron Savoline. He has been our communication and correspondence guru for the past two years, maintaining effective records of board meetings and being an information and reference point for our club.

So, now with an eye to the future, we are looking for Latow members to fill the positions of President and Secretary for September 2021.

Please consider assisting Latow as it heads beyond the pandemic to a new, revitalized and exciting chapter in the life or our photography club. As you do, be reassured that James and Ron will both be only too happy to offer support and guidance during the transition.

If you are interested but need more information before making a final decision, please feel free to contact James Elliott at: president@latow.com or Ron Savoline at: ronsav@cogeco.ca

However, if you would like to put your name forward for one of these positions, please contact me, Joyce Munro at jdmunro@cogeco.ca

I have been amazed and gratified by how well our club has weathered the Covid storm. We are a strong, capable and resilient photography club and our future is bright. Let's have all our volunteer hands on deck as we move forward.

AV Festival Update

Paul Sparrow

The judging for the Latow International AV Festival's Award for Artistic Merit has just taken place.

The show that will have the honour of receiving the award will be revealed at the end of the AV Festival presentation on April 10.

So join us online this year for a memorable evening of international AV shows that will spark the imagination.



Vimeo passes will be included with all purchases of tickets for the Kas Stone seminar and workshops. Or tickets can be purchased separately for this event.



O3C Report: useful new FB page and the annual photo challenge

Tom Stephens, O3C rep

Call it O3C or OCCC, it's developing into a very useful organization to belong to. With 3000 members in 36 clubs across Ontario, O3C provides a very efficient way to get the word out on photography events from Windsor to Brockville.

They have established a <u>Facebook page</u> for publicizing club events, and this is a good place to look for speakers and other activities that may interest you.

Many of these are free and at this time, none requires travel. For example, the many guests at our March 23 evening with Wayne Simpson found out about us through the O3C FB page.

Needless to say, Latow is making full use of this page to raise awareness of our upcoming Photography Weekend. Please visit and share the posts about Latow events.

For many years, an annual photo competition was organized by GTCCC, the predecessor of O3C. This year is no exception, although there will be no print category this year. There is a genre in this competition for everyone -- nature, people, architecture, creative, pictorial and an optional theme of Lines and Curves. The newly revised rules are very clear, and the full set of rules for 2021 is online, in the Members Download area of the website. Questions? Get in touch.

The deadline for submission of digital images to me is May 23. It would be great to see a strong showing from Latow to demonstrate how we are "not your average camera club."

Latow's affiliations

Andrzej Pradzynski

Latow is an affiliated member of a few photographic associations/councils and those include O3C, CAPA, NFRCC and PSA. I am Latow's rep for three of them. This note is to summarize their recent programs and the benefits of belonging to each.

CAPA (Canadian Association for Photographic Art - 95 club members across Canada)

We have been a member of CAPA for decades. Although individual members can enjoy more options, the associated clubs have access to interclub competitions, printed and digital copies of their Canadian Camera Magazine, a monthly newsletter in digital format, access to judges, and a discount on judging-related courses. Members can also contribute to the content of the publications to advertise their activities and promote their club's profile.

I will work with our info team to make the publications available to our members but there is always an option to look for updates at:

https://capacanada.ca/ https://www.facebook.com/CAPACanada/

NFRCC (Niagara Frontier Regional Camera Club - 20 clubs from NY/Pennsylvania and Ontario)

NFRCC is now offering a speakers series for members. It requires registration with a fee of CAD \$10 per session. On April 26 Roman Kurywczak's presentation will be on photographing birds (https://nfrccevents.org/roman-kurywczak/).

The organization offers various interclub competitions and promotes member club activities. Visitors to their <u>education webpage</u> can access a series of YouTube courses, seminars, and training materials for free.

There are some changes to the NFRCC prime annual event - CanAm Expo. It is not a part of the club program anymore. At this point, the event will be run by its creators but under other sponsorship. NFRCC will still hold the Expo related Salon and Horseshoe Competition and will work to finalize a Fall seminar and events to replace CanAm Expo starting next season.

PSA (Photographic Society of America - over 500 clubs/councils worldwide)

We have renewed our membership for another 3 years. The membership includes printed copies of their monthly PSA Journal and newsletters. Associated clubs have the option to publish their news and promo articles upon approval, take part in open competitions, judging services, and learning opportunities.

Latow's Facebook Presence

Frank Myers, for the Communications Committee

How many members are aware that Latow has two Facebook pages, set up in 2014 by member Andrzej Pradzynski?

Our Latow Photographers Guild Group page currently has 72 members, almost three-quarters of our membership. Group members voted to make it private a few years ago to promote sharing and friendly critique of our work. Far fewer than the total 72 members participate regularly, but it is a busy group with plenty of images and information shared daily.

Our second, lesser known page, is **Latow Photographers Guild**. The purpose of this page, accessible to the public, is to promote Latow membership and events to non-members.

Although Facebook users searching for Latow will find both pages, this one has not been fully utilized in the past. This is changing, as Gail Burstyn has volunteered to assist Andrzej with keeping information about Latow current and posting

notices of our regular and special events.

If you are on Facebook, one simple way to help promote Latow events is to share posts from this page on your own. Although some social media content is of questionable value, it is incredibly useful when good information is shared.

Current posts include promotion for our upcoming Photography Weekend being presented via Zoom this year. It's our major annual fundraiser and you can help ensure its success by spreading the word via your Facebook connections.

Membership Memo

Joyce Munro, Membership Coordinator Please join me in welcoming new member Chris Arcand to our club.

I am also delighted to welcome back **Annette Gerrard**. We are so happy to see how quickly and seamlessly you both have become such supportive and active members of Latow.

Renewals keep pouring in and I am grateful that so many of you are taking the time to rejoin. Just in case you are hesitant to renew in person, don't forget that it's very easy to keep your membership up to date by going online at the AGB website. If your membership is due (or overdue), please renew at your earliest convenience.

"The cliché comes not in what you shoot, but in how you shoot it."

David duChemin



Latow Photographers Guild

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Photography at the Art Gallery of Hamilton

Monique Campbell

When the Art Gallery of Hamilton re-opens you may consider visiting to see some exceptional art in Gallery Level 2 featuring pieces of the gallery's permanent holdings. Free Admission.

Included are three dye transfer prints by iconic photographer Harold Edgerton (American 1903-1990) Shown left to right are Bullet Through Jack of Hearts 1960, Bullet Through Bulb 1936 and Antique Gun Firing 1936. Following the work of photographic pioneers like Eadweard Muybridge--know for his nineteenth-century studies in







animal locomotion--Harold Edgerton used photography as a means to explore and understand movement. This interest began during his studies in science, and later as professor of electrical engineering at MIT, where he transformed the stroboscope from a scientific instrument into a photographic tool. Edgerton was the first person to use rapid flashes of

stroboscopic light for photographic purposes to quickly capture visually striking moments.

Also on display is Edward Burtynsky (Canadian b. 1955) chromogenic colour print: Uranium Tailings #12, Elliot Lake, Ontario, Canada 1995. Burtynsky's photography exposes the destructive effects of industry on the environment. This particular work shows the environmental aftermath of metal mining and smelting, the process of applying heat to ore in order to extract metal from it.

"These images are metaphors to the dilemma of our modern existence. We are drawn by

desire--a chance at good living, yet we are consciously or unconsciously aware that the world is suffering for our success. Our dependence on nature to provide the materials for our consumption and our concern for the health of our planet sets us into an uneasy contradiction. For me, these images function as reflecting pools of our times" says Burtynsky.

Showing in Gallery Level 1 of the Art Gallery of Hamilton and free for reciprocal members of the Art Gallery of Burlington is Esmaa Mohamoud: To Play in the Face of Certain Defeat until August 15, 2021. Check the gallery for opening times due to covid regulations.

Taking inspiration from the African American writer Ralph Ellison, artist Esmaa Mohamoud explores the ways in which Black bodies at once appear--and yet are rendered metaphorically invisible--within the spaces they navigate. Her work re-examines understandings of contemporary Blackness, questioning the definitions of Blackness as a colour and shade, and/or as a societal or cultural construction.



Mohamoud draws on the modern industry of professional sports which she equates with a covert form of neo-slavery. The London, Ontario born artist transforms athletic equipment and symbols to illustrate pervasive, discriminatory behaviours and attitudes based on race, class, gender, and sexuality.

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. For your convenience a hard copy can be downloaded and printed.

Latow Board of Directors

President	James Elliott president@latow.com		
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President	gburstyn1@gmail.com		
Past-	Andrzej Pradzynski		
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Annual Photography Weekend	Tom Stephens	seminar@latow.com
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AV Festival	Paul Sparrow	psparrow@cogeco.ca
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