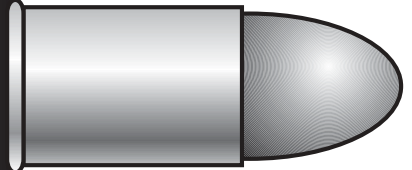


Silver Bulletin

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Houston's FotoFest

For the year 2000, FotoFest's International Month of Photography will highlight new directions in cross-disciplinary work and contemporary experiments with historical photographic techniques. Exhibitions will range from site-specific mixed media installations to classical black and white photography. The festival will feature photographic work from the U.S., Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. In addition to exhibits curated and commissioned by FotoFest itself, over 60 shows will be presented by Houston-area museums, commercial galleries, artists' organizations, university and corporate spaces.



According to the Washington Post, "FotoFest finds itself in the happy position of having established itself as a world class art event."

FotoFest is the only non-commercial photographic arts festival of its kind and scope in the United States. FotoFest is recognized as a premiere place for discovery of new artists around the world and new directions in photo-based art.

"FotoFest is such an amazing achievement, a place and time with a very special atmosphere," says Charlotte Cotton of the Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

For photographers, FotoFest's portfolio review, the International Meeting Place, will take place March 4-11. Advance registration is required. "FotoFest, the International Month of Photography, is where the international photographic community converges every two years..." says the Wall Street Journal.

For collectors and photography lovers, FotoFest's Fourth International Fine Print Auction will happen March 8. The auction exhibition and preview will take place in February, 2000. The auction provides collectors and photography lovers with a rare opportunity to acquire important contemporary work from around the world.

Throughout the month of March, there will be guided exhibition tours, lectures by artists and curators, and art and architecture tours of the city.

A four-color FotoFest 2000 catalogue will be available for purchase in late February. Free citywide exhibit maps are available at the Houston Visitors Bureau, museums, participating spaces, and FotoFest headquarters. A more detailed

listing of events, exhibits, symposia, and workshops will be announced in a forthcoming brochure in late 1999. Contact FotoFest to get on the mailing list

For information contact the FotoFest 2000 Headquarters at the FotoFest Gallery and Office at Vine Street Studios, 1113 Vine Street, Suite 101, (713) 223-5522 x19 or send e-mail to info@fotofest.org. You can also call the Houston Visitors Center at (713) 427-5200 or (800) 4-HOUSTON.

RCS President Places in TPS Show

The winners of the Texas Photographic Society's Members Only Show have been announced and RCS is proud to have one of the family in the top three. RCS President, CEO and Photographic Guru Hank Auderer snagged the third place spot in the competition that attracted entries from all over the state and a few from other states.



"Wendy Watriss has selected one incredible Members Only Show," said D. Clarke Evans, TPS President. "131 artist submitted over 900 images for Wendy to sort through. She narrowed that down to 67 images by 37 artists."

The Opening Reception will be March 15 from 5:30p-7:30p at the Bank of America in Houston. Winning entries will be posted on the TPS website (www.texasphoto.org) in the middle of February.

The winners were:

- Nine Francois of Austin (4 images): 1st Place
- Janet Broihier of Plano (4 images): 2nd Place
- Hank Auderer of San Antonio (4 images): 3rd Place

Honorable Mentions were given to Key Sanders of Dallas,

Quote of the Month

"I was very pleased with the color prints you did for me recently. The digital processing of the transparency is certainly the way to go for beautiful color prints from slides."

– Dudley Harris, San Antonio Eye Center

Wayne Wolfe of Dallas, Kathryn Oler of Lubbock, James McJunkin of Austin, and Shelly Reese Rutledge of Austin.

RCS congratulates all the winners and honorable mentions and everyone else who took the time and effort to enter. Keep up the good work, TPS!

PCAI amode Benefits from RCS Expertise

The newest columnist for the award-winning PC Alamo magazine is none other than River City Silver's own Director of Digital Services, Paul Vaughn. PC Alamo, the magazine of the Alamo PC Organization (APCO), is mailed out to the 5000+ members. RCS had been an advertiser in PC Alamo for more than a year, when Editor Clarke Bird approached Vaughn about a monthly column focusing on digital graphics. "This was something that I was very interested in," said Vaughn, "It is exciting to try to communicate complex concepts and techniques to a large group of

users with widely varying skill levels."

The column, titled "The Graphics Guy," premiered in the October 1999 issue. Paul Vaughn has covered a variety of topics including dropping out backgrounds, softening portraits and vignetting photographs. Reprints of these columns are available on the RCS web site at www.rivercitysilver.com.

The Alamo PC Organization is on the internet at www.alamopc.org. They can also be reached at the APCO Resource Center at Central Park Mall at (210) 375-7300.

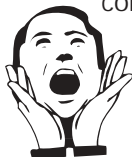
Holga Special & Show

RCS has put together a great introductory package for those interested in trying out medium format photography with the fun Holga plastic camera. The package includes:

- Holga Plastic Fantastic Camera with Manual
- 2 rolls of Tri-X 400 B&W film
- Processing & Contact Sheets for both rolls
- Black Tape

\$29.95 plus tax

RCS will be hosting a Holga show in June 2000, so start shooting those plastic cameras now!



Technically Speaking

Best Originals for Scanning

One question that we often get from photographers or designers as they embark upon a project is, "what is the best type of film to shoot if I am going to get it scanned?" It is a good question. The standard answer is to shoot the finest grain transparency film possible, typically ISO 100. But like many questions, since River City Silver offers different levels of scanning services, there can be more than one good answer.

For drum scanning, originals need to be transparencies, black & white negatives or prints up to 11x17. The best scans will be off the transparencies or B&W negs—print scans tend to pick up a lot of surface imperfections that may not be evident when viewing the print.

For Kodak PhotoCD scans, originals need to be 35mm film. Slides or negatives work equally well, with accurate exposures working the best. Images that are over- or under-exposed will not yield good scans. Originals that have a lot of detail in the dark areas or delicate highlight detail should be drum scanned.

Silverian in the Spotlight

Paul Vaughn

Way back in the depths of RCS is the lair of the Director of Digital Services, Paul Vaughn. Paul has been an integral part of RCS since the early 1990's. Graduating from Southwest Texas State University in 1988 with a BFA in Graphic Communications, Vaughn is responsible for most of the graphics and advertising generated by RCS, and occasionally substitutes at the front desk. If you have any digitally-related questions, Paul is the one to call.



Combining the worst elements of capitalism and socialism into a devolved soup, Paul is also the head of the world-renowned thinktank, The Rodriguez-Vaughn Institute for Advanced Nerd and Geek Studies (<http://pv.home.texas.net>). Paul Vaughn can be reached at digital@rivercitysilver.com or paulv@mac.com.

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