

snapshots

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September 2012

PHSNE Meeting to be Held at Digital Silver Imaging

9 Brighton St., Belmont, MA, Sunday, September 9th

Digital Silver Imaging (DSI) fills a unique niche in the photographic printing industry. DSI uses photographic digital technologies along with traditional photographic paper and chemistry to deliver museum quality photographs to anyone with a digital camera and access to the Internet.

The process employs a hybrid of digital and analog technology to produce traditional black and white, silver gelatin prints previously only available through hand-made processes in a darkroom. Digital Silver Imaging now makes classic, artisanal, black and white photographic printing accessible to all photographers whether they are using film or a digital camera.

The company was founded by Eric Luden. Eric was a fine art and commercial photographer before holding executive positions with Kodak and Ilford Photo. He has worked within the New England photographic community since 1984. He saw the potential in the technology now employed by Digital Silver Imaging during his time at Ilford and was convinced that it would provide a valued service. In 2008 he founded DSI and opened the lab for business.

Shortly after opening, DSI launched a photo gallery and began a fruitful partnership as a satellite exhibition space of the Griffin Museum of Photography. The gallery has hosted over 20 exhibitions representing more than 70 photographers from around the globe. These exhibits have provided valuable exposure and are held in high regard as curated exhibitions. They have been recognized for their excellence by *The Boston Globe*, *The New York Times*, and by



DSI Founder Eric Luden

numerous other media outlets including television and Internet news sites.

The company has continued to grow over the past four years. They expanded their offerings by adding complimentary products and services that support their core mission; anticipating and fulfilling the needs of the discerning professional photographer.

Digital Silver Imaging strives to be a resource for photographers. They offer workshops on Adobe Creative Suite, Lightroom, and iPhone photography. They have hosted 20 artist gallery talks and provide free space for local groups and professional organizations. They hold fashion photography exhibitions and lectures. A recent "pop-up" photo exhibition and sale "BLINK!" provided a venue for both known and up-and-coming photographers to show and sell their work.



Luden says, "We consider ourselves more than a lab; we are part of a global photographic family."

A special video shot for Digital Silver Lab by the folks at the Mac Group can be viewed by following this link: youtube.com/watch?v=7OhMjkEYBVU

Photos provided by Digital Silver Imaging

PHSNE Celebrates 40th Year

PHSNE turns forty in 2013. This year we're doing a major re-launch to the general public as well as to the PHSNE membership. We can look back and be proud of our history, our accomplishments, and our traditions. Going forward, PHSNE will become recognized locally, nationally, and worldwide as the go-to organization for the complete history of New England photography. I invite you to give me your support, your input, and your help as PHSNE evolves and grows.

~John Dockery

Leibovitz at the Concord Museum

Annie Leibovitz: Pilgrimage, a special exhibition, presented at the Concord Museum in collaboration with Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House, features photographs that chart a new direction for one of



Niagara Falls, Ontario., Canada, 2009

America's best-known living photographers. The *Boston Globe* (July 1) noted, "Unlike her staged and carefully lit portraits made on assignment for magazines and

advertising clients, the photographs in this exhibition were taken simply because Annie Leibovitz was moved by the subject."

Concord is the first stop on a national tour of this exhibition, following its presentation at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and its only New England venue. The exhibition includes approximately 70 photographs taken between April 2009 and May 2011—nine of them in Concord, MA. The exhibit runs through Sunday, September 23, 2012.

Visit ConcordMuseum.org for information on special events and extended hours.

PHSNE Membership

PHSNE membership is \$15 for students, \$35 for individuals and institutions, \$40 for a family, and \$45 for foreign membership. Join or renew online at phsne.org/paypal or send a check in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank or dollar denominated international money order.

Members should check the expiration date on the *snap shots* mailing label before sending in dues.

Send payments, changes of address, and other contact information, to Joe Walters Jr, PHSNE Membership Chair, P.O. Box 650189, West Newton, MA 02465. (Call: 617-826-9294; email: membership@phsne.org; or use the Web form at phsne.org/contacts).

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In Memoriam: Wayne Cogan, 1945-2012

Wayne Cogan, long-time PHSNE member and past president (1986-1987), passed away in Florida on July 6, 2012 at the age of 67. His collection was featured in the September 2009 issue of *snap shots*.

At the time of his passing, Wayne was completing a book about his collection. Excerpts from the introduction, written by Matt Isenburg, serve as an eloquent remembrance for his friends and PHSNE colleagues.

"Wayne Cogan collected cameras, equipment, images, catalogues, books, manuscripts and anything else that falls under the category known as photographica. His parameters reflected his collecting style. Wayne's collection is an example of the expression, "Good things come in small packages." Even packages have meaning. He sought the packaging which reflect the taste, artwork and presentation of the times in which the products were made.

He was an art director at Connecticut General Life Insurance Company before opening a design studio which he ran for almost a decade. Wayne then ran camera shows and eventually morphed into computer shows till he retired and moved, with his wife Lynne, to Florida.

His interest in design is reflected through the advertising and display items in this jewel of a collection. Believing 'Form follows function,' Wayne sought items whose design elements derived from how the item would be used.

Wayne packed so much photo-history into a limited space that it is breathtaking. Sown through the display are various examples of the many kinds of photographs taken from the 1840s to the present time.

Nestled in the shelving of a century old commercial glass front wall display are over sixty exposure meters. They teach us how the industry used different ways to solve a common problem. Alone, they are curiosities; together they show the evolution of an industry. This display reflects the photography business from its early period to present day developments as an industry of rapid change and constant evolution."

~Matt Isenburg

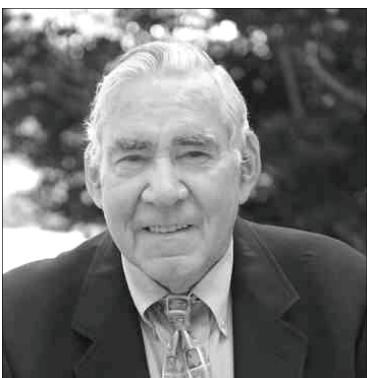


Photo by Rudd Hoff



Photo from Cogan collection

Isenburg Collection Sold



Matt Isenburg

The collection of Matthew Isenburg, PHSNE Charter-Life member and co-founder and past president of the Daguerreian Society, was sold to the Archive of Modern Conflict (AMC) for a record \$15 million, and has now been moved to its new home in Toronto, Canada where a new museum facility is being designed

for its future display. This is the most historically important sale of photographic material of the last 50 years.

\$15 million is the largest amount ever paid for a single 19th century private photographic collection. Isenburg's collection is significant to the history of photography because it contains so many early and important daguerreotypes created by the earliest and best photographers in America - when photography was in its infancy in the 1840s and 1850s.

The collection also contains the largest number of early American daguerreian cameras (more than two dozen) ever assembled by anyone. The George Eastman House in Rochester, NY has only eight in its collection.



To characterize Isenburg's collection in a few words, it's the best of the best; an unparalleled assemblage of over 20,000 individual items, focused mainly on the early years, that together chronicle photography's humble beginnings - through not only important images and cameras, but through all the various accoutrements of the trade, including advertisements, diaries, books, journals and all manner of photographic ephemera imaginable. Isenburg has often said, "I paid premium prices for best of breed, best in class."

In the third floor museum (now empty) in his home, a priceless daguerreotype would be displayed next to a tattered receipt and a handwritten letter or diary because they relate to one another and tell a compelling story. He owned the posing chair from America's premier daguerreotypists, Southworth and Hawes of Boston, in addition to the largest collection of Southworth and



Hawes full-plate daguerreotypes (over 40) in private hands. Along with the chair, many other Southworth and Hawes items - from family photos and letters, to paintings, bills of sale, a partnership agreement, advertisements and ephemera - help to reveal the story of what it was like to be a photographer in the 1850s.

Highlights of Isenburg's vast collection include one of the earliest surviving daguerreotypes (there are only two others known) showing the US Capitol in 1846, by daguerreotypist John Plumbe Jr., along with the two earliest



daguerreotypes depicting New York City. He also owned the earliest extant, and complete, example of an American daguerreotype camera outfit - built by William H. Butler in 1841, and containing its original sensitizing and developing equipment, all housed together in a single wooden box. His collection of California Gold Rush daguerreotypes, with related letters and ephemera, is unparalleled, and his photographic library was probably the most comprehensive in private hands.

The packing and shipping of the collection took a crew of five to nine people five full weeks to complete over two months. The task of unpacking, cataloging and photographing every item has begun in Toronto.

With offices in both London, England and Toronto, AMC's collection of well over three million images contains primarily vernacular photographs that tell mankind's forgotten stories through the personal photographic albums and images created and preserved by the common man; an un-bandaged reality, rarely seen, and too often discarded by ensuing generations. Images of 20th century conflict, war, political unrest, social revolution, cultural traditions, etc. were AMC's primary focus when they began collecting in the 1990s, but that soon expanded to include 19th century images as well as manuscripts and objects. The addition of the Isenburg Collection, adds a formidable dimension to AMC's holdings.



~excerpted from britishhistory.ning.com/profiles/blogs

*Rob McElroy, July 7th, 2012
Photos from Isenburg collection*

Sale of Antique Photographic



Page and Bryan Ginns have announced their 14th annual Absentee Bid Sale, featuring 400 lots of antique and collectable cameras, daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes, stereoscopes, magic lanterns, lantern slides, optical toys and related material. The entire catalogue

is now illustrated on-line at stereographica.com and will feature Real Time Live Bidding. Bids will also be accepted by mail, fax and telephone. The sale will close at 3 pm on Saturday, September 15, 2007.

The sale features several very good stereoscopic daguerreotypes including fine portraits and military subjects, a large selection of stereo views categorized by subject, and a huge selection of boxed sets.

There is a good quality wood and brass stereoscopic camera, a sliding box wet plate camera, a Stirn Detective Camera and a rare Woodward



solar camera. Fine and rare stereoscopes are well represented. The optical toy and pre-cinema items feature a Praxinoscope Theater, magic lanterns and a good selection of



static and mechanical magic lantern slides. Each lot in the sale is illustrated on-line at stereographica.com (*photos from website*).

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PHSNE's 40th Anniversary Year starts April 2013

Photographic Historical Society of New England, Inc.
Next Meeting: Sunday, September 9, 2012, 1:30 P.M.
Digital Silver Lab, Belmont
Photography 78, September 22 & 23, 2012
American Center, Wakefield, MA

West Newton, MA 02465-0189
P.O. Box 650189

PHSNE

phsne.org

snap shots



PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month, September to June, at 1:30 p.m. at the American Center, 467 Main St., Wakefield, MA, preceded by a mini trade fair at 12:30 and an open meeting of the PHSNE Board at 11:00 a.m.

Upcoming meetings:

October 7—Field trip to the Planetary Data Center at Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence

Driving directions to Digital Silver Imaging

Digital Silver Imaging is located at 9 Brighton St., Belmont, MA. Mapquest directions are available at digitalsilverimaging.com/contact.

PHSNE Online

PHSNE's Web site is online at phsne.org. George Champine is the Webmaster.

Join the PHSNE Forum online discussion moderated by Joe Walters; sign up and log in at phsne.org/forum. For an archive of back issues of *snap shots* and meeting presentations, visit phsne.org/archive.

Photographica 78 - September 22 &23, 2012

Photographica returns to the Americal Center in Wakefield, MA on Saturday and Sunday, September 22 & 23. Photographica continues to grow and is now considered one of the best shows of its type in the United States. If you need a part, a lens, advice, or ideas, or



Photo by George Champine



Ornsteen collection

if you're looking for a special image, Photographica is the place to go for great bargains.

Show dealers are always looking to buy as well as sell. If you have some photography items that you're not using, please consider selling them for cash— and then buy

something else that you need.

PHSNE has never had as much material for the Dollar Table as it does for this show. We'll be replenishing the Dollar Table throughout the show, so keep checking back.

There will be another great auction right after the show ends Saturday afternoon. This 100 lot auction will take place in the Heritage Room at the Americal Center. Most of the auction material will be from the Harris and Ornsteen collections. If you like really long Nikkor glass, Leica items, and Russian cameras and lenses, you don't want to miss this auction.

There will be a free food buffet, as there was last time. We invite everyone attending Photographica to preview the auction, share a bite to eat with us, and bid like crazy.

I'm expecting to completely sell out the hall with 80 tables. Currently I have almost 50 tables sold, and I still have to contact many former show dealers. If you're thinking about exhibiting and still need a table, please contact me ASAP.

Anyone wishing to volunteer to help at the best camera and image show in America, and/or the special auction, please contact me at john_dockery@hotmail.com or 781-592-2553 .

~John Dockery

Please turn over —————

Riding in Style

PHSNE has a fall field trip scheduled for Sunday, October 7, 2012. The outing will take us to Providence, RI where we will be given a tour of the Brown University Rand Observatory by PHSNE member Dr. Peter Schultz. We'll stop for lunch and go on to a private tour of the Rhode Island School of Design Museum.

The current exhibit, opening on September 21st, is *America in View*, approximately 150 photographs spanning about 150 years of the nation's landscape and history. Images include 19th century albumen prints, contemporary digital images, and everything in between.

Parking in Providence is a nightmare, so we've hired a touring air conditioned motor coach with restroom. The first forty-four people who sign up and pay \$9.00 to John Dockery will ride in style. Kane's Donuts, Gingerbread Construction Company muffins, and coffee will be served on the bus. There will be a bus version of *Show and Tell*, so bring along your summer finds.

We leave from the Waltham High School parking lot at 8:00 AM, arriving in Providence around 9:30, and returning to Waltham around 7:00 PM. Providence natives Pat and Mike Zacks have suggested a few of their favorite restaurants; we're still working out the details.

If you'd like to join us on the bus, please contact John Dockery at john_dockery@hotmail.com or 781-592-2553. We'll post a list at the Sunday, September 9th meeting and you can pay the bus fee at that time. Don't wait until the last minute. Once the bus fills up, we'll start a waiting list.

The bus may make a stop on the south shore if there are several people interested in meeting us there.

Please turn over —————



Wikimedia Commons: Petr Kratochvil



Wikimedia Commons: IRT.BMT.IND



Wikimedia Commons: Sakurai Midori