

snap



shots

Volume 18 Number 8

April 2013

PHSNE Presents Mark Chester April 7th, American Center, 1:30 P.M.



The Making of Twosomes in Historical Context, Mark Chester's touring exhibit from Un-Gyve Press, represents images culled from forty years of traveling, presented in pairings related by subject matter, graphic interest or, as Mark puts it, "a stretch of the imagination."

Twosomes is an historical archive, reinvented in the juxtaposition of images taken in different decades and on different continents, but none have been digitally altered or manipulated. All but a few recent photographs were shot in black and white from an SLR, 35mm Nikon F camera.



Bowler, Japan, 1978



Pitching Horseshoes, Iowa, 1978

As a photojournalist starting out in the 1970s, Mark found a life of independence "on the road," searching for stories about offbeat people, places, and things, inspired by other like-minded storytellers, including Charles Kuralt, for whom Mark photographed the book *Dateline America*, and Henri Cartier-Bresson.

In 1987, Mark created and produced *Shanghai in Black and White* showcasing San Francisco's Sister City. The portfolio documents a single culture, over a relatively short period of time, for a particular purpose, so the individual images and the collection have a different meaning than when used years later in the context of *Twosomes*. Mark will contrast these two collections in his talk. More of his work can be viewed at markchesterphotography.com.

Abelardo Morell presents *My Life in Pictures—So Far*

April 21st, Boston University, 2:00 P.M.

PHSNE will hold a special event on April 21, 2013 to commemorate its 40th anniversary. Photographer Abelardo Morell will focus on his early work and how it has influenced and informed his more recent images.

Morell will explain how he makes his amazing images using a tent camera and Camera Obscura. He will show how his artistic production has been married with technical investigations into finding ways to make photographs. He will also present other photographic projects dealing with books, photograms, and cliché verres, a combination of art and photography.

The program, presented by PHSNE and the Photographic Resource Center, will take place in the Morse Auditorium at Boston University, 620 Commonwealth Ave, Boston at 2:00 P.M. Examples of Morell's work can be seen at abelardomorell.net.



Tent camera image
View of Brooklyn Bridge



The Cuban-born photographer fled his native country in 1962. He attended Bowdoin College and received an MFA from Yale University. His work has been exhibited at MOMA and the Met in New York, The Chicago Art Institute, and other major museums. His published works include *A Camera in a Room* (1995), *Camera Obscura* (co-authored with Luc Sante, 2004), and *A Book of Books* (co-autored with Nicholson Baker, 2002). A documentary "revealing the mystery and method of his artisitic process" was produced and aired in 2007. An audio interview by Jim Casper is available at lensculture.com/morell.

Three Interesting Photographic Exhibits On View at MIT

The Museum at MIT is currently running three exhibits of considerable interest to PHSNE members. *Joel Tettamanti: Compass Points*, running through August 31, 2013, comprises "a vast archive of the structures, villages and cities that people create and inhabit, and the landforms and climates that shape their culture." This is the first major exhibition in the country for the Swiss-based native of Cameroon.

MIT consistently offers holography exhibitions. Currently on view through September 28, 2013 is *The Jeweled Net: Views of Contemporary Holography*. It consists of three rooms of holographic images, several of which are very large. A holographic photo of Queen Elizabeth that is on display has been made into a three dimensional stamp in Great Britain.



Finally, *Meet the Swinger . . . And other Treasures from the Polaroid Corporation* is a permanent display of cameras, images, and notes donated by the company to MIT. It includes a photograph of Lady Gaga taken with a large format Polaroid camera.

On street parking is available. For hours, admission fees, directions, and other information, visit mit.edu/museum.

PHSNE Membership

New members are invited to join for half the rates for the first year. 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).

snap shots, edited by Beverly Regelman, is published by the Photographic Historical Society of New England, Inc., P.O. Box 650189, West Newton, MA 02465-0189. Articles and exhibition/book reviews are always welcome. Send to snapshots@phsne.org. Authors retain copyright to their original articles; however upon written application to the *snap shots* editor, PHSNE may grant non-profit societies with similar aims and interests a one-time right to reproduce a *snap shots* article as long as the author and source are credited and a complimentary copy of the publication is sent to the PHSNE mailbox.

Review: *Frame by Frame*, Addison Gallery

A part of Phillips Academy, Andover, and situated on one corner of its campus, the Addison Gallery of American Art is also a major museum, with significant holdings by great American painters, printmakers, sculptors, and photographers. In their Winter 2013 exhibit, this last group dominates the main floor and brings into focus the depth of the museum's commitment to that which is uniquely American. *Frame By Frame* is the title of this show, and it is gorgeous.

The small format color images from William Christenberry's *Alabama Photographs* hang in a tight group just inside the doors of the museum. Spend a few minutes with these quiet images of Christenberry's south, and it becomes easy to see why Walker Evans called them poems.

The prints that fill the comfortable, well-lit galleries to either side of this rotunda took my breath away. It, too, is quiet work, but each section is devoted to photographs that encompass major projects and singular visions. In the order in which I encountered the work,

Aaron Siskind's 1930's *Harlem Document* led to Bruce Davidson's *Brooklyn Gangs*, and that to Robert Frank's *The Americans*. The iconic, poster images are here, but these



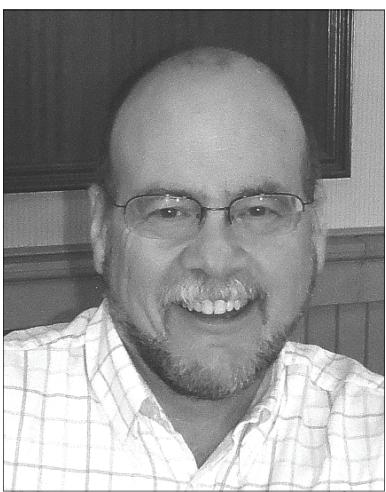
Bruce Davidson, Untitled
From Brooklyn Gang, 1959

have been reproduced so often that we are tempted to think we know the work. This show puts them in context and allows the viewer to understand, among other things, the range and complexity of each undertaking.

Further into the galleries are equally comprehensive statements from Bill Owens' *Suburbia* and Eggleston's *14 Pictures*. Each is a complete essay in images, open to interpretation, but coherent and compelling. I wished only for a bit more room between images, but then the museum may be suffering somewhat from an embarrassment of riches. The chance to see these projects in their entirety more than made up for any crowding.

The Addison has been expanded and improved in the last few years, and it is a welcoming space filled with great work. I urge anyone who can do so to spend a few hours there before show ends on April 14th. Admission is free. If you want to see great, 20th Century American photography, there aren't many better places to start than at this show. See andover.edu for museum information.

~Whitey Morange

From the President:**PHSNE Turns Forty**

This year is PHSNE's 40th birthday. What an amazing journey it has been: the people, the places, the images and cameras shared—the stories, the shows, and the fun we've all had together!

Forty is a good middle age. It's a time to look both back and to look ahead. In the

past, PHSNE has had banquet dinners to celebrate its decennial birthdays; this time we're doing something very different. We are inviting the entire New England photography community to celebrate with us by sponsoring Abelardo Morell, one of the finest photographic artists in America, to speak at our keynote birthday celebration on April 21st at Boston University's Morse Auditorium. The room holds 750 people, and I expect it to be completely filled.

Mark Chester will speak at our monthly meeting on April 7th at the American Center in Wakefield, presenting his touring exhibit on *Twosomes*. Last, but not least, *Photographica 79* will take place on April 13th and 14th. Once again, tables are almost sold out weeks before the event.

Three weekend of PHSNE in a row. How's that for a birthday party? I invite the PHSNE members, friends, and photography enthusiasts throughout New England to each and every one of these three important events in April.

It's great to be 40! The party is just beginning. . . Jump right in and make the next 40 years as fantastic as the last 40 years have been.

~John Dockery

PHSNE Community Outreach

When the opportunity arises, PHSNE engages in outreach activities to communities in New England. Currently, Whitey Morange, Ron Polito, and Dick Welch will work with the Sudbury Historical Society to examine 250 glass plates bequeathed by a local donor. Whitey is also trying to get listings from museums and other institutions that have publicly accessible image collections for inclusion in the upcoming *Journal*.

PHSNE Bows to Mother Nature

The super-storm that dumped the 5th largest snowfall ever on the Boston area forced the February 10th auction to be rescheduled for the following Sunday. The "dusting" forecast for February 17th turned into several inches, not enough to postpone the auction again but enough to discourage many people from coming out. However, there were great bargains awaiting those hardy souls who braved the elements.



Marti Jones and Whitey Morange
Both have their eye on this prize

Considering the light turnout, the auction was quite successful. Auctioneer Marti Jones led the proceedings effectively and with her usual good humor. About 60 cameras



Jim Chasse sets up dollar tables

found new homes. Several boxes of miscellaneous items from the PHSNE warehouse found their way to the popular dollar table.

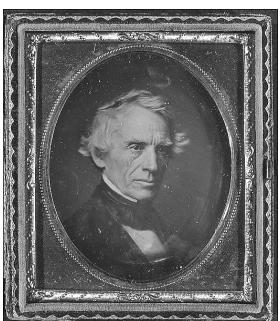
Thanks to the volunteers who worked so hard to prepare for the auction: Joe Walters, Allan Goodrich, Dick Koolish, and Lew Regelman. Kudos to the group that arranged the rooms, set up, cleaned up, manned tables, and

collected money: Ernest and Sherry Stonebraker, Allan Goodrich, Joe Walters, Whitey Morange, and Lew Regelman.

~photos by Lew Regelman

Volunteers are needed to help set up and run *Photographica 79*. Please contact John Dockery at john_dockery@hotmail.com if you can help.

GEH Offers Videos On Six Photographic Processes



*Samuel Morse, Ca. 1845
Daguerreotype
Library of Congress*

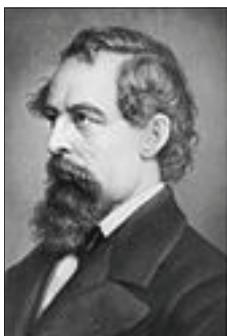


*Rear Admiral David Farragut
Wet collodian, ca. 1863
Unnamed photographer*

find them very interesting and informative.

The George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film produced a six-part series of videos on photographic processes, placing them in "historical and cultural contexts." The six processes featured are daguerreotype, collodian, albumen, woodburytype, platinum print, and gelatin silver print. The videos can be accessed online at [youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4F918844C147182A](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4F918844C147182A).

At the time of this writing, the videos have been viewed almost 2,000 times. You can add to this number! You'll



*Charles Dickens
Woodburytype*

PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month, September to June, at 1:30 p.m. at the Americal 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:

No meeting in May

June 2—To be announced

Driving directions to Americal Center:

I-95 to exit 39, North Ave. toward Reading/Wakefield (right turn on North from the south; left turn from the north). Drive approximately 1.5 miles, then turn left at Main St. Destination is on the left: 467 Main St., Wakefield, MA 01880.

Free parking available next door at the school, behind the building, and on Main St.

Public transportation:

The Wakefield station of the Haverhill rail line is within 1/2 mile of the Center, and MBTA buses #136 and #137 stop in front of the building. Details are available at mbta.com. Use weekend schedule.

PHSNE Online

PHSNE's Web site is online at phsne.org. 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. Scheduling changes due to weather conditions or other factors will be posted on this website.

FIRST CLASS MAIL
Address Service
Requested



Photographic Historical Society of New England
Sunday, April 7, 2013, Americal Center, 1:30 P.M.
April 13, 14, *Photographs*, Americal Center
April 21, Abelardo Morell, Boston University, 2:00

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

PHSNE
shots
snap