



**Director, Curator Josh Farr Spotlights Vermont Center for Photography
Sunday, March 5, 2023, 7:30 P.M. , via Zoom**

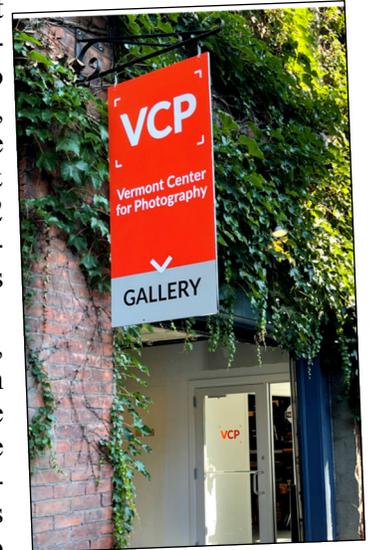
Josh Farr’s presentation at the March 5th PHSNE meeting will focus on the Vermont Center for Photography, a non-profit center in downtown Brattleboro, Vermont where he has been Executive Director and Curator for 12 years. He will convey a general sense of all that is offered at VCP and the resources it makes



available for photographers and photography lovers across the northeast. This includes monthly photographic exhibitions in the gallery spaces, group photography classes, and public artist talks, as well as publicly accessible studio spaces (digital lab and traditional darkroom), library, and thrift store of photographic equipment.

The program will also include some of Farr’s own photographic work, insight into the evolution of his interest in the photographic medium over the last two decades, and how he ultimately came to work at VCP.

Since becoming director of the VCP in 2011, Farr has been responsible for curating the center’s monthly photographic exhibitions and assisting with organizing photographic workshops, artists talks, publications/catalogues, and portfolio reviews. He travels nationally to represent VCP at photographic conferences and portfolio reviews. Additionally, Farr has worked for the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center since 2012 where he is a staff photographer and exhibitions installer/art-handler.



Graduating in 2011, Farr received his BFA in Photography from the New Hampshire Institute of Art. He lives in Guilford, Vermont with his partner Taryn and two dogs. He welcomes this opportunity to share his deep passion for the photographic medium!

You can find out more about the Vermont Center for Photography at <https://vcphoto.org/>, and Farr can be reached via email at josh@vcphoto.org.

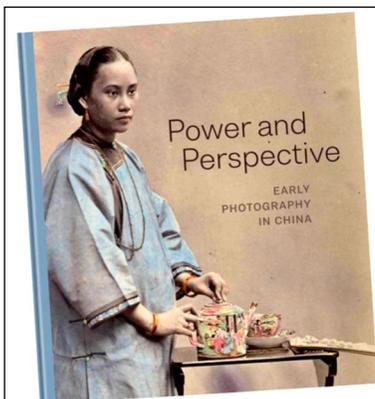


Hold That Date

If you are, or will be, in the New England area on Saturday, April 22nd, you’ve probably already saved the date for the upcoming *Photographica* show and PHSNE auction.

You won’t want to miss this opportunity to expand (or downsize) your collection and to connect with others who share your enthusiasm for collectible cameras, images, and other photographic ephemera.

Join PHSNE for Guided Tour Of Major Photo Exhibit



PHSNE's Program Coordinator, Dana Gee, arranged a guided tour of *Power and Perspective: Early Photography in China*, an important exhibit at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA. The tour will be led by curator Stephanie H. Tung who will be the speaker at the PHSNE

meeting in June. The exhibit was featured in the December issue of *snap shots*. The show contains over 130 images, many never exhibited before. Information about the exhibit is available at <https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/power-and-perspective-early-photography-in-china>.

Online registration is over, but you can still email programs@phsne.org with questions about joining the group. The cost is \$20 per person for museum entry and the guided tour. After the tour, the group will have lunch at the Village Tavern across the street.

PHSNE Membership

New members are invited to join for half the rates for the first year. Regular PHSNE membership (U.S. and Canada) is \$30 for students, \$50 for individuals and institutions, and \$55 for a family; foreign membership is \$60. Join or renew online at <https://phsne.org/join> or <https://phsne.org/renew>, or send a check in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank or dollar denominated international money order. Please check the expiration date on the *snap shots* mailing label before sending in dues.

Send payments, changes of address, and other contact information, to PHSNE Membership Chair, 47 Calvary St., Waltham MA 02453, email membership-chair@phsne.org, or use the Web form at <https://phsne.org/application>.

snap shots, edited by Beverly Regelman, is published monthly, September through June, by the Photographic Historical Society of New England, Inc., 47 Calvary St., Waltham MA 02453. It is available at <https://snapshots.phsne.org> within a few days of mailing. 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 PHSNE.

Edward Burtynsky: Earth Observed In CT

Connecticut's New Britain Museum of Art is hosting *Edward Burtynsky: Earth Observed*, an exhibit



Shipyard #11, Qili Port,
Zhejiang Province, China. 2005

that “reveals to us places that are outside of our normal experience, but that we partake of on a daily basis through material consumption. For over 40 years, his images of the global industrial landscape have captured surreal, abstract, and even painterly aspects of natural and human systems of

earth—of quarries, mines, logging, dams, oil reserves, water, rail cuts, and global manufacturing” (<https://www.nbmaa.org/exhibitions/edward-burtynsky-earth-observed>).

Initially interested in the “pristine” landscape, he decided instead that he had to document changes in the landscape made in the name of progress. “Burtynsky’s astonishing photographs depict, in large scale, our human impact on the planet.” A digital exhibition booklet is available on the museum’s website.

Reviewer Mark Feeney noted, “By the numbers, “Edward Burtynsky: Earth Observed” is a small show, with just 31 photographs. There’s also a nine-minute video showing Burtynsky at work. That’s it. Yet in ways that matter more than the merely numerical — sweep, scale, ambition, urgency — it has the heft, and impact, of a much larger show” (<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2023/01/11/arts/photographs-that-dont-so-much-confront-scale-embrace-it/?event=event12>).

Born in Canada, of Ukrainian heritage, Burtynsky received a BAA in Photography from Toronto Metropolitan University. His photographs are in museum collections around the world, and his numerous awards include a Royal Photographic Society Honorary Fellowship (2020) and a World Photography Organization Award for Outstanding Contribution to Photography (2022).

The exhibit runs through April 16, 2023.

Olympus Pen-F: Then and Now



<https://www.olympus-global.com/technology/design/story/penf/>. Left: film camera; Right digital version

Introduced in 1963, the Olympus PEN-F was a small, beautifully designed camera that achieved rapid market success. “The concept of a camera that could be carried and used as easily as a writing instrument was the inspiration for its name” (*McKeown’s Price Guide to Antique & Classic Cameras, 1997/1998*). The half-sized single-lens reflex camera took 70 images on a roll of film.

The camera returned in 2016, 53 years later, in digital form. “While the new PEN-F has similarities to once-predominant film-type cameras, it is far from a simple digital copy of its predecessor (<https://www.olympus-global.com/technology/design/story/penf/>).



Digital PEN-F; Top view

“The digital reincarnation of the 35mm film Olympus PEN-F does not replace the current digital PEN flagship E-P5, rather it slides in next to it as the ‘premium’ option in the PEN family. The reason being that unlike digital PENs before it, the F has . . . a built-in 2.36 million dot OLED electronic viewfinder. The F also boasts the highest output resolution of any Olympus body to date, boasting a 20MP Four Thirds sensor (probably the same one we’ve seen in the Panasonic Lumix DMC-GX8)” (<https://www.dpreview.com/reviews/olympus-pen-f>).

At its release, the updated mirrorless interchangeable-lens digital Pen F was priced at \$1200 for the body only (*collectablend.com* has current auction range of \$480 to \$1200). The aluminum and magnesium body, encased in faux-leather, has no screws visible and is “well-weighted with a solid feel to it.”

Many features of the new digital PEN-F are found in older Olympus cameras, but some have been improved. “For instance, thanks to its 20MP sensor, the PEN-F is capable of higher resolution in multi-shot mode compared to the OM-D E-M5 II, up to 80MP in Raw mode (50MP in JPEG). It also features a dedicated creative control knob on the front, as well as four customizable shooting modes.” Other features include a 2.36 million dot OLED electronic viewfinder, top mechanical shutter speed of 1/8000 sec (1/16,000 with e-shutter), 1080/60p video recording capability, a 1.04 million dot LCD touchscreen, and 5 axis image stabilization with automatic panning detection.

In Memoriam: David Berenson

We regret announcing the passing of a very long-time PHSNE member and former officer, David Berenson. Berenson joined PHSNE in 1976 and was a life member. He was show manager for *Photographica* in early years when the show was held at the Armenian Cultural Center and served as treasurer for seven years, from 1986 to 1992. Berenson had a particular interest in stereoscopic photography.

Photo Studio in a Teapot

A PHSNE member stumbled across a “photo studio” lying face down on a museum sale table. It was a teapot decorated with the equipment and accessories that would have been part of a typical photographic studio. A great addition to a very eclectic collection!

If you have an interesting bit of photographic ephemera, please send a good quality jpeg and brief description of the item and/or where/how you found it to snapshots@phsne.org.



Websites of Interest

From George Eastman House YouTube Channel
Vault to Wall: Daguerreotype—a 7 minute video on the process of taking a Daguerreotype in the collection from storage to placing it on the wall in an exhibition: <https://youtu.be/BoYFrwfbCzA>

Photographic Processes Series Playlist—The GEH photography collection is among the best and most comprehensive in the world. Eight videos explore the major types of photographic processes ranging from early daguerreotypes to digital prints: <https://tinyurl.com/4h6pnkpk>

PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held online on the first Sunday of each month, September to June. See phsne.org for details.

Upcoming meetings:

April 2—Gary Van Zante, topic TBD

Saturday, April 22—*Photographica*

Connect to PHSNE Online and by email:

PHSNE's Web site is online at <https://phsne.org>. See <https://www.facebook.com/PHSNE/> for items of PHSNE interest. Comments are welcome, so join the discussion of photo history. Visit <https://snapshots.phsne.org> for *snap shots* issues since 2005.

Stay connected to PHSNE via our emails: a *snap shots* e-copy, and *Photographica* show announcements. Sign up at <https://phsne.org/emails>.

Fotografiska Celebrates Hip-Hop

Two stories of the Fotografiska facility in New York City will be devoted to *Hip Hop: Conscious, Unconscious*, an exhibit that runs through May 21st (<https://www.fotografiska.com/nyc/exhibitions/hip-hop/>).

PHSNE's golden anniversary year is also the 50th anniversary of hip-hop. “Legend has it that the culture of hip-hop kicked off in a Bronx basement party on August 11, 1973, giving hip-hop an official birthday. “Fifty years later, *Hip-Hop: Conscious, Unconscious* explores the people, places, and things that hip-hop has delivered unto us.”

