

**Stephanie Tung Features Recent and Upcoming Major PEM Exhibits  
At the PHSNE Zoom Meeting on Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.  
Link to be sent to members before the event**



Stephanie Tung, Byrne Family Curator of Photography at the Peabody Essex Museum, will speak about the recent exhibition *Power and Perspective: Early Photography in China* (Sept 24, 2022 – April 2, 2023). Co-curated by Karina Corrigan, the H.A. Crosby Forbes Curator of Asian Export Art and Tung, this exhibition explored the introduction and adoption of photography in 19<sup>th</sup> century China.

Photography’s development as a new form of art and technology in the 19th century coincided with profound changes in the way China engaged with the world. The medium evolved in response to war, trade, travel, and a desire for knowledge about an unfamiliar place.

This exhibition mined PEM’s extensive collection of early Chinese photographs, many of which entered the institution as contemporary acquisitions in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, to reframe photography as an inherently social medium. It featured 130 photographs in dialogue with paintings, decorative arts, and prints to provide a rich account of the exchanges between photographers, artists, patrons and subjects in treaty port China. By calling attention to the power dynamics at play, *Power and Perspective* offered a vital reassessment of the colonial legacy of the medium and shed light on photography as an inherently social medium that continues to shape our perspectives today.

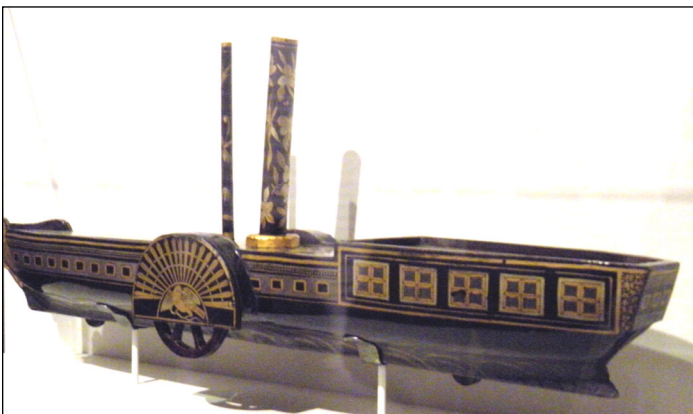
The exhibition concluded with a contemporary section, featuring emerging Chinese photographers who participated in a three-month-long virtual collaboration. Participants were asked to interrogate the themes of the exhibition and respond to this historic works in the collection. The works generated – from images about the land and wet collodion process to explorations of gender and the body – offered personal insights into China today. The catalog can be purchased from PEM at <https://shop.pem.org/collections/exhibition-books/products/power-and-perspective-early-photography-in-china>.



Carved boat; ivory, wood, and silk; photo by Vladimir Khazan

Notes Tung, “*Power and Perspective* asked viewers to slow down, look closely at images, and think about the perspectives of those who shaped them. With cameras in our pockets today and a hypersensitive focus on social media, it provided an opportunity to think more deeply about our casual snaps and what they say about us all.”

Tung will conclude with a preview of the next photography exhibition at PEM: *As We Rise: Photography from the Black Atlantic* (June 17, 2023 – December 31, 2023). Drawn from Dr. Kenneth Montague’s Wedge Collection in Toronto, a Black-owned collection dedicated to artists of African descent, *As We Rise* looks at the myriad experiences of Black life through the lenses of community, identity and power. The exhibition, which makes its U.S. debut at PEM, is organized by Aperture and curated by Elliott Ramsey (Polygon Gallery, North Vancouver, Canada). It features more than 100 works by Black artists from Canada, the Caribbean, Great Britain, the United States and South America, as well as throughout the African continent.



Incense burner, wood, pewter, and gold; photo by Larry Monfet

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/37s46pdj> to read about PHSNE’s China Photo Preservation Project with the Chinese Photographers Association in Beijing.



### Photographica 90 a Huge Success

Photographica #90 has come and gone. It was yet another amazing show. That's two great shows in a row in the Newton North High School cafeteria. Over 450 people came to shop and buy from dealers staffing 89 tables chock full of quality analog photography items as well as images. Having over 400 attendees seems to be the new normal for Photographica.

Many dealers say that the demographics at the show are what they are seeing in their businesses. The age range is between 19 to 35. Many women. Many students. Is analog photography a fad or a trend with young people? Time will tell. I plan on positioning the show to ride it either way.

Early Birds paying \$20.00 each to come in two hours before the general public numbered 38 people. This was a recent record. The Bargain Tables, the Dollar Tables, and the auction all generated great sales numbers.

It has been a long time since I saw so much wood and brass in the room. New dealers and new attendees continue to make Photographica the place to be one day each year.

There are too many PHSNE volunteers for me to thank. There is always a need for more good people who can think on their feet. Can you? If so, consider joining us the third Saturday in April, 2024.

John Dockery  
Photographica Show Manager.

#### 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](mailto:membership-chair@phsne.org), or use the Web form at <https://phsne.org/application>.

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Left: Show Manager John Dockery  
Right: Auctioneer Marti Jones  
Photos by Ryck Lent



Left: Testing the Equipment  
Right: The Press Photographer  
Photos by John Dockery

Right: Changing Demographics  
Below left: Helpers,  
Photos by Ryck Lent  
Below Right: Busy Floor  
Photo by Judy Dole





## Charles Chevalier (1804—1859) and the Photographe Daguerreotype Camera

In or about 1840, designer/manufacturer Charles Chevalier of Paris produced Le Photographe, a similar but smaller, collapsible camera modeled after the Daguerre camera. Daguerre's was soon tagged "whole plate" and Chevalier's, and others that followed, acquired the labels of half, quarter, and sixth plate. Chevalier's camera could accommodate full plates when rigid, but with supports removed, the camera was collapsible. In its collapsed state, the camera was 3 3/4 inches high; fully extended, it was 11 inches—a considerable difference (*A Century of Cameras From the Collection of the International Museum of Photography at the Eastman House*, Ethan Lothrop).



[www.gettyimages.com/photos/daguerreotype-cameras](http://www.gettyimages.com/photos/daguerreotype-cameras)

The portability of the Chevalier camera was an asset, and a number of manufacturers adopted the concept. Among them was an "improved folding camera, for tourists, travellers, and others," produced by Horne & Co. of London.

Chevalier was a third generation optician. The family business, founded in 1765, was known for the quality of its lenses, especially the achromatic lenses invented by his father Vincent and the optics for camera obscuras ([http://camera-wiki.org/wiki/Charles\\_Louis\\_Chevalier](http://camera-wiki.org/wiki/Charles_Louis_Chevalier)).

The Chevaliers, dealing with both Louis Daguerre and Nicéphore Niépce, introduced the two in 1825, realizing they were conducting similar experiments to achieve persistent photographs. In a break with his family, Chevalier founded his own company in 1832, rejoining the family business in 1841.



Chevalier Quarter Plate, <https://tinyurl.com/4uwpfh7r>

"Chevalier developed a new doublet lens for cameras, with focal lens 29cm and aperture f/5.6, six times faster than the lenses he had made for the first daguerreotype cameras. For his lens, the *Photographe a Verres Combinés*, he won the prize of the Société d'encouragement for improvement of the photographic lens in 1841."

A Lomography posting claimed, "some 175+ years ago, two messrs. Charles Chevalier and Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre changed history: they gave the world practical photography" (<https://microsites.lomography.com/daguerreotype-achromat-art-lens/history/>).

LOUIS DAGUERRE



CHARLES CHEVALIER



<https://microsites.lomography.com/daguerreotype-achromat-art-lens/history/>

### UNC Receives Major Photographic Gift

“The archive of one of the nation’s most prolific photographers of Black life in the twentieth century has a new home at UNC-Chapel Hill’s University Libraries” (<https://uncnews.unc.edu/2023/03/09/carolina-libraries-acquires-archive-of-renowned-photographer-roland-freeman/>).

The Roland L. Freeman Collection is now part of the Southern Folklife Collection at the Wilson Special Collections Library. It is a gift from the Kohler Foundation, a family foundation that supports the arts and education. The collection will be available for research and consultation later this year.

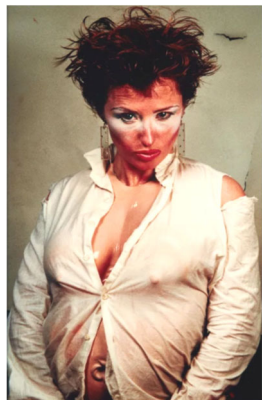


Photo by Roland L. Freeman, Wednesday Night Quilting Sisters of Detroit. Wayne County, Michigan, October 1986

“The Freeman collection adds depth, dimension and a vivid visual element to our collections, giving us new ways to explore and celebrate the history, culture, and folklife of Black communities in the United States,” said María R. Estorino, vice provost for University libraries and University librarian.”

### Exhibit at the Fitchburg

“*In the Eye of the Beholder* delves into the Fitchburg Art Museum’s permanent collection to explore how photographers have used the ‘gendered gaze’ across the early 20th and 21st centuries. This exhibition highlights some of the museum’s iconic favorites and recent acquisitions ... to examine how power is embedded in the male and female gazes. [It] further explores artists who experiment with or outright reject the gender binary, questioning and complicating methods of perceiving gender and its performance” (<https://tinyurl.com/5n7fvdx6>). The exhibit runs through Sept. 10, 2023.



Cindy Sherman, Untitled

### PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held online on the first Sunday of each month, September to June.

### Upcoming meetings:

No meetings take place in July or August. Look for information about the next meeting in the September issue of *snap shots*.

### 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 *Photographa* show announcements. Sign up at <https://phsne.org/emails>.

### Record Breaking Sale of CdV



James Presley Ball  
carte-de-visite, 1870

“Swann’s annual Printed & Manuscript African Americana auction was the most successful in its 28-year history. The sale set records with \$1,377,463 in total sales and a 94% sell-through rate .

The top lot in the sale was an inscribed carte-de-visite by the important early photographer James Presley Ball which brought \$125,000. Only one other photograph of Ball is known to exist” (<https://tinyurl.com/mrb5t46>).

### PHSNE Takes a Summer Break

As noted above, there are no PHSNE meetings in July and August, and *snap shots* issues are on hold until the fall. The September issue, to be mailed to members in mid-August, will provide an overview of the September program. It will take place on Sunday, September 10th, the second Sunday of the month, to avoid the Labor Day Holiday weekend.