

# NEWSLETTER

## LightRein and LightTools now at Beau Photo!

### Great new products to entice you!

In our never ending search to find you the best products at the best prices we have added **LightRein** and **LightTools** to our line-up of great products.

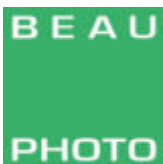
As you may know **LightRein** is the manufacturer of the high quality muslin backdrops that we already carry here at Beau, but did you know they also have their own line of equally high quality soft boxes? The LightRein soft boxes have a thicker more durable exterior material than the other soft boxes you may be used to and they also have a silver interior for a bit more kick. To top that, they come with a 3 year warranty against defects and are very reasonably priced.

**LightTools** is the manufacturer of egg crates. What are egg crates? They are light-weight fabric light modifiers in the shape of little cubes. These cubes help direct the light coming out of a soft box. DPs in movies use huge versions of these to have complete control over their lighting situations and now so can you. Egg crates are used by Annie Leibovitz, Dean Collins, Dave Montizambert and many other photographers. We are carrying egg crates for **Photoflex** and **LightRein** soft boxes and can order them in for you for **Chimera** soft boxes. So come on in and check them both out in the Pro section in the back of the store, or better yet rent the egg crates from our Rentals Dept. for the weekend, and we will take the cost of the one day rental off the purchase price.



### Beau Photo Goes Green!

If you haven't dropped in lately you probably have missed a big change at **Beau Photo**. We have taken another step in reducing our environmental footprint. **Beau Photo** is moving away from traditional plastic bags to BioBags! The BioBag is a thin carry bag that has been developed to biodegrade and compost when disposed. It can also be reused, recycled, composted or incinerated. Mainly derived from raw material, primarily maize starch, the BioBag degrades in 10 to 45 days depending on the composting method. So when you come into **Beau Photo** have a look at these neat bags. Use one when you need to, don't when it's not necessary, bring them back to use again, and compost them when they are done.



More **Green News**, did you know when you purchase your BD background paper from Beau Photo, you're helping the environment. All BD coloured paper rolls are made from 100% recycled materials. Not only that, they are produced with hydro electric power, 100% green energy.

Ken

Product Sales and Purchasing



## Renaissance Albums Summer Sale

**Save 25%**

### Renaissance the Book Self Mount Albums

The Self Mount Album is a self-adhesive album made for the most discerning of clients. These albums are simply the finest flush-look, self-mount albums available. They contain extra thick, black core pages with tips and each page comes with archival double-sided tape for easy removal and photo application.

**Prices while quantities last!**

Self Mount 8x10 (10) Regular \$102.50

**Sale \$76.50**

Self Mount 5x7 (10) Regular \$83.50

**Sale \$62.50**



**Save 25%**

### Renaissance the Book Slip-In Albums

An elegant album with sophisticated presentation and clean features, the Slip-In Album is a combination of ease and beauty, displaying full images without the use of mats.

**Prices for in stock only!**

Slip-In 8x10 (15) Regular \$134.50

**Sale \$100.50**

Slip-In 8x10 (10) Regular \$115.50

**Sale \$86.50**

Slip-In 5x7 (10) Regular \$96.50

**Sale \$72.25**



**Save 15%**

### Renaissance Milano Covers

A high-end removable page album, Milano Albums are the ultimate marriage of elegance and versatility.

**Prices for in stock only!**

Matte Grain Milano Cover with Square Cameo (15) Regular \$84.50

**Sale \$71.50**

Matte Grain Milano Cover with Square Cameo (12) Regular \$84.50

**Sale \$71.50**

Original Black Embossed Milano Cover (15) Regular \$74.50

**Sale \$63.25**

Original Black Embossed Milano Cover (12) Regular \$74.50

**Sale \$63.25**

**Deborah**

**Renaissance Album Sales**



## Album and Folder News

**Welcome to Summer...**Factory vacation closures have been announced; AGT will be shut down for the last 2 weeks of July. If you need anything ordered, please let me know as soon as you can. They'll make every effort to ship your supplies before their holidays.

If you've been patiently waiting for TAP products, take heart! They seem to have most of their 'new computer' woes out of the way, and are shipping in more user-friendly time frames. While there are still a few production bugs to work out, backlogs should be cleared in the next couple of weeks. Meanwhile, if you're needing large numbers of anything, please give me as much lead time as possible; current delivery standards seem to be about 4 weeks from the day I place my orders.

**Barb Batchelor**

**Albums and Folders**

## FILM AND PAPER NEWS

### Foma Black & White Papers are Coming!

Since 1921, Foma Bohemia Ltd. has been producing a range of black and white photographic materials. Fomaspeed Variant Papers feature a very rich, half-tone scale over all contrast grades, a shining white paper base and saturated blacks. The paper itself is manufactured using silver chlorobromide emulsion, which produces a neutral-to-medium warm tone photographic image. Developing agents have been incorporated into the emulsion layer of Fomaspeed Papers in order to facilitate rapid machine processing, or a shortened developing time when using manual tray processing. Our first shipment of black and white Foma Paper is due in sometime this month, so make sure you come by and check out the following papers:

- Fomaspeed Variant 311 VC RC Glossy Paper
- Fomaspeed Variant 312 VC RC Matte Paper
- Fomatone Variant MG 333 VC RC Warm-Tone Velvet Paper

### Velvia 50 is back!

This film provides high saturation and vivid color, making it a popular choice for photographers. It is available in 35mm, 120, and 4x5 sheets.

Prices:		1 - 19	20+
Original Velvia 50	35mm	\$14.11	\$12.98
New Velvia 50	35mm	\$14.77	\$13.59
New Velvia 50	120mm	\$ 42.39	\$ 39.00 Pro Pack of 5 rolls
New Velvia 50	4 x 5 sheets	\$ 34.89	\$ 32.10 10 sheets



### Holga Shutter Release Set

A necessity for every Holga camera! The adapter fits snugly over 120N, FN or CN cameras. The set includes a shutter release adapter and premium 12 inch shutter release cable with auto lock/unlock mechanism.

Price - \$15.00

**Krista-Belle Stewart**

**Film and Paper Consultant**



RENTAL NEWS!

The good weather has finally arrived (mostly) and everyone is headed outdoors. One might think that this means you can't use strobes and take control of your lighting the way you did all winter in the studio, but you can! There are several options for powering lights when there is no nearby source of electricity. Profoto and Hensel both make battery powered packs that are 1200ws, giving you enough light to get that key shift effect you might be trying for. These packs each take 2 heads which fit all the respective light modifiers such as softboxes or a beauty dish. If you are looking for something a little smaller, we also rent a 600ws battery powered lighting kit by Visatec that comes with two heads, stands and umbrellas, and an extra battery for \$70/day. There is also the nice and compact Norman 400b battery pack with one head if you just need to run out and do a quick job. Lots of options for lighting outdoors! Just a note though, while you might be able to use battery packs outside, it doesn't like to get wet at all, so if you want to shoot in the rain make sure your gear stays bone dry!

If you own your own battery packs, there are a few ways to keep them running better longer. Most batteries benefit from a few charge and discharge cycles when they are new to get them operating at their peak capacity. Make sure you fully charge them as soon as possible after using them, and if it happens that they sit lonely on the shelf for a few months, they should be charged occasionally just to top them up. Each type of battery is a little different, some lose their charge quite quickly when they aren't being used, some don't. The best is to read the manual that comes with your battery pack for specific instructions.

One last **Green** note on batteries. If you use the non rechargeable variety, and often this is necessary, you can bring your dead batteries by and we will send them for recycling. This includes anything from AAA to Metz Dryfits and any other used up battery pack you might have hanging around but didn't want to add to a landfill.

**Kathy**

**Rentals**

NEWS FROM THE BACK

**Nikon** has dropped the price of the D80 and the D200. The D80 is now \$1039.00 and the D200 is now \$1629.00. If you would like the battery grip for the D80 (mb-d80) , its on sale for \$159.00.

**Canon** has extended their mail in rebate program until the end of July. They have also extended their lens specials until the end of August. They are now shipping the Pro 9500 printer. It utilizes 10 ink cartridges for a wide colour gamut and excellent gray scale printing , it's the 13 inch little brother to the ipf 5000.

**Hensel Pro Plus kits are on sale!**

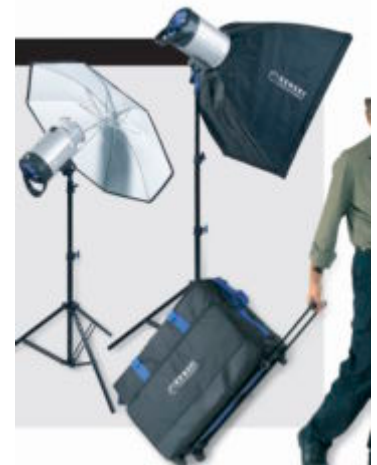
The kit includes 3-500 watt mono heads with built in receivers, 1-transmitter, 3-stands, 2 umbrellas, 1 soft box , travel case , 1 grid reflector and one grid.

Regular price is \$3433.95 now on sale for **\$2999.00**.

**If you are looking for different lighting :** we now have Dynalite, Profoto, Speedotron, Norman and Lightrein on display.

**Ron**

**Pro Sales**





## SEKONIC L-558 DUALMASTER ON SALE!

The **Sekonic L-558 DUALMASTER** has been designed to meet the challenges of today's film and digital photographer. It offers a 1° spot meter that measures reflected flash output down to an amazing f/2.0 (ISO 100). Its parallax-free lens eliminates erroneous close-up photography light readings. A digital readout through the spot viewfinder displays all-important exposure information. With a turn of a knob the L-558R DUALMASTER changes from an incident meter to a reflective spot meter for both ambient and flash measurements, all-in-one rugged, compact, all-weather housing. Selecting aperture or shutter priority modes or EV is as easy as turning the Jog wheel. Simultaneous evaluation of ambient and flash is displayed in three convenient ways. Unique features such as meter calibration, exposure compensation and CINE settings offer the flexibility that today's photographers require.

### FEATURES:

- Analyzing Function

A simultaneous reading of flash and ambient light is analyzed.

- Retractable Lumisphere

- Memory Mode

9 memory banks are available in both Aperture Priority and Shutter Priority

- Illuminated Direct Display

- Exposure, Calibration and Filter Compensation

- Dual ISO Settings

- Full-Featured Flash Measurements

1. Cord Flash Mode (Cumulative and Non Cumulative)

2. Cordless Flash Mode (Cumulative and Non Cumulative)

3. Radio Triggering Mode

- Spot with Digital Display

- Memory Mode Up to nine readings can be memorized

- Full, 1/2 or 1/3-step Selectable Readings

- Exposure, Calibration and Filter Compensation

- Dual ISO Settings

- All Weather Design



Regularly \$699.95

**Sale Price \$624.95**

**While supplies! last!**

## DIGITAL NEWS

### **Leica M8 Digital (\$5399): The whole is greater than the sum of its parts...**

After being on the market now for a few months, I finally had an opportunity to shoot with the Leica M8. When I logically analyze what I liked about this camera and what I thought could use improvement or even disliked... well logically, I shouldn't really like it. However, when I think back to the overall experience of using it, the image quality of those superb Leica lenses, the intangibles of using a rangefinder again after many years, well actually I really quite liked it. Before reading this review, keep in mind that I have never actually shot with a film Leica, although I have owned and shot with numerous other rangefinders over the years, so a true Leica aficionado might disagree with some of my comments.

I'll get the "bad" points out of the way first. Despite having installed the very latest firmware, the camera crashed on me a few times, to the point where I had to pull the battery to reboot it. Not a huge issue and this has happened to me with numerous digital SLR's as well but still, something one should be aware of. The first time it happened, I actually thought the battery was completely run down since all the displays on the camera went dark and it was totally unresponsive.

Next, I personally find the detents in the main switch to be too weak. I found myself accidentally switching the camera off on several occasions, especially when holding the camera to change the lens. Also, in a similar vein, I found myself accidentally taking the camera out of "A" mode a few times because of the weak detents in the shutter speed dial. That said, the detents in that dial are just about perfect when manually changing the shutter speed, so I simply wished that there was a push-button lock on the A position.

As far as the shutter release itself though, I would love to see it have just a little bit less of final "detent stiffness". I suppose it is probably designed to feel just like the older mechanical release, but it would be easier to hand-hold slow shutter speeds with a slightly softer touch. Also, when one presses the shutter to the second detent in order to lock the exposure, after one then takes the shot, there is a fair bit of upward spring tension when easing off on the shutter and it is quite difficult to apply the right amount of force to maintain the exposure lock to allow one to take a few photos in sequence with the same setting. Because of this, I found myself switching the camera to full manual after a while, although I would have preferred staying in A mode. With enough practice though, I imagine one would get used to that. The extra release stiffness and overall ergonomics also meant I had some trouble at first hand-holding slower shutter speeds although with some practice and concentration I started getting much better.

Finally, there is indeed an issue in colour work sometimes by not having an IR cut filter, which the loaner camera's lenses did not. I was actually quite surprised how bad the IR contamination could be with black nylon clothing coming up completely purple at times and obvious colour casts in dark foliage. If you shoot with the M8, you'll definitely want to take advantage of Leica's offer to send you two free filters!

So what's good? Well to start with, beautiful build quality and, apart from my few comments above, all the switches and controls generally have a wonderful feel with nice tactile feedback. The M8 has very nice

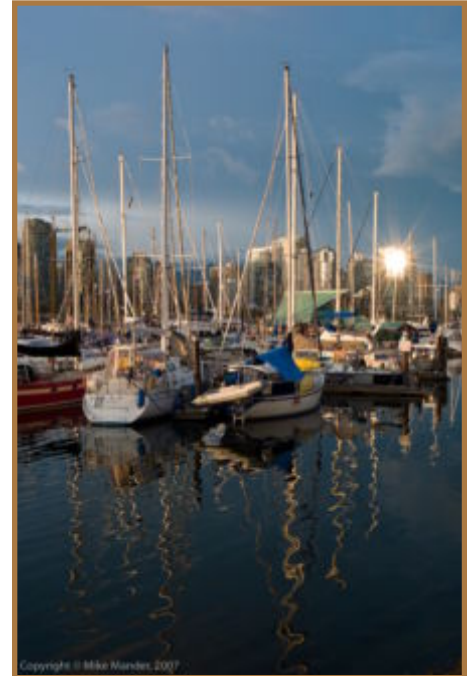




image quality with gorgeous warm colour, reminiscent to me of Agfa transparency film. In the end, I did find myself tweaking the colour of the resulting shots a fair bit though but that is the beauty of shooting digital, isn't it? There was absolutely no hint of any sort of noise banding that I could see, although my higher ISO tests were somewhat limited. The noise that appears is very tight and "film-grain-like" and doesn't disturb in the slightest as far as I'm concerned, up to a point. Yes, it does start to get ugly at the top couple of ISO settings, but I would certainly not hesitate to ever use ISO 320 if I needed it and even 640 in a pinch. The lack of anti-aliasing filter is certainly welcome from a sharpness standpoint and with the two lenses I used, images were very crisp and amazingly detailed, certainly better than I've seen from any other 10 Mp camera I've used.

The menus are simple and well designed and I really like the image playback functionality. The ability to see a superimposed RGB histogram is great, much better I feel that the "screen real-estate robbing" way of showing three totally separate histograms on most other cameras. I also like the fact that one can zoom on the image and still see the highlight clipping info and a histogram that reflects the zoomed-in detail. Lastly, although probably something that Leica shooters take for granted, I love the ability to view alternate framing lines with a simple switch of the frame-selector lever. Being able to preview the field-of-view of other lenses, without actually having to switch lenses, is truly an awesome feature!

So when thinking about how I feel about the M8, I am confused. On one hand, I see all the many little things that bothered me on what is, ultimately, a very expensive body. I appreciate Leica's concerted effort to not "mess with a good thing" but really, the overall ergonomics of the camera are pretty dated. Surely adding just a hint of a grip, slightly softening the shutter release and angling it to a slightly more comfortable position would be a welcome improvement? On the other hand, despite all that, I really want to go out and shoot with it more! There really is something appealing about a Leica rangefinder, as intangible as that may be, and coupled with lenses that have minimal flare, no corner softness or chromatic aberration, virtually no distortion, that are silky smooth focusing and razor sharp to boot, well... it's all about image quality, isn't it? And in the right hands, the minimalist Leica M8 sure can deliver. This is a special-order item, so feel free to call us if you're interested. If you want to have a look at some samples I shot, check out [www.beauphoto.com/gallery/M8/](http://www.beauphoto.com/gallery/M8/)

**Mike Mander**

**Digital Imaging Department**

**Calendar**

**Up and coming**

Mark your calendars! The Beau Photo not quite semi annual Garage Sale and BBQ will be held on July 23 between 11:00 and 3:00. Come in have a dog buy some unique hard to find stuff and relax with your friends on the roof at Beau Photo.

**PPABC BBQ at Beau Photo**

Same as above but one day earlier for PPABC members  
Sunday, July 22nd

[www.ppabc.com](http://www.ppabc.com) for details

**On Going**

**Access Artist Run Centre**

Presents "I love here now" works of Maya de Forest.

Runs from June 29 to Aug 4

Opening: June 30th 8:00 PM

For more info go to

[www.vaarc.ca](http://www.vaarc.ca)

**Presentation House**

Presents "To the Dogs"

Runs from June 30 - August 5,

This exhibition of photographs of dogs looks at the relationship between humans and canines. The exhibition includes historic photographs from the late 1800s by Edward Muybridge, classic images by the famous French photographer Jacques-Henri Lartigue from the early 20th century, well-known contemporary photographers Elliott Erwitt and William Wegman, and many others. For more info go to

[www.presentationhousegall.com](http://www.presentationhousegall.com)

**Vancouver Photo Workshops**

presents on going workshops

For more info go to:

[www.vancouverphotoworkshops.com](http://www.vancouverphotoworkshops.com)

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