

NEWSLETTER

Shift your perspective!

Coming soon to Beau Photo!

Lensbabies take your photographs to a new level

Have you ever wanted to get that once in a lifetime shot, but there was no time to set up a 4x5 camera? Ever imagine the perfect shot where it's like "the focus drops off the face of the earth" but you don't have a \$1800.00 tilt/shift lens in your camera bag? Now there is an affordable alternative! With a **Lensbaby** attached to your digital or film camera, you can take incredible photos that will set you apart from the competition.

Lensbabies work like the bellows of a 4x5 camera but the focus control is at your finger tips. With a slight adjustment of the angle of the **Lensbaby** you can have an incredible selection of photos where no two are the same!



The Lensbaby story:

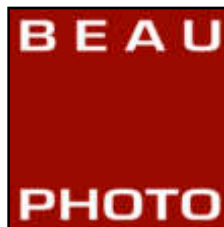
Portland photographer Craig Strong invented the **Lensbabies** Flexible Lens Mounting System in an effort to replace his *Holga*TM film camera with its digital equivalent. After getting enthusiastic feedback from fellow photographers longing to create unique imagery for their clients, Craig decided to make **Lensbabies** available to everyone.

Please visit the **Lensbabies** Friends page at www.lensbabies.com to see shots that other photographers have posted, get tips, give advice, and ask questions.



LENSBABIES, NOW YOU HAVE TWO STYLES TO CHOOSE FROM

... and you may just want to buy two, because they each render a different effect! The **Original Lensbaby** gives you an overall "dreamier" image with a softer sweet spot. The newly released **Lensbaby 2.0** allows the photographer greater control in creating outstanding images. The **Lensbaby 2.0** is faster, sharper, and now easier to adjust the aperture. The



aperture discs are now held in place by magnets making changing the discs a breeze. The **2.0** also has coated, high refractive glass, whereas the original is uncoated. Both the **Original and 2.0 Lensbabies** come in various mounts for **Canon, Nikon, Pentax**, and by special order **Minolta, Olympus, Contax, Leica**, and many others.

HOT NEWS FROM THE FILM AND PAPER DEPARTMENT

Beau Photo is pleased to welcome Hahnemühle to our arsenal of fine art inkjet papers. Hahnemühle offers a range of pH neutral, acid free inkjet papers including “German Etching”, a natural white mould-made paper (100% total chlorine free pulp) and “Photo Rag”, a smooth bright white 100% rag paper which is available single or double sided. Sample packs can be purchased for those of you who want to test the waters before taking the plunge. ICC profiles can be downloaded at www.hahnemuhle.com. Hahnemühle Protective Spray is available to help seal print surfaces from dirt, fingerprints and moisture. And don't forget to visit www.myartregistry.com to find out about Hahnemühle's online authenticity registry designed especially for artists and the sale of limited edition prints.

Serena

Film and paper sales



RENTAL NEWS



If you've ever wanted to rent the Hasselblad(Imacon) Back for that big job but were afraid of all that technology, have no fear. There are

some great assistants who can come to your rescue! Beau Photo recently held a workshop for local assistants on the use of the Hasselblad(Imacon) Back and software. Victor Naranjo, the company representative from Seattle, and our very own Mike Mander presented a very informative and useful session to the attentive crowd. Now if you want to rent the back, you can also hire an assistant who has been trained in its use. That's one less

worry for you so you can concentrate on getting the right shot. Watch our website for a listing of the assistants that qualified (go to the assistants link on the rental home page). We have to wait until we get their test results back (yes they had to write a test!) to list them. If you have any questions about the Hasselblad(Imacon) digital back, or any of our digital SLR cameras in rentals, give Kathy a call.

Kathy

Rentals

ALBUM & FOLDER UPDATE

We've just received our samples of Leather Album Designs' new Deluxe proofbooks. Made of luxurious Durapelle fabric (with NO metallic trim!), they are available in Black, Burgundy, and White. The 4x5/4x6 3-up Horizontal proof book comes set up for 210 prints, and the 2-up 5x5 for 200 prints. I have confirmed that we can special-order 'covers only'.

As a reminder... we still have a reasonable supply of most sizes of the (discontinued) Cal Cocoa folders at half price. Call soon for best selection!

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Barb

Albums and Folder Sales

NEWS FROM "DA BACK"

Who wants great deals on used gear???? Check out the list below for some awesome deals just waiting to be had! Please note that most are "one item" only, so "if ya' snooze...ya' lose!!"

Nikon 300mm f2.8 Af I	\$2900.00
Nikon f 100 body (2) each	\$900.00
Nikon 28-70 f2.8 Afs	\$1500.00
Nikon 20-35 f2.8	\$900.00
Nikon f5 bodies (2) each	\$1500.00
Nikon D1h body (demo)	\$1400.00
Nikon 80-200 f2.8 Afs	\$1400.00
Nikon 500 f4 mf	\$3000.00
Nikon F90x bodies (2)	\$300-\$400
Nikon F3 bodies & drives	come in to view
Fuji S2 pro bundle (new)	\$1800.00
Canon EOS 1 D body	\$2500.00
Canon 28-70 f2.8	\$1000.00
Contax G1 w45mm	\$600.00
Leica m6 chrome .72x	\$1500.00
Leica 90mm f2.8	\$1800.00
Leica 50 mm fr.o noctiluk-m	\$2300.00



"Tons "o" Hasselblad" come in to view.

Chris

Pro Sales

DIGITAL NEWS

No headlines this month... just a ramble. Take OS X v10.4 (Tiger), throw in the new Photoshop CS2 and what do you get? Actually CS2 on Tiger is pretty much rock solid and fast! I'm not sure if it was more Tiger's fault, Photoshop CS2's fault or a combination of the two, but whatever the reason, my dual 1.25GHz G4 that I run at home and our dual 1.8GHz G5 at Beau absolutely smoke through some actions that I have created in my previous version of CS. Some things really seem significantly faster with the Tiger/CS2 combination and CS2 has proven itself rock-solid on the computers I've used it on. Apart from a few screen-redraw bugs that will hopefully be fixed soon, it is awesome! In addition, the new Camera RAW version 3.1 is also very nice with many enhancements to your raw image workflow. I certainly can recommend the Photoshop CS2 upgrade without hesitation!

On the other hand, Mac OS X Tiger has been out for a while now and it has proven itself to be... well, let's just say it's not yet as bullet-proof as 10.3 had been. Tiger still seems to have a number of minor bugs and a few lingering hardware incompatibilities. We are using it here at Beau, and I am using it at home and while I haven't seen any dramatic problems, especially since the v10.4.1 update came out, but it still feels, I don't know... somewhat unfinished? There are some truly excellent new features such as Spotlight and Automator, but once you start to really try and use them, you might find yourself running into the odd snag or occasionally get the feeling that there may be some missing features still. The 10.4.1 update did squash most of the obvious bugs though, so it's pretty safe to upgrade, but if you are running any add-on PCI cards, older scanners or are using a laptop for example, you might want to call me (Mike) here at Beau to discuss any potential issues.

Now for some bad news... a potentially serious bug has been found in the firmware of the Canon EOS-iD Mark II and iDs Mark II. In certain situations, if you fire off a rapid burst of images as RAW+Fine-JPEG and then press the "Display" button to play them back, you could risk completely losing those buffered images. In addition, the camera will likely also crash at this point, and will require the battery to be pulled to reset the camera for proper operation. Ouch! For now, make sure you wait for the card-access lamp to go off before playing back your images, just to be on the safe side. Canon has acknowledged this problem and posted an advisory on their website with an expectation that

new firmware will be released by the end of May to address this issue. A popular misconception is that this bug only occurs with Lexar brand cards... that is not the case – it could happen with any card, but the confusion likely results from the fact that Lexar has also made the following announcement...

Lexar has acknowledged that there is a potential problem with their 80x CompactFlash cards in essentially every current model Canon digital SLR – the Rebel XT, EOS-20D, 1D Mark II and 1Ds Mark II. There seems to be a rare and subtle bug that can cause image loss or image corruption in some situations when a Lexar 80x card is used with the above mentioned cameras. Lexar also promises a firmware fix that will be implemented by the end of May. At this point it's likely that Lexar will offer some sort of a no-charge mail-in upgrade program but details have not yet been firmed up. I can only speak for the Canon EOS-20D but I have personally been shooting with one since last September, exclusively with Lexar 512Mb 80x and 1Gb 80x memory cards, and I have not seen a single problem whatsoever in well over 10,000 frames. I have never lost any images or had any corrupted images on my memory cards. This must be a fairly rare problem indeed! I really don't think this warrants all that much concern, but by all means, if you have a Lexar 80x card affected by this "recall", take advantage and get yourself a firmware refreshed or replacement card from Lexar once the official procedure has been established!

For more details on both of these memory card problems, visit Rob Galbraith's excellent digital camera news site at www.robgalbraith.com. There is an article describing the issues with links back to both Canon and Lexar with their respective announcements.

Many of you may have heard of the huge kaffuffle surrounding Nikon's controversial decision to encrypt the white balance data in raw (NEF) images captured with the new Nikon D2x digital SLR. I will say up front that I totally disagree with Nikon's current stance on the issue; however I do feel that they have been unfairly persecuted to some extent. Nikon is not the only company that chooses not to "play nice" with third party software companies such as Adobe, but like the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back, it seems that an announcement by Adobe's chief Camera RAW developer, outlining Nikon's decision to encrypt their white-balance, set the whole shooting match off! And what a reaction it was! I won't go into all the gory details (there is plenty of information on the net – see www.openraw.org for example) but I would like to clear a few things up with respect to the D2x...

If you have the D2x set to one of the preset, standard white balance settings such as daylight, tungsten, fluorescent, cloudy etc., Adobe Camera RAW (ACR) will indeed see those settings in the Nikon NEF raw files – that information is not encrypted. You do need to have the very latest version 3.1 of ACR and Photoshop CS 2 to open D2x NEF files, by the way. However, if you are using the auto white-balance feature or a custom white balance setting in your D2x (reading off a gray card for example), ACR will not read this encrypted and in-camera calculated white-balance setting. Rather, it will quietly use its own auto-white-balance setting which will quite possibly be distinctly different from what the camera settings would have given. So, in a nutshell, one can still use ACR very effectively with D2x raw files and if you use a standard white-balance preset you'll get perfectly predictable results. In addition, all the exposure and white-balance adjustments still work perfectly as well so you can tweak things to your heart's desire. The results I have seen when converting D2x NEF files with Adobe Camera RAW have been excellent indeed. Let's just hope that Adobe and Nikon can come to some sort of agreement so that all the other possible white-balance modes will be handled in a predictable fashion in the near future. Rumor has it that they are talking at least...

Mike

Calendar

CAPIC

PORTFOLIOS THAT SELL

A seminar organized with Selina Oppenheimer, Port Authority, which CAPIC Vancouver Chapter is part sponsoring the Evening Seminar / Book Signing

No Admission FREE

Thursday, June 9, 2005 : 7 - 9pm

Doors open at 6pm for assorted snacking, socializing and schmoozing.

Sheldon Wood Studio

170 West Sixth Ave.

Vancouver, BC

<http://www.capicvancouver.org/>

PPABC

2005 Provincial Convention

October 1 - 4, 2005

This convention lands on the 60th anniversary of PPABC and promises to deliver the same outstanding speakers, trade show, social events and print salons of conventions past.

www.ppabc.com

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