

# NEWSLETTER

## Time to change-up your Background?

### ***Huge clear-out of backgrounds at Beau Photo!***

We are making space for new products and need to clear out some seamless backdrops. Some are slightly damaged, some are used and some are a unique one-of-a-kind textured paper backdrops that are hard to come-by. The backdrops are in a variety of colours; there are a few whites, grays, blues and more. They are all 9 feet and generally 36 ft. long. They are individually priced and are priced to clear so don't delay! We also have a good selection of canvas backdrops, in a variety of colours and sizes. We have them available at special clear out pricing and it could be just what you need to change up your studio portrait sessions. We even have some raw canvases that you can paint to create your own unique masterpiece (see article right). If you prefer the feel and look of muslin we have a good selection of 10 x 24 foot muslins from ***Off the Wall*** in lots of colours. They are at a very low price of \$249.99, which is a great deal for size and quality of this product. You can see the line up of backdrops from ***Off the Wall*** at our web site under equipment at [www.beauphoto.com](http://www.beauphoto.com)



### **An Brief History of Backdrops**

With its roots in theater, the first use of painted backdrops in photography has been attributed to Jean Francois Antoine Claudet (b. 12 August 1797; d. 27 December 1867). One of the earliest commercial photographers, Claudet set up a daguerreotype studio on the roof of the Adelaide Gallery, London in 1841. Mainly a portrait photographer, he operated his business until his death in 1867. Studio photographers active in the U.S. during the 1870s, such as Napoleon Sarony, M. Mora and L. W. Seavey, all made extensive use of painted backdrops, theatrical sets and scenery. While many early photographers used simple bed sheets and a few props, some more fanciful backdrops depicted exotic locals, and far away places

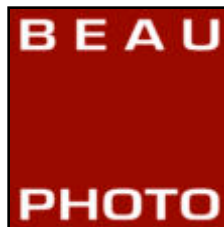


### BACK TO SCHOOL TIME AT BEAU

We would like to remind all our customers that might be returning to school, that September is a great time to shop at Beau Photo. There are some great deals for students (with valid I.D.) on equipment and supplies. So if you are seeking to expand your horizons, become a Rhodes scholar or know some one who is, check out Beau Photo's "Back to School" deals. I would also like to remind all our regular customers that it is

also a very busy time, with large migrations of flocks of some-

what dazed students gathering in aisles and doorways. Please be patient and allow a few more minutes to complete your shopping or even phone ahead and let us get your order ready for you so you can just pick it up and then head out to your shoot.



Ken

Purchasing and Sales

POST PARTY NEWS:

Beau Photo would like to thank all of the contestants who sent such incredible images in to our "Close Up Canada" Lomography Challenge, you're all winners in our hearts, really, we mean it. Unfortunately only ten of you could be prizewinners, those winners were: Tyler Quarles, Chick Rice, Tiffany Leung, Penny Parry, Lisette de Jong, Matt Hoover, Parry Kishi, Mike Chui, Dickson Choy and Keith Klapstein. Congratulations!!



Hey, don't forget about the Fuji Spring Portrait Sale!!! Still going strong.

Speaking of Fuji, we are slowly getting in supply of their two new colour negative films: Pro 160S and Pro 160C. Replacing NPS and NPC respectively, they promise to offer "smoother, more realistic skin tones, unprecedented neutral gray balance, and finer granularity in colour negative emulsions, while also optimizing digital scanning and printing characteristics to suit the digital age." Sound good? It just so happens we already have both available in 120 format and 35mm should be along soon. And just so they don't feel left out, NPH and NPZ have both received a face-lift; they look all shiny and new on the outside but remain the same inside with new names to match...if you guessed Pro 400H and Pro 800Z, well, give yourself a big ol' pat on the back.

**Who wants Polaroid?** We've got some 667 in desperate need of a home. It is dated for September, so come buy some now and get a whale of a deal.

Serena

Film and Paper Sales

"RUMOURS" FROM DA BACK"

As we all know, in today's day and age of digital technology we are inundated with new information on a pretty regular basis. In the photography industry, especially DSLR's, we can pretty well expect something new about every year (Canon) or so (Nikon). And the best part of this is the rumours that start to circulate a month or so before the announcement. So in this vein I am starting a new feature in our newsletter called..... "the rumour page".

Issue #1 OK..... 2 weeks ago before we went to press, I was going to blow the lid off Canon's new EOS 5D !!!! Well they must of heard of this so they made an earlier than expected announcement confirming my ill-gotten information. So you can see, armed with information obtained through sketchy, unscrupulous individuals (you know who you are !!), you can make even the "Big Boys" stand up and take note.

Here is my latest "RUMOUR"

The Nikon D200.... As expected, though late in arriving, this is definitely "early" information as my "moles" on the inside have been laying low due to the "bad press" I caused on the EOS 5D fiasco. So here is what we've found so far.....

- DX format with 12.4 effective pixels.
- New CMOS sensor with high image quality & high speed 4 channel data output.
- 3 fps (12.4 mp.) for up to 10 NEF images. 5 fps (6.8 mp.) up to 18 NEF.
- 3D Color Matrix II w/ ambient light sensor & 1,005 pixel RGB sensor
- High speed/precision 11 area AF system w/9 cross-type sensors.
- ISO 100-800. • 1/250 flash sync, 1/8000th top shutter speed.
- USB 2.0, EN EL 3a battery.



Will let you know more as it becomes available.... ( and it's up to you to decide how true any of this info really is!)

We have contacted Nikon about these rumours and were unable to substantiate any of them. Nikon Canada has no information about any new digital SLR at this time. That said, their current digital SLR lineup is pretty strong and selling like hot-cakes, especially the D70s, D2hs and their flagship D2x!

Chris

Pro Sales

## RENTAL NEWS .

### GO BIG AND BEAUTIFUL!

We have a brand, spanking new 7' **Elinchrom Octa Lite** available in rentals. It is popular with fashion and portrait photographers for its soft even light which wraps wonderfully. It will fit **Profoto** heads and will rent for \$85/day. Also don't forget about the 7' **Octobank** by **Photoflex** and the 5' "**Illuminata**" by **Photek** that are available for rent. They are a bit like round softboxes which provide soft light and leave a round catch-light in eyes or other reflective surfaces. They rent for \$28 for the 5' and \$38 for the 7' and fit **Profoto**, **Dynalite**, and **Speedo** heads. Also don't forget about the long weekend coming up, it's a good opportunity to rent something unusual you've always wanted to try. You pick up on Friday, don't return it until Tuesday and only pay a one day rental .

Kathy

Rentals

## DIGITAL NEWS

Review – EZDigiMagic DM220-Do8 Portable DVD Burner (\$489) ([www.ezpnnp-usa.com](http://www.ezpnnp-usa.com))

From the same company that makes the DM-180 comes another impressive product – a multi-session capable DVD-burner. This burner has slots for 6 different kinds of memory card and, as expected, is able to burn data directly from your cards to most forms of writeable optical media - DVD-R, DVD+R, DVD-RW, DVD+RW, CD-R and CD-RW! For maximum efficiency it can actually burn multiple sessions to a DVD – not something that is common for DVD burners. This feature is rather important as not that many people are using 4Gb memory cards yet! In addition, it can span larger memory cards across multiple discs if, for example, you are burning 2Gb cards to CD-R. It also features an “ultra-verify” function which compares the data on your card byte-for-byte with what was burned to disc to ensure the integrity of your images. It also has a much faster disc verify function that simply checks all the data that has been burned to ensure that the entire disc is readable. To my way of thinking, the disc verification function is probably all you need as I never had any problems during my testing (after a firmware update – see below). I would strongly suggest using high quality “known to be reliable” blank discs though, just for safety reasons.

After thoroughly testing our demo unit and burning roughly 50Gb worth of DVDs, it has proven very reliable. However, when we first received the demo unit, it was running on earlier firmware and I did have one disc that somehow failed to burn properly. In addition, the disc verification was also terribly slow, taking a very long 3 hours to verify a full DVD. So slow, in fact, that I was almost ready to give up and send the unit back. However, I am happy to report that after performing a firmware update, which was emailed to me by EZPNP tech support, the unit has worked flawlessly since and verify speeds are down to a mere 18 minutes for a full DVD – 10 times faster than before! As far as write speeds go, testing it with a Lexar 1Gb 80x CF card, the unit took an average of about 13 minutes to burn a full 1Gb card to disc.

Note that like the DM180, there is no image review or playback screen, only a status screen for accessing the various menus and functions. However, both the DM180 and DM220 are designed to be simple and efficient download devices – if you want image review, you'll need to shell out more money for something like an Epson P-2000.

What's there not to like? Well, battery life is rather abysmal but really that's no fault of theirs – burning DVDs or CDs is simply a power-hungry operation, much more so than copying a memory card to a tiny hard drive, as is demonstrated by the phenomenal battery life of the DM-180. The DM220 burner requires four high-capacity NiMH AA batteries (ideally 2000 mAh or higher) to function for any reasonable duration however note that batteries and a charger are not included. I only had some measly little 1700 mAh NiMH

batteries available for testing and the low battery light came on even before I had finished burning a single DVD! I would suggest that this unit will serve you best when you have an external power source available but don't have the space or the desire to drag along a full-blown laptop computer. An automotive cigarette-lighter adapter is available as an inexpensive option also. This burner is probably not something you'd want to drag along while backpacking in the bush! For that purpose, the DM180 would be a far better choice.

The DM220's somewhat sedate DVD burning speed clearly has a lot to do with power management and trying to squeeze out the most life from a set of batteries. Even so, it is still the fastest portable DVD-burner of its kind according to EZPNP. It's just too bad there wasn't an option to run the burner at a faster speed when it is supplied with external power since, as far as I know, the specifications of Teac burner being used state that it is technically capable of faster speeds. Who knows... maybe a future firmware update might improve its speed? One additional point I just considered is that at the next highest burning speed, the data transfer rate from the vast majority of memory cards may actually not be able to keep up with the DVD burning speed, so perhaps power consumption is not the only limiting factor here.

One last minor annoyance is using multi-session DVDs with Macintosh systems. I am not entirely sure, but I don't believe multi-session discs are actually part of the official DVD standard. For this reason perhaps, multi-session DVD-R, DVD+R and DVD-RW discs will only show their first session when inserted into a Mac OS X computer, although they do seem to work fine under Windows XP. However, the good news is that a multi-session DVD+RW disc will indeed show all of its sessions - I have tested this under OS X v10.2.8 (Jaguar), v10.3.9 (Panther) and v10.4.2 (Tiger). Therefore, Macintosh users will probably want to stick to using DVD+RW discs in the DM220. Luckily, with the continuing price drops on optical media, DVD+RW discs are getting quite inexpensive and since they can be erased and reused, it won't cost all that much for a Mac user to buy the small supply that they would need when traveling with the DM220.

The DM220 includes a very nice padded carrying bag with extra room for its AC-adapter, cables, manual and some batteries. I have been using a portable CD-burner for a year and a half now and while it has been reliable, I am getting tired of dragging around the 40 plus CDs that I might burn during a 2 week photography trip - that's a lot of weight and bulk. With this burner I could reduce my load to only 7 writeable DVD+RW discs and achieve the same capacity - I think I may be due for an upgrade soon! Please call us if you need any further information on the DM180 or DM220 from EZPNP.

**Mike**

## Calendar

### 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](http://www.ppabc.com)

### Abbotsford Photo Arts Club Annual Seminar

Sunday October 15 2005

Largest one day seminar in Canada!  
Michael Grandmaison is the featured speaker.

[www.apac.bc.ca/seminar.htm](http://www.apac.bc.ca/seminar.htm)

### Open House at Emily Carr

November 4th and 5th.

More details to follow.

### Albert Normandin "So Far"

Please note! Albert Normandin's show has been postponed. Watch here for upcoming details.

We are:

## Beau Photo Supplies Inc.

1520 West 6th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C.  
Canada, V6J 1R2

**Tel: 604 734 7771**  
Fax: 604 734 7730  
[www.beauphoto.com](http://www.beauphoto.com)

**Digital Imaging Department**