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April 2002

Spring
has finally
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BEAU
PHOTO

Lowepro "Pro Roller Mini" Sale

These great carry-on size Lowepro Rollers are perfect for the travelling photographer, wedding photographer or the photographer who does not want to lug around a lot of gear on his/her back. The Lowepro Roller Mini is ideal because it fits under most airline seats yet holds a lot of gear. This multi-format system comes with a tripod holder, a system to attach a camera bag on top, a front attachment system, 7 pockets and a removable insert.

Exterior size: 13W x 7.5D x 19H inches
Interior size: 11W x 4.25D x 15.5H inches

Reg. \$234.50 Now only \$194.50



DF ALBUM UPDATE

We have received our first shipment of the 905 Opera Album in bone colour leather. The 8x10 covers are available now and 5x7 should be in stock by this fall. This prestigious bonded leather album is enhanced with a fine embossed border. Drop by the shop or come visit us at the PPABC convention in Parksville and have a look for yourselves.

Barb Batchelor Album Sales Manager

News From the Back Room

It's that time again for me to ENLIGHTEN you with all the wonderful deals available at Beau Photo.

Metz 45 CL 1	\$399.95
Metz 45 CL 4	\$525.95
Metz 50 mz 5	\$879.95
Metz 60 CT 1 "Super Special"	\$799.95

Here are some great used camera deals

Contax G2 kit (silver) body, 28mm, 45mm, 90mm, tla 140W/ all manuals and metal hoods.	\$1999.95
Canon D 30 body w/ vert. grip and batteries, software etc.	\$2499.95
Hexar auto focus rangefinder w 35mm f2.0	\$699.95
Canon 1n w /E1 booster	\$1499.95
Leica R 400mm f5.6 & 560mm f5.6 (sold together)	\$1199.95

Chris ProSales

COLD LAMINATE SALE! PPABC Show Special April 1st to April 15th, 2002

10% discount off all in-stock laminates
+ free shipping!

**EXTRA SAVINGS ON OVER STOCKED
CANVAS FINISH**

All in-stock canvas laminate - 25% off

	Reg.	Sale!
Canvas Sheets	\$ 219.50	\$ 164.50
Canvas Rolls	\$ 249.50	\$ 186.50

PPABC Annual Convention April 5th - 9th

There's still time to register for the Professional Photographers of British Columbia annual convention. This year's event is taking place at Tigh-Na-Mara Resort in Parksville. Speakers include: Marc Bailey, Garret Nose & Paul Hayashi, John Lehmann, Courtney Milne, Pat DeJourdan & Bob Hewitt. This outstanding line up of speakers will entertain, educate and inspire you to be a creator of better images, whatever your skill level or style of photography. For more information including registration, check out the website: <http://www.ppabc.com/crossings/index.htm> Oh, and don't forget to check us out at the Trade Show on Monday, April 8th. See you there!

Carol Polloni

Manager

Digital News

Canon S900 and S9000 Printers

Soon to be available are the Canon S900 and S9000 inkjet photo printers. These remarkable new printers offer incredible speed, superb image quality and excellent print longevity. The S9000 allows for paper sizes up to 13x19 inches and the S900, 8.5x11 inches. Both printers use the same ink cartridges and there are 6 of them. Yes, 6 individual ink cartridges, one per colour, and based on Canon's specifications, the S900 and S9000 should be the cheapest desktop inkjet printers to operate.

Can you say fast...? How about these numbers: a borderless 8x10 print in about 1 minute and, for the S9000, a 13x19 print in 3.5 minutes! And this on the highest quality settings! The new Canons print at 1200x2400 dpi and have over 3000 nozzles in their print heads which helps to make them the fastest photo inkjet printers to date. For comparison, an Epson 890 takes almost 10 minutes to do a borderless 8x10 on its 1440dpi print quality setting.

The inks used in these new Canon printers are archival dye-based inks. This translates into an estimated 25 year longevity on certain photo grade archival papers, and this essentially equals the current Epson dye-based printers. As far as image quality goes, the new Canon printers seem to be right up there with Epson's offerings. The slightly bluish shadows and cool colours that I noticed on the older Canon photo printers seem to be absent and now the blacks are rich and dense. It looks like some driver tweaking has occurred and it is a noticeable improvement.

Colour print samples that I examined closely showed very sharp and fine detail and I couldn't detect any visible inkjet dots, even in highlight areas. The quality actually seemed better than I would have expected from a 4 picolitre droplet size. I haven't seen any B&W prints using just black ink, but if the earlier Canon inkjet printers are any indication, the S900 and S9000 should be significantly finer-grained and smoother looking than the current top model Epson printers. Even the last generation of Canon printers was better in this regard.

The printers connect via USB only, so those PC people out there can't use their parallel ports anymore. Software support seems good and there are already Mac OS X drivers available. As far as estimated pricing goes, the Canon S900 should sell for about \$595, which is a fair bit more than the Epson 890 and the Canon S9000 should sell for about \$779, which is close in price to the Epson 1280.

Are there any advantages to still buying an Epson? Well, both the Epson 890 and 1280 are able to print on banner paper but the Canon printers don't, so those photographers wanting to print large panoramics might be disappointed. Epson also has a much broader range of photographic paper types, including matte, semi-gloss, lustre and high gloss, whereas Canon is currently only offering matte and high gloss surfaces. The good news, though, is that apparently most Epson paper types work beautifully with the Canon inks, so this may be a non-issue. However, I would need to test this myself before recommending that Epson paper be used with these new Canon printers.

It looks as though finally Epson has some serious competition in the photo printing market. Look for the S900 to be shipping in early April and the S9000 is slated to arrive in May sometime.

Mike Mander

Digital Imaging Dept.