

BEAU NEWS



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Photographic Pulp

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PHOTO

SENSOR CLEANING UPDATE

A minor revision to my sensor cleaning article is overdue and I will endeavour to update it soon. In the meantime, here are a few changes and/or additions. One major change is **the direction of wiping**. Back when I wrote the article originally, manufacturers of swabs were recommending wiping first in one direction, then turning the swab to its other side then wipe in the opposite direction. Well to be honest, I'm not sure what is being recommended these days, however I definitely recommend always swabbing in the same direction! Sometimes there are stubborn little spots that you end up pushing across the sensor and changing swabbing directions means that they get pushed first one way, then the other. By swabbing in the same direction, the chances are much better that they will get pushed off the sensor and out of your way! You might think that eventually there will be a build-up of "gunk" at one edge of the sensor, however so far I have not seen any issues with this, and neither has our rental dept. Kathy cleans her cameras a lot and so far, so good with the "**same direction swabbing**" technique.

The other thing I want to mention, is the "**Corner Swab**" from Visible Dust. These are very narrow little swabs that you can use to swab the very edges of the sensor, which sometimes seem to have a lot of initial residue from the manufacturing process. I recall the first time we had to clean our (then) brand new 1Ds Mark II in our rental dept. It took me 14 swabs to get the sensor totally clean! The main reason being that the full-width swabs I was using kept dragging in small particles from just outside the edge of the sensor. Now that Corner-Swabs are available, one can first clean the edges with a few of these narrow corner swabs (1 drop of Eclipse or Visible Dust fluid on these only please!) and then follow up with the normal full-width swabs with no more small spots showing up at the edges. Note that one usually only has to do this at the first or second cleaning of a brand new camera. Once you have the edges clean, you may never need to use the corner swabs again!

Canon TS-E 24mm f/3.5L II Tilt-Shift Lens (New - \$2389)

We now have this new lens in our rental department. I've had a brief chance to test it out. Putting it simply, it is a huge improvement over the first generation one, but... it is simply not quite as spectacular as the new TS-E 17mm - which we still have not got for rentals yet unfortunately! Basically, the new 24mm is not absolutely tack sharp in the corners, wide-open with no shifts, like the 17mm is. However, once you stop it down a little, it does get very good. One problem with the old 24mm TS-E, was that it had large amounts of **chromatic aberration (CA)**. This is especially annoying as there is no easy fix for CA if you are using the lens shifted since the image circle will be off-centre and there will be more CA on one side of the shot than the other. None of the tools in Photoshop, Lightroom or most other programs will allow for (easily) correcting off-centre CA. The good news is that this new 24mm TS-E, like the 17mm tilt-shift, is **virtually free of CA** so this will no longer be an issue. Also, flare is exceptionally well controlled, as it also is in the new 17mm, but since the front element is not a huge bulging piece-of-glass like on the 17, you can actually use filters and it comes with a (somewhat minimal) lens hood. The new 24mm is still somewhat difficult to buy (get your name in the queue if you want one) but at least now you can rent it and try it out first!

Fuji S200EXR Digital Camera

Fuji has announced several new **P&S** cameras and while I normally do not write about that category of camera, there is a new one of interest, and I do have a certain fondness for several of Fuji's recent models. As I may have written about in the past, I personally have a Fuji **S100fs**, a super-zoom P&S with a **28-400mm IS lens**, **CCD raw capability**, very good high ISO for an **11 megapixel (MP)** P&S sensor, Fuji "**film simulation**" modes and much more. Fuji billed it as the ideal "nature photographers camera" and while it is certainly no digital SLR in its capabilities, I have used it a fair bit and travel with it as a backup camera should my Canon DSLR fail. Indeed, when lens changes are inconvenient, I'll even use it at times when I do have my Canon system with me, since having a high quality 28-400mm equivalent zoom is awfully handy!

For some samples of what a high-end bridge-camera can do, have a look at my website here for six image galleries and a brief “review” of the Fuji S100fs:

<http://www.sublimephoto.com/exhibit/2008.html#fuji>

To give a little more background before describing the new camera, Fuji recently introduced their **F200EXR** compact P&S, with a good **28-140mm zoom** and, most importantly, their new **EXR Super-CCD sensor**. What is unique about the EXR sensor is that it has three distinctive modes: a normal 12 MP **high-resolution (HR) mode**, an **interleaved hardware pixel-binned (SN) mode** optimized for low-light/high-ISO shooting that's 6 MP, and finally a **high-dynamic-range (DR) mode** that is also 6 MP. Uniquely, the DR mode will effectively capture two exposures, exposing half of the 12 MP sensor for a shorter duration, and then the other 6 MP interleaved half for the full duration. Then these two interleaved 6 MP exposures are combined into one high dynamic range shot. The DR mode on the F200EXR is amazing (I do own one myself) and gives a dynamic range that is essentially on par with a tweaked raw file from a digital SLR.

Now, with the background info out of the way, that brings us to the new **S200EXR**. To put it simply, the S200EXR is basically an S100fs with the new EXR sensor in it. Since the 12 MP EXR sensor is ever so slightly smaller (physically) than the 11 MP Super-CCD that was in the S100fs, the zoom range is now slightly different, amounting to 30.5-436mm... so not quite as wide but a little longer. It is using exactly the same lens. Although Fuji gave us a brilliant new sensor, alas they also took away something: the new camera no longer has the tilting rear LCD display. Although the argument is that with the new wide viewing angle LCD, it is no longer needed and in fact, the mechanism may be one of the more fragile aspects of the otherwise very solidly built S100fs. But still... I would have really liked to see them keep the previous tilt mechanism. In any case, this Fuji promises to be a superb “bridge” camera, especially given its pedigree of taking the best features from two proven-to-be-excellent cameras. It should be shipping in September for \$589 as a special order item for us.

2 Pro Sales ^{Ken}

Lighting Blow Out

Profoto has reinvented the Compact line of strobes, with the DI monolights.

The **Profoto DI Air** is fully digital, not only on the display panel, but also in the flash output control circuitry. This is to ensure a consistency in flash-to-flash color temperature and flash energy. The dual mode **SMPS** capacitor charging technology ensures the flash-to-flash precision which is essential for today's photographer. The **7 f-stop power range** gives all the power the demanding photographer needs for creative freedom, to shoot with high speed and full open lens. Controls are easy to use, the unique built-in reflector gives you full control and minimizes stray light and it is designed for use with softboxes and umbrellas, with or without additional reflectors.

Short flash duration gives images a crisp feel and the fast recycling time means that you never have to wait for the flash. You will always get the image quality that you want. All this is in a package that offers

1/10 f-stop control, giving you the confidence that the images will be exactly as you want them.

The new Profoto Air system enables you to control and trigger your flash **remotely** from as much as **300 meters (1000ft)** and replaces the sync cable. Connect the DI with the new **Profoto Air USB**, to a PC or a Mac and gain full control of your entire studio flash system via wireless communication.

We have a limited amount of demo units at a blow out price, so don't delay!

Reg.	\$3359.95
Blowout Sale	\$2549.49

Lightrein Demo Sale

Lightrein has a great Portrait kit, and we have a great sale price on the demos units we brought back from the Image Explorations event. These units were only **barely used** in classrooms and they come with a **full 2 year warranty**.

Reg.	\$1430.95
Demo Sale	\$1287.49

3 Nik Software

The **Complete Collection** includes all of Nik Software's latest award-winning plug-in software titles for Photoshop®, Lightroom® and Aperture™ including: **Dfine® 2.0**, **Viveza™**, **Color Efex Pro™ 3.0**, **Silver Efex Pro™**, and **Sharpener Pro™ 3.0**. All products now feature Nik Software's patented U Point® technology, giving photographers the most powerful tools for precise and natural photographic enhancements and corrections without the need for complicated selections or layer masks.



Dfine 2.0

Best-in-class noise reduction to improve the quality of virtually every photo. Features new U Point technology for unprecedented selective control.



Viveza

The most powerful tool to selectively control color and light in photographic images without the need for complicated selections or layer masks.



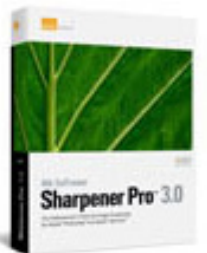
Color Efex Pro 3.0

52 photographic filters with over 250 effects for professional quality images.



Silver Efex Pro

Complete power and control to create professional quality black and white images in one convenient tool.



Sharpener Pro 3.0

The most advanced, powerful, and complete sharpening solution for photographers.

**Beau Photo now
stocks Nik software!
Call for more info
and pricing**

4 **FOCI Photobook** Jason



8" Portable Digital Photo Album **\$239.99**

Introducing a great new product by DIGITAL FOCI!!! The Photo Book is a portable portfolio that packs an **eight inch, 800x600 pixel LCD display** set in a pleasing faux leather case. This is an attractive alternative to other portable image viewers that tend to be cold, metal devices that do not convey the warm images within.

The Photo Book has **4GB** of **internal memory**, which is enough to hold thousands of jpeg photos at 800x600 resolution. The images can be loaded directly into the device via the built-in card readers (Compact Flash, SD, SDHC, XD, MS, MS-PRO), USB flash drive, or from your computer connected through the USB port.

Most of the popular image formats (**jpeg, BMP, GIF, & TIFF**) are supported, along with some audio (**WMA, MP3 & AAC**) formats and

video (**MJPEG, MPEG-1 & MPEG-4 SP**) formats. A very wide selection of **RAW** formats from DSLRs & high end point & shoot cameras are also supported. Once loaded, the images can be zoomed, rotated & panned as they are displayed. One can even pan and zoom into the RAW images!

Your images can be all shown as one collection, or be organized into folders, with a preview thumbnail image. The photos can also be shown as a full-screen slideshow with user adjustable intervals, and even coupled with music streaming from the built-in speaker.

Battery life from the lithium polymer battery is a robust **2½ hours**, when viewing photos. Video and audio playback may decrease battery life. The Photo Book measures a svelte **10.5"(L) x 7"(W) x 1"(H)**, about the size of a small paperback book.

5 Rental Kathy

It's a busy summer season this year in the rental department so just a reminder to everyone to **plan ahead for your shoot** (when it's not a last minute job of course). There have been quite a few people who called on Fridays and the lenses they were hoping to get weren't available.

We have finally received some of the new lenses we've been waiting for. Come in and try out the **Canon 135mm f2L**, or the **Canon 400mm 5.6L** - a lightweight alternative to the faster long lenses, or a Canon 65 MP-E 5x macro lens - a very fun super macro lens. We now also have the **Nikon 1.4** and **1.7x teleconverters**. One more each of the great **14-24mm 2.8** and the **24-70mm 2.8**, and the **105mm 2.8 micro lenses**. Enjoy the sunny weather and make sure you make time to get out to shoot for fun too!

6 Albums & Folders Barb

In the good old summer time. Strolling down a shady lane sounds pretty good right now! Vancouver is experiencing an unusually warm Summer, so moving slowly and sticking to the shady spots is very appealing! I'll be on Vacation until August 10th. While I'm away, please contact Deborah, Dene, or Carol with your questions.

September is looming! Back to school sales have started, and my local high school's football team is already practicing (go, Pipers!). **Taprell Loomis** has introduced some new **Sport Mounts**; you can access the on-line brochure by going to TAP-USA.com. Select 'Professional', then 'Mounts'. 'Next' moves you through the pages, and there's a magnification icon at the foot of each page. Please note that 2 pages are displayed at a time. I have samples of many of these mounts on hand, and I can request others (it takes about 3 to 4 weeks for them to arrive) if you'd like to see how they present. If you've received this year's folder samples, I'd appreciate your feedback. Our goal is to offer new, attractive presentation solutions to generate customer interest, without breaking the budget (suggestions for next year's sets are welcome.) Travel safely.

7 Renaissance Albums Sarah

Hello.

Firstly, a great big thank you to everyone who attended the **Ninja Workshop** hosted by international award winning photographer's Dave & Quin Cheung of **DQ Studios**.

It was a fantastic turnout and I believe extremely well executed and inspiring. I hope you all got a lot from the seminar as I did. Also thanks to Ken Liu from Renaissance Albums and his lovely wife (who both graciously modeled for the shooting session) and Tomo of Langara College who also helped us out at the one day even. For those of you that couldn't make it, here is a link to DQ Studios website <http://www.dqstudios.com/>



The DQ Studios philosophy goes: "Educate your Client".

What else!

Oh yes, Renaissance Albums!!! I was coming to that, well the summer seems to be getting a little busier now the sound of wedding bells are in the air (though personally I think I would prefer to be married in the spring or autumn).

Many of you are probably aware of the **ROES** application for Renaissance's **custom albums**. For those of you who aren't aware or just need a slight re-fresher, please read thoroughly as this will help us track your album orders efficiently at the factory in New York etc, etc, etc...

ROES APPLICATION

The Renaissance ROES is for **NON SoHo Styler Users**. ROES is an easy-to-use application that acts as an online ordering system for Photographers to upload already designed files. It is user friendly and perfect for photographers who are looking for an easy way to submit pre-designed **Option B** orders. The application is at no cost to download but you will need to design your own album templates. Presently ROES works for the **SOHO Book**, **MERCER Book** and **FINE ART Album**. **GALLERIA Album** users can also build their album in ROES.

Please ensure you follow the steps that I emailed all custom album photographers and call or email me if you would like to receive further assistance on ordering albums using ROES.

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- Once your pages are designed and ready, go to the Renaissance Website or <http://www.renaissancealbums.com/member/signin.html>
- Click Members Tab and login with your Member ID and Password or Create a Member ID.
- Once you are logged in, click the SUBMIT ORDER tab at the top right hand side of the window. This will bring you to ROES, then go to Renaissance ROES Launch Website. Once the website is launched or uploaded onto your desktop you should be prompted to a 'Customer Information' box, or you will see at the top of the Renaissance ROES website a 'My Information' Tab – you can click on this.
- Set up your Customer Info - EXACTLY as instructed below.
- **PRO MEMBER ID: BEAU** – (Your studio name)
- **STATE** (we are still waiting for a Canada option (please use **NY** for now)
- There is a field in the ROES application for you to enter in your **PO#**, just as you do when ordering an album using the SoHo Styler Software and before FTP'ing. **Remember** to add the **PO#** given to you in the field supplied as this will ensure your album is being processed as it should and I can track it nice and easy throughout it's production and during shipping!
- Please Remember to email me your **album specs**:
e.g. 12 x 12 - 10 page 20 spreads - Fine Art Album - Gramercy Leather etc.
- Once you've finished your order in the ROSE application go to Order Completion. Under payment, put "**credit card on file**" (that way it goes to the Beau Photo account)

Please email me for a PO# and include your album details BEFORE you log onto the Renaissance website. (IMPORTANT: You must be connected to the Internet to use ROES)

Please note: Since ROES is new to custom albums there may be some glitches in the software not yet recognised by Renaissance. If you come across anything please email me with the details as this will help Renaissance to correct the flaws a lot quicker.

If you have any questions regarding ROES and need me to guide you through the process especially if you are a first timer please feel free to contact me.

If you wish to discuss Renaissance Albums or would like a SoHo Styler Software demo please try to avoid Mondays and Fridays as these are more hectic days at BEAU due to Rental returns etc. If you can't, then come in as early in the morning as possible. Thank you! Happy summer days and BC Day Celebrations!

8 Events

PPABC's VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION SEMINAR & SALON COMPETITION 2009

Seminar speakers are world class photographers Albert Normandin and Dave Montizambert. Normandin will discuss the challenges of working on advertising and corporate industrial assignments, while Montizambert will demonstrate dramatic lighting for people and small scale still-lives, streamlining digital workflow and post production, as well as many of his creative Photoshop techniques. For registration contact Marilyn at photos@alberni.net
<http://www.ppabc.com>

Where: Black Rock Oceanfront Resort, Ucluelet BC
When: Sept. 27th & 28th

There will be a 40% off regular fall rates at the Black Rock Oceanfront Resort. Seminar participants will be entitled to the special rate for an additional 4 days before or after the convention, so take advantage of the offer for a little post-

summer vacation in a spectacular setting. There are a limited number of rooms set aside for the participants, so you may want to book your accommodation soon.

DARTON DRAKE CANADIAN TOUR

This program will deal with portrait photography as an art form and expression of the human spirit. The class will cover composition, lighting, emotion, passion, and different flavors of people's personality.

August 14, 2009, 9am-5pm

Langara College (lunch included)

To register contact Bev at 780-483-4275 or es@ppoc-alberta.ca

<http://www.ppoc.ca>

GREAT CANADIAN SHORELINE CLEANUP

Join the Beau Photo Team at the TD Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup!

The International Coastal Cleanup engages people to remove trash and debris from the world's beaches and waterways, to identify the sources of debris, and to change the behaviors that cause pollution. The gang at Beau is pitching in and we have sponsored a private clean up for Hadden Park. Hadden Park is located between Kitsilano Dog Beach and Vanier Park, Shoreline and Park area between Maple St and Chestnut St. Site includes both sides of the spit by the wooden boat marina in front of the Maritime Museum. Please join in and have fun helping the environment and hang out on the Beau Photo deck afterwards for a well deserved BBQ lunch.

Saturday, September 26th, 10:00am sharp at Hadden Park.

BBQ to follow at Beau Photo. To sign up e-mail

admin@beauphoto.com or call Carol at 604-734-7771

Space is limited.



Cover photo Mike Mander