

Cottonwoods

Fall presents some great opportunities to photograph the changing colours with fewer crowds on the roads and in the parks.

In this newsletter, read about some great new and used cameras and lenses you can take along that will help you get the perfect shot.



Beau Newsletter - October 2020

New Nikon Z Series 50mm 1.2S lens and 14-24 2.8S lenses • Canon Road Trip - Try the EOS R5 and R6 • New Profoto A10 flash • Sigma, Canon and Fujifilm lens rebates • Raincovers! Keep your gear dry • Used 35mm Point and Shoot cameras • Used Leica M4 camera • more...







We are currently operating with our regular hours but with limited clients in-store.

Appointments are no longer necessary to come to the shop but it's not a bad idea if you need to talk to one of our salespeople as we are limiting the number of clients in the store at one time in order to adhere to the important physical distancing requirements.

As per the City of Vancouver requirements, you must respect the 6 foot minimum distance in-store and please don't come if you aren't feeling well or if you if should be self-isolating. There will be hand sanitizer that you must use when you come in the store. We would also encourage you to bring and wear your mask while you are shopping.

Curbside delivery and shipping are always available if you don't want to come into the shop. Please see our webpage to see further details as to how we are working hard to keep everyone safe!

Stay safe and take care of yourselves. By working together, we will get through this!

Follow us for the most up to date news from Beau...











Test the new Canon EOS R5 and R6 in person!

The Canon Creator Lab is going mobile. We'll be popping up in cities across Canada to give you a chance to take the new EOS R5 and R6 for a spin.



Once you secure your spot, you'll have half an hour to try a camera in different shooting environments, get

support from our Canon specialists, and save your pics onto your personal memory card.

You must register for this event to secure your spot. See information on the Canon Road Trip website.

See the Canon EOS R5 and R6 near you...

Kelowna

- Summerhill Pyramid Winery | Monday, October 5
- Manteo Resort Waterfront Hotel | Tuesday, October 6

Vancouver

- Queen Elizabeth Park | Thursday, October 8
- VanDusen Botanical Gardens | Friday, October 9
- Prospect Point Picnic Area | Saturday, October 10

DIGITAL

MIKE M.

NEW!

Fujinon XF 50mm f/I.0 R WR

The hotly anticipated XF 50mm f/1.0 lens didn't quite make it in time to review for this newsletter. I hope to have a sample lens soon, so watch for a review with image samples on our blog in a few weeks! My intention is to compare it to the XF 50mm f/2, the XF 56mm f/1.2 and the XF 90mm f/2 in a portrait scenario.

Fujinon XF 16-80mm f/4 R OIS WR

I finally have a production sample of this lens and have been trying to test it for several weeks now. Now that the weather and air quality has improved, I do hope to get out soon and take some more images with it before returning the production press sample back to Fujifilm. Watch for a full review and some sample images coming soon on the Beau Blog!

NEW! Nikon Z-Series Lenses



In mid-September, Nikon announced two interesting new lenses for their full-frame mirrorless Z-System.

First off is a Nikkor Z 50mm f/1.2S (\$2,799), a fantastic new fast normal lens, great for full-body shots and environmental portraits, while still allowing a great degree of subject isolation... and without totally breaking the bank on purchase price! With Nikon's amazing Z 58mm f/0.95 Noct

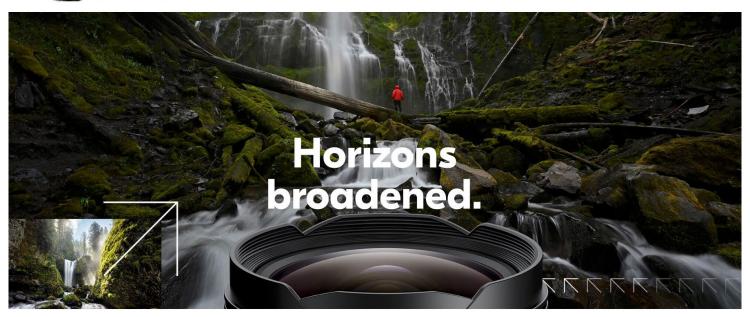
coming in at a whopping \$10,999, a price too high for most people to even consider, the new Z 50mm f/1.2 has a far more manageable price-tag! Looking at some of Nikon's published sample images, it looks like the new 50mm will be very sharp and have buttery smooth background blur for minimally distracting backgrounds when shooting at wide apertures. Nice!





NIKKOR Z 50mm f/1.2 S All the detail. All the sharpness.

Hone your creative vision with the sharpest, fastest 50mm prime we've ever created. Extraordinary rendering power across the entire frame. Vast f/1.2 maximum aperture. Breakthrough autofocus. Liberating distortion and glare control. Weatherproof build. All empowered by Nikon's revolutionary Z Mount, a system that shines with fast lenses. Dream it, and the NIKKOR Z 50mm f/1.2 S will do it.





NIKKOR Z 14-24mm f/2.8 S The ultimate ultra-wide zoom.

The views through the NIKKOR Z 14-24mm f/2.8 S are simply epic. Ultra-wide perspectives that challenge our sense of scale. Clarity that transports you. A level of detail you have to see to believe. All in the shortest, lightest and most versatile 14-24mm f/2.8 constant aperture zoom available. Optimized for landscapes, cityscapes, night skies, architecture, interiors and environmental portraits—this is the lens for taking it all in.

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The second lens that was announced is a **Nikkor Z** 14-24mm f/2.8S (\$3,199),

completing their f/2.8 pro zoom lens trilogy. Sample images also show this lens to be extremely capable. For example, a night sky shot taken with a Nikon Z7, the new zoom at 14mm and wide open at f/2.8, shows near pinpoint stars in the extreme corners of the frame. That is very impressive performance



for an ultra-wide f/2.8 zoom shot wide open! This all-new modern optical design shaves off about 35% of the weight, compared to the AF-S 14-24mm f/2.8G for DSLRs, and even has a small removable lens hood and filter threads for screw-on filters since the front element is nearly flat and not at all bulbous. That said, the filter thread diameter is very large and unusual at 112mm, so getting compatible filters will likely not be easy. Currently our suppliers don't seem to offer anything larger than 105mm...



We are currently taking pre-orders for these exciting new Nikkor lenses. The 14-24mm will start shipping at the end of October, but the 50mm f/1.2 won't arrive until December sometime.

OCTOBER REBATES

Canon

For October, Canon has two distinct rebate periods. First off, here are the **October 2nd to 15th** rebates...

EOS R Kit w/24-105mm STM - \$2,299 (SAVE \$400) EOS RP Kit w/24-105mm STM - \$1,399 (SAVE \$200)

EOS 6D Mark II Body - \$1,499 (SAVE \$200)

Secondly, we have the **October 2nd to November 5th** rebates...

RF 24-105mm f/4L IS - \$1,249 (SAVE \$200)

RF 24-240mm f/4-6.3 IS - \$999 (SAVE \$200)

EF-S 60mm f/2.8 Macro - \$549 (SAVE \$50)

EF-S 17-55mm f/2.8 IS - \$799 (SAVE \$400)

EF 11-24mm f/4L - \$3,899 (SAVE \$100)

EF 16-35mm f/2.8L III - \$2,499 (SAVE \$300)

EF 16-35mm f/4L IS - \$1,299 (SAVE \$100)

EF 24-105mm f/4L IS - \$1,249 (SAVE \$200)

EF 70-200mm f/2.8L III IS - \$2,699 (SAVE \$100)

Fujifilm

Fujifilm has some rebates that started back in mid September and are running now until November 5th...

GFX 50R Body - \$4,725 (SAVE \$975)

X-T3 Kit w/XF18-55mm - \$1,900 (SAVE \$500)

X-T3 Kit w/XF16-80mm - \$2,025 (SAVE \$575)

X-E3 Body - \$675 (SAVE \$225)

X-E3 Kit w/XF18-55mm - \$1,075 (SAVE \$225)

X-E3 Kit w/XF23mm f/2 - \$1,025 (SAVE \$275)

XF 35mm f/1.4R - \$675 (SAVE \$105)

XF 56mm f/1.2R - \$1,150 (SAVE \$150)

XF 90mm f/2R LM WR - \$1,075 (SAVE \$175)

Nikon & Sony

Unfortunately neither Nikon, nor Sony, have any rebates in early October, but there should be some new rebates kicking in later in October for both companies!



SAVE \$200* on Canon full-frame EF and RF travel zooms!



was \$1,449 **SALE! \$1,249**



was \$1,199 **SALE! \$999**

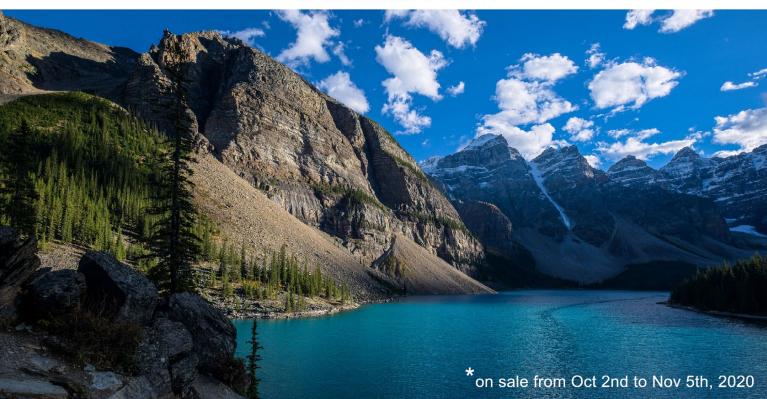


was \$1,449 **SALE! \$1,249**

EF 24-105mm f/4L IS II

RF 24-240mm f/4-6.3 IS

RF 24-105mm f/4L IS



PRO SALES

KEN S.

Profoto AIO



On September 23rd Profoto announced their newest addition to their off camera flash lineup: the Profoto A10.

The Profoto A10 is an upgraded version of the Profoto A1X on camera flash that features their new Bluetooth enabled technology AirX. This means that you can download new firmware for your A10 wirelessly via the Profoto app. Even better, you can both capture and control the A10 using your smartphone. So from now on you can unleash the full power of the A10 no matter which camera you use, making the Profoto A10 a truly future proof product.

The Profoto A I O, like its siblings, is designed with built-in light shaping capabilities. It has a round head that gives a natural light spread with smooth fall off, and thanks to the smart magnetic mount you can be creative with the full range of Profoto "Clic" light shaping tools. "Clic" light shapers can easily be stacked for more creative options. It also offers a built-in LED modeling light that makes it easy to position the light and understand how light and shadows work together. Like all Profoto products, the Profoto A I O is intuitive to use



and you don't need to read a long instruction manual to understand how it works. The user interface is large, clean and clear. AirTTL remote is also built in, and with AirTTL and HSS you can create professional results. With the remote you can seamlessly connect to other Profoto flashes and control them easily from the A10.

The Profoto A10 is not only an on-camera flash, it's also very effective off-camera as a standalone unit. The A10 has its own Li-lon high capacity exchangeable battery that lasts up to four times longer than AA batteries with no performance fade, and a facility to recharge quickly - so you can shoot for longer with confidence. And the A10 can keep up with you because it recycles four times faster than other on-camera solutions — that's 1.0s at full power. Put simply, you'll never miss a shot.

EI-PT901230 Profoto A10 – Canon \$1495.00 EI-PT901231 Profoto A10 – Nikon \$1495.00 EI-PT901232 Profoto A10 – Sony \$1495.00 EI-PT901233 Profoto A10 – Fujifilm \$1495.00

In addition, Profoto has announced the new A10 Off Camera kits which includes the Profoto Connect for only \$100.00 more. It's a great deal since the Profoto Connect regularly sales for \$399.95

EI-PT901240 Profoto A10 Off Camera Kit Canon - \$1595.00

EI-PT901241 Profoto A10 Off Camera Kit Nikon - \$1595.00

EI-PT901242 Profoto A10 Off Camera Kit Sony - \$1595.00

SIGMA

GEARUP FOR THE SEASON

FIND THE SIGMA LENS
THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU
AT BEAU PHOTO! SEE
THIS NEWSLETTER FOR
SALE PRICING...

SHOP NOW

Photo by: Wataru Nakamura



EI-PT901243 Profoto A10 Off Camera Kit Fujifilm - \$1595.00

With the announcement of the new Profoto A10 there has been a price drop on the Profoto A1X. Now the A1X will be selling for \$1195.00 and the A1X Off Camera kits will be selling for \$1349.00

Sigma Rebates

Look for our Sigma Early Bird Promo running Oct.2-Oct.8 with great savings on Sigma lenses for Canon, Nikon, Sony and more.

Here is just a sample of what lenses are on sale:

Sigma Art 18-35mm f/1.8 DC HSM Lens Sale (EF/F Mounts) Sale \$949.95 Reg. 1069.95 Save \$120.00

Sigma Art 28mm f/1.4 DG HSM Lens (EF/F Mounts)
Sale \$1429.95 Reg. 1829.95 Save \$400.00*

Sigma Art 28mm f/1.4 DG HSM Lens (Sony E Mount)
Sale \$1429.95 Reg. 1829.95 Save \$400.00*

Sigma Art 35mm f/1.4 DG HSM Lens (EF/F Mounts)
Sale \$999.95 Reg. 1199.95 Save \$200.00

Sigma Art 35mm f/1.4 DG HSM Lens (Sony E Mount)

Sale \$999.95 Reg. 1199.95 Save \$200.00*

Sigma Art 50mm f/1.4 DG HSM Lens Sale (EF/F Mounts) Sale \$999.95 Reg. 1199.95 Save \$200.00

Sigma Art 50mm f/I.4 DG HSM Lens Sale (Sony E Mount)
Sale \$999.95 Reg. 1199.95 Save \$200.00*

Sigma Art 85mm f/I.4 DG HSM Lens Sale (EF/F Mounts) Sale \$1449.95 Reg. | 1599.95 Save \$150.00

Sigma Art 85mm f/1.4 DG HSM Lens Sale (Sony E Mount)
Sale \$1399.95 Reg. | 599.95 Save \$200.00*

Sigma Art 105mm f/1.4 DG HSM Lens Sale (EF/F Mounts)
Sale \$199.95 Reg. 2199.95 Save \$200.00 *

Sigma Art 105mm f/1.4 DG HSM Lens Sale (Sony E Mount) Sale \$1999.95 Reg. 2199.95 Save \$200.00 *

Sigma Art 135mm f/1.8 DG HSM Lens Sale (EF/F Mounts)
Sale \$1699.95 Reg. 1799.95 Save \$100.00 *

Sigma Art 135mm f/1.8 DG HSM Lens Sale (Sony E Mount) Sale \$1699.95 Reg. 1799.95 Save \$100.00 *

Sigma Sport 60-600mm f/4.5-6.3 OS DG HSM Lens (EF/F Mounts) Sale \$2499.95 Reg. 2799.95 Save \$300.00 *

Many more lenses are on sale. Please call for details. *Special order item.

New Nanlite Forza 60B and Forza 200

Nanlite announces two new products to add the Forza Family - the Nanlite Forza 60B and Nanlite Forza 200 The Forza 60B is an interesting new upgrade as it now allows you to adjust the colour temperature while keeping the great CRI/TLCI rating. The Forza 200 will fall into the category of those who need a bit more power but don't want to make the jump to the Nanlite Forza 300.



The Forza 60B from Nanlite is a bicolor monolight style LED with remarkable light output relative to its small size. Weighing only 1.8 lbs, the Forza 60B employs a COB LED module with a variable color temperature range from 2700K to 6500K. With the included reflector, the Forza 60B outputs 13830 Lux of 5600K daylight-balanced light at 1 meter. All while maintaining a high CRI/TLCl of 98/95, ensuring accurate color rendition.

Quick Specs on the Forza 60B:

- Cooling: Active Silent Fan
- Size: $7.6 \times 4.1 \times 3.2 \text{ In}$
- Weight: I.8 Lbs
- ColorTemp: 2700K 6500K
- CRI: 96
- TLCI: 98
- Dimming: 0-100%
- Lumen Output 6500K: 5560 Lumens
- Lux @ Im w/55 Degree Reflector 5600K: 13830
- Power Source: 115V/6A
- Max Power Draw: 60w
- Mount: 5/8" Receiver with rotating yolk
- Firmware Upgrade: via USB

Battery Compatibility:

Sony V-Mount 14.8v Battery (not included, through battery handle)/ NP-F battery (not included, through battery handle)

Battery Run Time @ 100% (Approx):

1.9 hours (14.8V Sony V-Mount Style 160WH) 1 hour (2x Sony NP-F 750 Style Battery)

Nanlite Forza 60B - \$459.95

The Forza 200 from Nanlite is a monolight style LED engineered to give maximum output out of a minimal footprint. With a light head weighing only 4 lbs, the Forza 200 employs a COB LED module and a precision-engineered

reflector to emit 37540



Lux of 5600K daylight-balanced light at 1 meter. All while maintaining a high CRI/TLCI of 98/97, ensuring accurate color rendition.

Quick Specs on the Forza 200:

- Lightshaper Mount: Bowens Style
- Cooling: Active 20db Fan (Head Only)
- Size: $8.3 \times 4.5 \times 12.2$ In (Head Only)
- $5.5 \times 5 \times 11.9$ in (Controller)
- Weight: 4 Lbs(Head)
- 4.5 lbs (Total)
- Color Temp: 5600K
- CRI: 98
- TLCI: 97
- Dimming: 0-100%
- Lumen Output 5600K: 21460 Lumens
- •Lux @ Im w/55 Degree Reflector 5600K: 37540
- Power Source: 48V DC
- Max Power Draw: 200w
- Mount: 5/8" Receiver with rotating yolk and incorporated umbrella mount

Battery Compatibility:

14.4V-14.8V/12A Sony V-mount battery (120W output)

Battery Run Time @ 100% (Approx):

90mins 26V/12A Sony V-mount battery (200W output) - 60mins

Nanlite Forza 200 - \$1099.95

*special order item for the moment.

For a sneak peek into what other products Nanlite has coming have a look at the following

https://youtu.be/Q3TkV-TecLI

New in Used:



Used Nikon AF-S 200-400mm f/4 VRII lens with Really Right stuff Tripod mount

With original case, bag and caps. The AF-S NIKKOR 200-400mm f/4G EDVR II delivers unrivaled

speed, consistency, low-light performance and image quality in the most demanding situations. An advanced lens that

draws peak performance from advanced FX-format D-SLRs, it's an ideal choice for photographers who want to keep their gear to a minimum while photographing sports or wildlife. \$4000.00

Used Ice Light LED



The Original Ice light by Westcott has stunning light quality in an ultra-portable form. The original Ice Light is one of the industry's most popular tools for on-location lighting. The unique wand shape allows you to create amazing images \$599.00

Used Gigapan Epic 100 and Epic - Robotic Camera Mounts from GigaPan. Capture phenomenal depth and clarity in multi-gigapixel panoramas with the versatile Epic and EPIC 100. Based on technology developed by NASA for the Mars Rover, the EPIC 100 is strong enough to hold a camera and lens combinations up to 3.0 lbs (1.36 kg). With the GigaPan Stitch software, these photos are efficiently combined into a seamless panorama that can be easily uploaded to GigaPan.com, where you can view, share, embed, tag, and print your images...

Used Gigapan Epic 100 \$150.00 Used Gigapan Epic \$100.00





Don't forget about our try before you buy program! Try something out that is available in our rental department before you decide to buy. If you love it and want to buy one within 30 days, you can receive up to two days of the rental cost as a credit toward the purchase. Ask us for more details and if restrictions apply.

Sell your used equipment!

Do you have used equipment in good condition that is begging to be loved by someone? Sell it and make a little extra cash, or use it toward a new camera or lens you've been eyeing.



KEH is again having a buying event, but this time it will be done by e-mail and will be ongoing! Make a list of the equipment you would like to sell, along with a note about the condition it is in, and send it to Ken at prosales@beauphoto.com. Your equipment will be evaluated, and you will then bring in the items that KEH is interested in for an inspection by their local rep. You will either get a cheque or a store credit that includes a 10% bonus that you can use here at Beau toward anything you like. Call or e-mail if you have any questions.







ACCESSORIES

MEGHAN S.

Rain Covers!



It's that season again and it seemed to come upon us very fast this year...but don't let the rain keep you from doing what you love and taking photos this winter! We have you covered! (It's our favourite pun to make, so we'll never stop making it.)

We have a range of rain covers for your camera here at the store, from simple to elaborate, there is definitely something for every need. Here's a look at what is available in store to keep your gear dry!

Op/Tech Rainsleeve -

This simple rain sleeve is great to

keep in your camera bag as an emergency cover or if you know you will only be out shooting in the rain for a small amount of time. It is an easy to use specially created plastic bag with a drawstring closure



that fits snugly around the end of your lens. Each package comes with two sleeves and we have two varieties available,

one with a space for a flash and one without.

Original Rainsleeve - \$8.95 Flash Rainsleeve - \$10.95

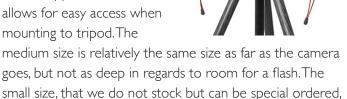
Manfrotto Elements Cover -

This more robust rain cover is great for the times when



you know you will be spending a lot more time outside exposed to the typical winter elements and need a bit more coverage. This cover comes in three sizes, two of which we stock in store. The large size features enough

room for a pro DSLR with lens up to 70-200mm with a large clear window to view back of camera and allow for on camera flash. A full length double zipper on bottom allows for easy access when mounting to tripod. The



Manfrotto Elements Cover Sm (special order) E-690 - \$69.95 Manfrotto Elements Cover Med E-702: - \$83.95 Manfrotto Elements Cover Lg E-705 - \$94.95

is sized for a smaller mirrorless camera system.

ThinkTank Hydrophobia – Our most comprehensive rain cover is the Hydrophobia from ThinkTank. This cover will really keep your gear dry for all day outside shoots and allows for the most user friendly interface. It comes in two sizes, depending on the length of your lens, and must be purchased in conjunction with a camera specific eye piece. Because of the individual eyepieces necessary for

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this particular rain cover, it makes using your camera with this cover much easier, as it allows you to look through your actual camera eyepiece and not through plastic. Like most ThinkTank products, the Hydrophobia is well planned out with the small extras, and includes a pocket for the eyepiece when not in use, as well as a lens cover and extra seam seals for extra protection from the elements.

ThinkTank Hydrophobia 70-200 - \$252.11 ThinkTank Hydrophobia 300-600: - \$273.38



System specific eyepiece (sold separately): \$59.74

Keep rain out of your bag!

Aside from actual camera raincovers, most of the camera





bags we sell also include their own rain covers to help keep all your equipment safe and dry. Peak Design is the only exception, as the exteriors of each of their bags are made with their own weather resistant material – a 400D double poly-coated DWR-impregnated nylon canvas shell, with a 900D waterproof bottom liner.

Super Sturdy Waterproof Protection



If you want to make sure that ALL your gear is fully protected all the time, rain or shine, safe from bumps and bruises, dust and just about anything you could throw at it (or throw it from) we also stock Pelican cases! These water proof, dust proof, crush proof hard cases come in a variety of shapes and sizes and we can special order any of them for you with your choice of interior liner. In store we stock 3 types, some with both padded insert or foam insert variations, all are rolling type cases. Special orders in most of the standard sizes generally only take approximately 5 business days or less to get in.



Pelican 1535 Air Protector case with *foam insert: \$335.95 (*also available with padded dividers as a special order)

Pelican 1620 Rolling Case with *foam insert: \$473.95 (*also available with padded dividers as a special order)

Pelican also makes a hard case to protect your memory cards with a water resistant seal and cut foam padded liner to help absorb shock and protect cards.



Two types available, for either CF or SD Cards - \$35.95 each







These ULTIMATE CANADIAN PHOTO NERD TOTES retail for \$25 and come with a mini PhotoED pin + a printed insert with the photographers short bios. They are made from recycled materials + easily fit 11x14 paper boxes! (and of course copies of PhotoED magazine!)

RENTAL NEWS

JASON K.

New in Rentals! FujiFilm Fujinon XF 50mm f1.0 WR

FujiFilm has just released their fastest lens ever and we will have it available for rent immediately! A 75mm equivalent on 35mm full frame, it is the ideal portrait lens if you want to isolate your subject from the background. Read more about this lens in Mike's article at the top of this newsletter! \$35/Day or Weekend

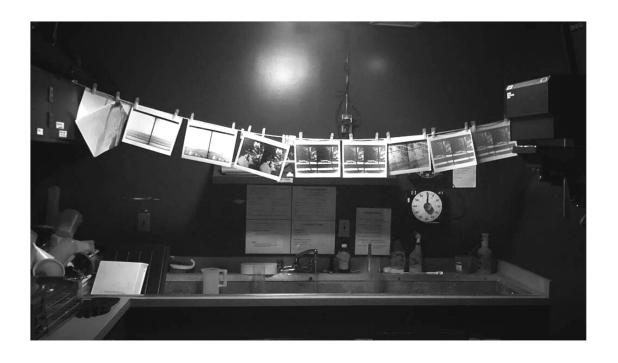
Thanksgiving Long Weekend Bonus Day

We will be closed for Thanksgiving on Monday, October 12, which means an extra bonus day for weekend renters! Pick up Friday afternoon, or at any time on Saturday, and return on Tuesday, August 4 by Ipm and just pay for ONE day!

This time of year is a great time for landscape and wildlife photography. The autumn foliage can really make your shots pop! Some great places to photograph autumn colours are Stanley Park, Queen Elizabeth Park, VanDusen Botanical Garden and many streets in and around Vancouver with deciduous trees lining the streets! Autumn is also an amazing time to photograph wildlife. Bald Eagles will be making their way south and will soon soar gracefully in our skies, and many species of migrating owls will be roosting in cozy hiding spots! Reserve your rental gear now!



West End Darkroom



Our Darkroom is **Temporarily Closed** but we will re-open along with the Community Centre in due time.

\$36/yr member fee

We offer darkroom access, workshops, and community of other film shooters.

Located in the West End Community Centre, 870 Denman

westenddarkroom.ca

FILM / ANALOGUE

NICOLE L-D./MUSTAFA

35mm Point and Shoot Cameras

Last month I was worried we had too few 35mm point & shoot cameras for customers to choose from, but clearly the camera gods were looking favourably on me, because this week we have LOTS of 35mm point & shoot cameras for customers to choose from, anyone who needs one will be spoiled for choice, here are few options among many!

Yesteryear's Yashicas



Yashica AF-J. 1987 - \$80.00 - An auto focus camera with a fixed 32mm f3.5 lens. It uses AA batteries and has a DX reader.



Yashica **T2 1987 - \$180.00** – An auto focus camera with a fixed 35mm f3.5 Carl Zeiss T* lens. It uses a 2CR5 battery and has a DX reader.





Images from Yashica T2 by Bruce Maclellan





Images from Yashica T3 by Nicole



Yashica T3 1989 - \$300.00 - An autofocus camera with a fixed 35mm f2.8 Carl Zeiss T^* lens. It uses a 2CR5 battery, has a DX reader , flash controls, self timer, and in addition to a regular viewfinder, it has a sweet waist level viewfinder.

A pair of Perfect Pentaxs:



Pentax Espio 120Mi 1998 - \$130.00 – A compact auto focus camera with a 38mm-120mm lens. Uses a CR2 battery; DX reader; metal body; flash controls; self timer.



Pentax Espio 115G 2003 - \$80.00 - A compact auto focus

camera with a zoom 38mm-115mm lens. Uses a CR2 battery; DX reader; flash controls; self timer.

2 Kool Konicas:



Konica Lexio 70W 2000 - \$150.00 - A compact auto focus camera with a zoom 28mm -70mm f3.4-7.9 lens. It uses a CR2 battery, has flash controls, macro mode, self timer, metal body and a sliding front cover that offers extra lens protection.



Big Mini SR BM-100 1993 - \$175.00 - A compact auto focus camera with a 34mm lens. It uses a CR123A battery, has a built in flash and has a close up mode for focusing in close. to your subject.

A few Cute Canons:



Canon SureShot WP-I 1994 - \$175.00-150.00 - A compact auto focus 32mm f3.5 lens. This camera is a waterproof to 5 meters.



Canon Snappy S (Black) 1985 - \$30.00 - A compact camera with a unique design. It has a 35mm f4.5 lens.



Canon SureShot 85 Zoom 1998 \$90.00 - A compact camera with a 38-85mm lens. It uses a 123A battery, has a self timer, and flash controls.

FILM/CAMERA TEST

MUSTAFA



Leica M4

Leicas have become one of those brands that carry an air of elegance, sophistication and pretentiousness, depending on who you talk to. Much the way certain brands have deviated from their tool making days to become producers of luxury goods, Leica has gone from being the professional's choice to a niche producer of high end digital and film cameras. And indeed, today buzz words such as heritage, moments, and the big one, art get thrown around a lot in their marketing and press releases.

There is no denying that Leica makes really good photographic equipment (ok, maybe not the rebadged Panasonic compacts or the Sofort), but when their cheapest interchangeable lens camera is still over \$5000, while still being blown away by their Japanese counterparts in terms of specifications, you can't help but wonder if there is a red dot tax that's also crossing over into all of their old models.

Case in point: the Leica M6. Even used and beat up examples go for at least \$1500 these days. It is probably, along with the M3, the most popular and well known of the pre-millenium Leica rangefinders due to the fact that it has a built in light meter as well as a design reminiscent of the old school Leicas (otherwise the M5 would be more

popular because that one has a meter too).

At the heart of it, Leica M film cameras are essentially mechanical, manual only rangefinders (with the exception of the M7 which also has aperture priority). Out of all of them, from the original M3 to the present day M-A and MP, I would



argue that the M4 is the best representation of what Leica rangefinders are all about.

The M4 was released in 1966, to replace the aging M3 and M2. Confusingly enough, the M2 came after the M3, intended to be a budget alternative to the M3. (Sadly that's no longer true.) The M4 combines the best of those two cameras while also introducing some important improvements. For starters, let's begin with a contentious one. The M4, in my opinion, has the best viewfinder of all the Leica M film cameras. Some might say the M3 has the best with the 0.92x finder, but despite being the brightest, it only has framelines for 50mm, 90mm and 135mm lenses. The M2 adopted the 0.72 magnification viewfinder, letting photographers use 35mm lenses without goggles, as well as the standard 50mm and 90mm. The M4 took this and added the 135mm framelines, which are displayed simultaneously with the 35mm framelines. The later M5 took this and added a meter and shutter speed display. And of course with the M4-P onwards to this very day, all Leica M film cameras have the 28/90, 35/135 and the 50/75mm frameline pairings.

Why do I say this? In my opinion, the later viewfinders are too cluttered. While the M3 is of course very bright to look through, the M4 is not at all noticeably worse. It's neat and it's usable compared to other rangefinders (ahem, Nikon S3) and it's pretty. Then there's the rapid rewind crank, which is easier to use than the earlier, telescopic knurled knob. For some reason they went back to the older style knob in the present day M-A and MP for the sake of being

retro, but make no mistake, the rewind crank is easier on the fingers. And finally there's the one improvement that has been a mainstay to this day, and that is the quick loading system! Instead of fiddling around with a separate detachable spool like in the M3 and M2, you simply drop the film and its leader through some prongs. Its a lot quicker and more efficient.

There is one little thing that turned off Leica purists, however, and that was the introduction of plastic. It is only at three places, namely the frameline lever, the self timer lever and the film advance, but it was enough for so called Leicaphiles to decry the M4 as the start of Leica's downfall. Its absurd, to be honest, as the changes are so minor, but I have seen people state this online and in person. I personally prefer the folding advance lever anyway, as it doesn't jab into my ribs, but I was told they're not as reliable. Some people have it changed to the older style lever on their post M4 Leica bodies. This is really a matter of preference.



The one we currently have in store dates back to 1970, indicated by the serial number. For something that is 50 years old, it seemed to have just left the factory floor as it doesn't even have a scratch anywhere. Even the old leather case

does not seem to smell like an old attic. And to make sure it's in working order, its been looked over by a technician.

Leica M4 body - \$3400

There's also the first version of the **90mm Summicron-M f/2** that is in equally excellent shape. That one is going for **\$2000**.

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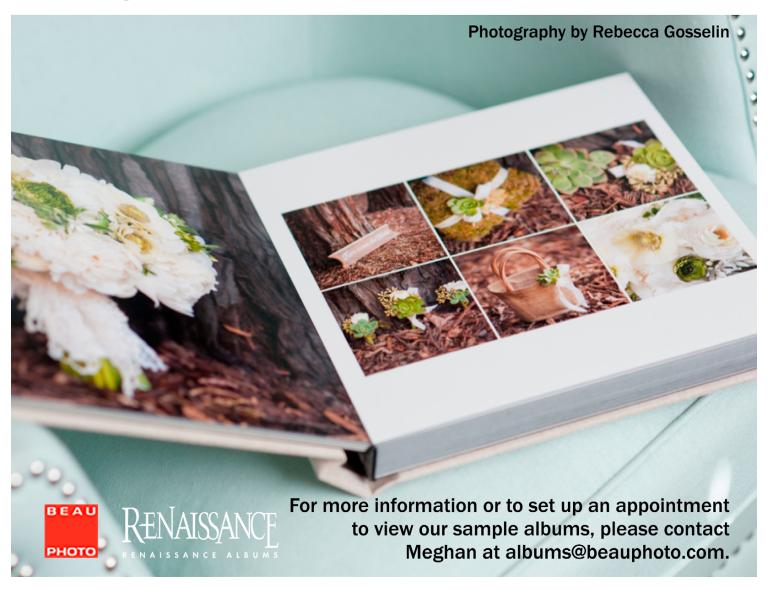
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