



## PHSNE Members Invited to Tour Iceland Sunday, June 3rd, 2018 at 1:30 P.M.

### Woman's Club Workshop, 72 Columbus St., Newton Highlands MA



Seljalandsfoss, Wikimedia.org

Join us for the last meeting of the 2017-2018 PHSNE season. The feature presentation will be a 2003 video about Iceland, part of the *Luminous Landscape Video Journal*. It is 56 minutes long, produced at the beginning of the end of the "film" era. PHSNE member Adrian Levesque will introduce and narrate the film. The cameras used to make the video were a Pentax 6x7 and a Pentax X-Pan, but the video shows awesome photos, deliberately taken with care when film was still king (with some conversation about digital).

Enjoy the film, the camaraderie of fellow photo history enthusiasts, and the refreshments. PHSNE does not meet during the summer months. The next meeting will take place in September, and the next issue of *snap shots* will be the September issue to be mailed in mid-August.

## A Lively Scene at *Photographica 87* April 14, 2018

Something new: PHSNE held a drawing for the opportunity to spend time alone at the dollar table, before it opened to the public. Details of the drawing were on PHSNE's Facebook page, and the winner was notified in advance. The lucky winner was able to take home everything he could fit in a large bag in five minutes.

Below: PHSNE member and dealer Ruud Hoff at his table

Upper right: Shoppers examine cameras



Above: Eager buyers line up at dollar table before it opens

Right: Winner of drawing has five minutes to claim his treasures



## More Bad News for Film Enthusiasts

Unfortunately, yet another popular film will be discontinued in the fall. Fujifilm announced it will no longer manufacture Neopan 100 Acros film after October 2018. It is simply not cost-effective for the firm to continue production. Though the Neopan 100 Acros 4x5 and 8x10 were already slated for elimination, it had been hoped that Fujifilm would continue to manufacture the 35 mm and 120 versions; however the entire line is going to be discontinued.

Photographers who wish to continue shooting this film should purchase all they can while supplies last.



Petapixel photo

The manufacture of black-and-white photo paper will be phased out the following year. Additional details about the manufacturing changes, can be found at <https://petapixel.com/2018/04/06/fujifilm-officially-killing-off-acros-film/>.

## PHSNE Membership

*New members are invited to join for half the rates for the first year.* Regular PHSNE membership (U.S. and Canada) is \$20 for students, \$40 for individuals and institutions, and \$45 for a family; foreign membership is \$50. Join or renew online at <http://phsne.org/join/> or send a check in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank or dollar denominated international money order. Members should check their expiration date on the *snap shots* mailing label before sending in dues.

Send payments, changes of address, and other contact information, to Joe Walters Jr, PHSNE Membership Chair, 47 Calvary St., Waltham MA 02453. (Call: 617-826-9294; email: [membership-chair@phsne.org](mailto:membership-chair@phsne.org) ; or use the Web form at <http://phsne.org/application/>).

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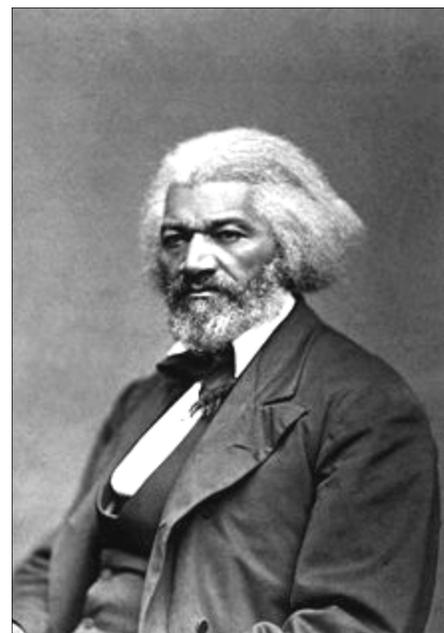
## Picturing Frederick Douglass

“Who was the most photographed American in the 19th century? Photography was still new enough (invented in 1839) that an answer can be given — and photography was already so popular that the answer is significant. Celebrity, whether merited or not, always says something about the society that sustains it.

The obvious answer to the question is Abraham Lincoln. It’s also a wrong answer. Wikipedia shows 67 photographs of Lincoln, 60 of them portraits. There are no fewer than 164 discrete portraits of our man. And this being the 19th century, it’s inevitably a man we’re talking about” (<https://tinyurl.com/yb9bfdau>).

The Museum of African American History in Boston is featuring *PICTURING FREDERICK DOUGLASS: The Most Photographed American in the Nineteenth Century*. The museum’s website notes that Douglass was fascinated by photography and sat for portraits whenever possible, recognizing the value to promoting his cause.

“Many of the exhibition’s photographs were unpublished, forgotten for decades, and previously unseen by contemporary viewers. Several were taken here in Boston. Together, the images trace Douglass’s visual journey from self-emancipated man to firebrand abolitionist and elder statesman. His



wikipedia.org

visual and stylistic evolutions narrate a photographic autobiography across a half-century of history.” Exhibition image list and additional Douglass resources are available at <http://maah.org/exhibits.htm>.

Besides the portraits, the exhibit features historic materials including books, newspapers, historic photographs, handwritten letters, digital maps, and interactive displays. The exhibit will be on display through December 31, 2018.

## Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century 0 Graphic Camera

A most unusual camera to hit the U.S. market during the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was the No. 0 Graphic Camera, manufactured by Folmer & Schwing Mfg. Co., of New York City from 1909 to 1923.



In 1887, the company was founded as a partnership between William Folmer and William Schwing. The firm started out manufacturing gas lighting fixtures and Sterling bicycles. In 1890, it was incorporated, and in 1896, began manufacturing cameras to complement the growing interest in cameras mounted on bicycles. The first cameras introduced were the cycle graphic and graphic cameras. In 1898, the firm introduced several Graflex cameras, including a twin lens camera and studio cameras, which launched the firm into a full line of camera manufacturing.

The company was dissolved in 1905 and taken over by George Eastman, who purchased the company and moved it to Rochester, NY. In 1907, The Folmer & Schwing Co. became the Folmer & Schwing Division of the Eastman Kodak Company where it remained until 1926.

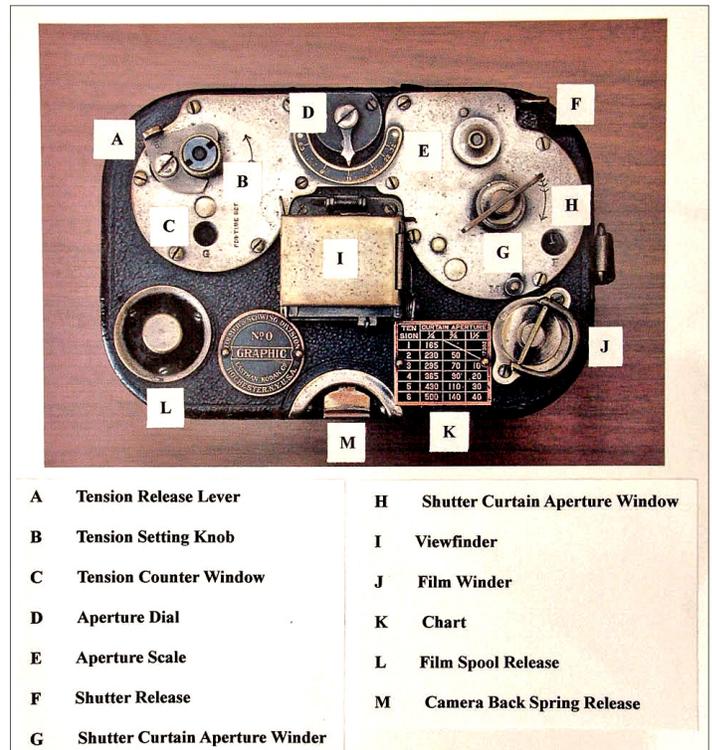
The 0 Graphic measures 5" x 3 1/2" x 3 1/4" and weighs 25 oz. The box-shaped camera was designed as a simple (not so much) and high quality fixed focus camera, taking exposures of 1 5/8" x 2 1/2" on No. 0 Kodak roll film (equivalent to Kodak 121 roll film). Cost new was \$40.

Constructed of mahogany & aluminum and covered in Morocco leather, the No. 0 Graphic has a f/6.3

Zeiss Kodak Anastigmat lens and Graflex focal plane shutter, providing speeds from 1/10 to 1/500 of a second plus time exposures. Shutter speed is determined by setting of two tension controls. One determines the speed of the curtain, the other determines the opening size of the curtain aperture which consists of 3 settings; 1/4, 3/4, and 1 1/2 inches. Once combined, the chart on top of the camera (K) indicates the shutter speed.

An aperture dial and scale are located at the top toward the front of the camera. Viewing is done through a collapsible view finder with mirror, capable of pivoting, permitting the taking of photographs at right angles. The mirror contains crosshairs for easy alignment of the image.

One can only imagine how awkward and cumbersome it was to operate this camera, but its design and function only add to its fascination and desirability as a true vintage collectible. Considering this model camera sold for several years, it must have been extremely popular with the public in spite of its shortcomings.



In 1926, Kodak was forced to divest itself of the division, which was spun off forming a new company, the Folmer Graflex Corp. William Folmer passed away in 1936, and in 1945, the company changed its name to Graflex,

~Richard Berbiar, PHSNE member

## Students Treated to 3D Presentation



PHSNE member John Woojtowicz shares his expertise and vast knowledge of historic photographic processes with students at schools near his Rhode Island home. Recently, he did a 3D presentation for a history of photography class taught by Rachel Villari at Johnson and Wales University in Providence.



Another recent presentation was for an art class at the Moses Brown School, also in Providence. John notes that teacher Kris Street's approach is interesting because she team teaches with a chemistry teacher.

~Photos by Rachel Villari

### PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month, September to June, at 1:30 p.m. preceded by an open meeting of the PHSNE Board at 11:00 a.m.

**Upcoming meetings:** PHSNE does not meet in July or August. Details of the next meeting will be in the September issue of *snap shots*.

### Driving directions to Woman's Club Workshop, 72 Columbus St., Newton Highlands MA:

From I-95/Rt-128 exit 20 take Rt-9 East toward Brookline/Boston. Turn left at Woodward St, right onto Lincoln St, and left onto Columbus St. WCW will be to your right. The WCW is about 1.4 miles inside 128.

Coming west on Rt-9 from Boston, turn right on Walnut St then left on to Lincoln St, then right onto Columbus St. The WCW (#72) will be to your right.

Limited time parking rules do not apply on Sundays. Park on Columbus or Lincoln. There is a public parking lot on the other side of Lincoln opposite the Church.

### Public transportation:

See <https://mbta.com/>

### Connect to PHSNE Online and by email:

PHSNE's Web site is online at <http://phsne.org>. See <https://www.facebook.com/PHSNE/> for items of PHSNE interest. Comments are welcome, so join the discussion of photo history. Visit <http://phsne.org/archive> for PHSNE history and *snapshots* issues. Scheduling changes due to weather conditions or other factors will be posted on this website.

Stay connected to PHSNE via our emails: a *snap shots* e-copy, and *Photographa* show announcements. Sign up at <http://phsne.org/emails>.

## Websites of Interest

<https://sfi.usc.edu/news/2018/04/21921-rare-armenian-photographs-now-available-iwitness> Project SAVE Armenian Photograph Archives is proud to partner with the USC Shoah Foundation-The Institute for Visual History and Education, that provides access to testimonies of survivors and witnesses to the Armenian Genocide, Holocaust, Nanjing Massacres, and Genocides of Guatemala, Cambodia and Rwanda.

<https://fstoppers.com/film/take-tour-behemoth-kodak-complex-video-240536> Kodak Park exists no longer, but you can still tour the factory where Kodak film was made.

Mark S. Johnson, retired editor of *The Daguerreian Annual*, produced a 123 page complete index of the 1990—2015 issues. A pdf is available (free) upon request. Email [MrDaguerre@comcast.net](mailto:MrDaguerre@comcast.net).