

Dan Burkholder, Digital Pioneer

Teaches Tips, Tricks and Techniques of Digital Negatives



"Hanging Peak, Australia"
by Dan Burkholder, 2005

In the September Edition

- Dan Burkholder to teach two Digital Negative workshops
- September Workshop Special
- This is Remarkable Stuff
- Lewis and Clark Passed by Here
- Image of the Month
- Faces of an Older America
- Back in Stock and New Items

Editor's note: All type in blue is linked to another site. All images are linked to larger versions.

The 2005 Formulary Workshops are underway. To select your class from the schedule, [click here](#) to download the application and schedule as a PDF, or [visit our website](#).

DAN BURKHOLDER TO TEACH TWO FORMULARY WORKSHOPS

The Photographers' Formulary will host two Dan Burkholder workshops this fall. As the photographer recognized as the developer of the digital negative, Dan authored the first edition of his book, "[Making Digital Negatives](#)" in 1983. That was in a time when few of us had a computer, and fewer still had any visions of using it to produce exhibition quality photographic images.

Dan returns to teach [Making Digital Negatives For Contact Printing](#) from August 28-September 2, and a second workshop, [Independent Study for Digital Negatives and Alternative Photography](#) from October 2-7.

In a piece for Ilford's "[Teachers' Lounge](#)," Dan wrote, "*In case you haven't noticed, photography is witnessing the most violent growth spurt of its short, 160 year history.*" Not only is photography growing, it is changing, and Dan is one of the prime agents of change in the movement from film-based to digital photography.

The argument rages on between film photographers and digital imagers. In astronomy, one of the last users of large scale glass negatives, the fight is over. Digital imaging is clearly the winner. But for the rest of us, though our voices may rise from time to time, there's still room for "discussion."

This is Dan's third year at the Formulary. As he says, "*As our film choices shrink almost daily, it's thrilling to make high-quality enlarged negatives right on our own desktops with modern inkjet printers.*" His first workshop will include all the tips, tricks and techniques of making digital negatives, as well as using those negatives to make classic platinum-palladium prints.

Dan must like it at the Formulary, because he wrote to us, "*Of all the places I teach (and this includes several continents),*

Photographers' Formulary has become my favorite venue for printing in the alternate processes like platinum-palladium, cyanotype, Vandyke, and other hand-coated processes."



"Ice Skaters at Christmas"
©2005 Dan Burkholder

If you would like to join Dan in either workshop, there's still time. Call 1800-922-5255, or send email to Formulary@Blackfoot.net. We'll take good care of you!

THIS IS REMARKABLE STUFF!

Care to try to make a digital negative for contact

printing? Clay Harmon has developed his own curve for a Pyro-like digital negative which will print well on an Epson 2200. If you want to take a crack at it, download [this file](#) and print it out. If you use a different printer you will have to "tweak" the color choices.



September Workshop Specials

Dan's still the man for our September Workshop Specials. Both of Dan Burkholder's fall workshops remain available for signup today at a special price of \$562.50; This is 10% off the regular price of \$625.00.

Dan's 1st workshop, "Making Digital Negatives For Contact Printing" runs August 28 -September 2. Learn how to make enlarged negatives for alternative process contact printing

from the expert in the field. Dan will teach you the techniques and artistry involved in creating perfect negatives for the various Alternative printing processes. There are only a few days left, so call us at 1800-922-5255 to signup now.



"Teepees on a Plain, Colorado"
Dan Burkholder, ©2005

Dan's second workshop, "Independent Study for Digital Negatives & Alternative Photography," runs October 2-7.

This workshop is especially designed for those photographers wanting individual attention for their specific goals, problems or ideas. Dan will be available for "one-on-one"

sessions, with critiquing, technical problem solving and project development as the primary goals. Float between Photoshop and the chemical darkroom all week long combining the best of digital imaging with alternative printing.

Clay developed a "ternary" graph (composed of three, or arranged in threes,) which he uses to select the color calculated to best filter out UV light in various Alternative Processes. To download a "jpg" file of the graph, [press here](#). To download a PDF of an article describing the uses of the graph, [press here](#).

LEWIS AND CLARK PASSED BY HERE

Condon, Montana is beautiful. With the Rocky Mountains to the east and the Mission Mountains to the west, and grassy meadows across a stream bed beneath deep blue skies and billowing white clouds, it takes little imagination to travel back to earlier times in our nation's history.

For example, 2005 is the 200th anniversary of the [Lewis and Clark Expedition](#). Financed by a very young nation, and mandated by its second president, Thomas Jefferson, to find a land route to the Pacific Ocean, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark marched off across the still unknown continent with thirty-three men of the [Corps of Discovery](#). With no roads, no maps, and no Mickey Ds along the way, they set out to explore the newly acquired [Louisiana Purchase](#), and to find the headwaters of the Missouri River. It took more than two years for Lewis and Clark to make the journey from St. Louis, Missouri, to the Oregon coast, and return.

It was a difficult journey, with all the fears and dangers of the unknown. As a guide, the expedition hired [Toussaint Charbonneau](#), a Frenchman who had traded with Indian tribes across the northern territories, and who was trusted by them. Charbonneau was married to a young Shoshone woman, [Sacagawea](#). Between them, Charbonneau and Sacagawea interpreted across four languages,

enabling Lewis and Clark to deal peacefully with the various Indian tribes along the way.

When the expedition entered Shoshone territory in Montana, Sacagawea was stunned to learn that the chief of the Shoshone was her own brother, whom she had not seen for more than five years. This remarkable coincidence, and Sacagawea's considerable negotiating skills, made it possible for Lewis and Clark to buy badly needed horses and supplies from the Shoshone for the last lap of their trip to the Pacific.

[Maps from the expedition](#) show forays into different parts of Montana. One exploration was into the [Bitterroots Mountains](#), to the south and west of modern day Condon. Condon did not exist, of course, when Lewis and Clark passed by, but it was only a few miles off their route.

For more information about the Lewis and Clark expedition, visit "[Lewis and Clark in Missouri](#)," or any of the many other webpages recounting this national adventure.

IMAGE OF THE MONTH



"Japanese Garden"
Peter Romanelli, ©2005

Early this summer, during the "[Making the Platinum Print](#)" workshop, Peter Romanelli printed out an image of his "[Japanese Garden](#)," which he had earlier taken at the Denver Botanical Garden. The original image on Scala B/W slide film was scanned, then during the workshop was converted to an enlarged digital negative. The negative was used to make a Gum Bichromate print, which is featured as our September Image of the Month.

"FACES OF AN OLDER AMERICA" ON EXHIBIT

In mid-July the New York Times published an article about "[Faces of an Older America](#)." Really the story of [Southworth and Hawes](#), a 19th century daguerreotype firm out of Boston, the article reviewed the current exhibition at the [International Center of Photography](#), (June 17-September 4, 2005)

There were a few "photographic images" produced before the daguerreotype, but you can probably count them on one hand. None of them achieved the fame or popularity of [Louis Daguerre's](#) process, which he



Hand-tinted Daguerreotype,
circa 1855
Courtesy Anthony Mournian

promoted quite handily, selling the rights to the process to the French government, then working to promote its use across Europe as Europeans clamored for these images of exquisite detail recorded on polished silver-plated copper.

Many of us have examples of the daguerreotype among our family photographs. That's not surprising because, according to the Times article, more than

three million daguerreotypes were made in 1851, the year of its greatest popularity. Most daguerreotypes were small, no larger than a 2"x3" contact print, and because there was no negative involved, the images were usually reversed. To have survived so long, those images must have been highly treasured. Perhaps most unfortunate, few daguerreotypes are signed or annotated to tell us whose image peers out from the tiny portrait, or even when or where the image was taken.

But that takes nothing from the Center's exhibition, or from the chance to see portraits of an America in its youth. The online version is extensive, and well worth a look. For more information about the exhibit, look here. The daguerreotype shown here is a family memory of a long dead ancestor of newsletter editor, Anthony Mournian.

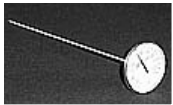
For information, or to reserve a room at the Standing Stones B Inn B, call 1800-922-5255.



A Cozy Room at the Standing Stones B Inn B

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From time to time we find ourselves out of stock of certain items. One of those has been the Dial Thermometer. We're happy to announce that they are back in stock.



These Dial Thermometers have a face of 1 3/4" diameter, and an 8" shaft, and measure up to 120° F.

[Item # 09-0005](#)

Price \$9.95



Another Old Faithful, the 500 ml graduated glass cylinder, is also back in stock after a long absence. Quickly and accurately measure up to 500 ml of those expensive chemicals.

[Item # 09-0082](#)

Price: \$28.95



Our Formulary Handi-Pads are a 100% pure cotton, non-woven fabric. They measure 4"x4," and come in packages of 20. These pads are lintless, soft, economical, absorbent and non-scratch.

[Item# 05-0130](#)

Price: \$2.50/package

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Photographs and stories are always needed for the newsletter. Please drop a note to the editor, Anthony Mournian, at mournian@sandiego.edu.

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