



...Looking Back,

Moving Forward...

December 1971

Lee Romero and other *New York Times* photographers discussed creating a new gallery to show their personal work. The first location was at 143 Prince Street near West Broadway. The Gallery space was very simple, it had no bathroom or office, but plenty of wall space. Some members cleaned up the large, second floor loft and created the Soho Photo Gallery. The founding members planned to have group shows as well as three solo shows monthly.



Tuesday evenings were the planning and rapping meetings. Shows were hung on a Saturday/Sunday. Sometimes there were guest speakers like A. D. Coleman and Gene Thornton.

1974

Soho Photo Gallery becomes incorporated as a not-for-profit foundation.

November 1974

Exhibition included work by Minor White. (The Alfred Stieglitz dedicated area exhibited work by Andre Kertesz.)



The Gallery rented a large loft space at 30 West 13th Street on the fourth floor.

1971

1972

1973

1974

THE FOUNDING MEMBERS

- Lee Romero
- Harvey Stein
- Catherine Ursillo
- Don Stickles
- Jill Freedman
- Mike Levins
- Frank Tartaglia
- David Chalk



Early members were Phyllis Fernandez, Atsu Kawabata, Donald Holoway, John Morris, Bill Bryant, "Beaver," Yvonne Kalmus, Sonia Katchian and George Alpert.



December 1973

The Gallery presented a super group show. All submissions were hung. Fifty-seven Gallery members participated in installation of over 400 photographs.

Downtown Development
A selected group of photographers, most of whom have not been noticed by name-dropping uptown galleries, have taken matters into their own hands and opened a cooperative gallery called SoHo Photo. They pay \$35 to join and \$10 a month thereafter and set their own prices (\$10-\$150). The exhibit opening February 3 features three one-man shows by Don Stickles (below left), Ed Lee and Eddie Adams, who would prefer to be acknowledged for works other than his Pulitzer-Prize-winning photo of the Vietnam prisoner with a gun pressed to his skull, and pictures by other gallery members on the theme "Survived in the City" (for which "Three Dicks and the Lady" at right). So far there are 70 members, including photographers from *The Times*, *UPI* and *The AP*, and some lab technicians, a lawyer and a carpenter. Photo: 143 Prince Street/Cipes Wednesday/Sunday, noon-5 p.m.



February 1974

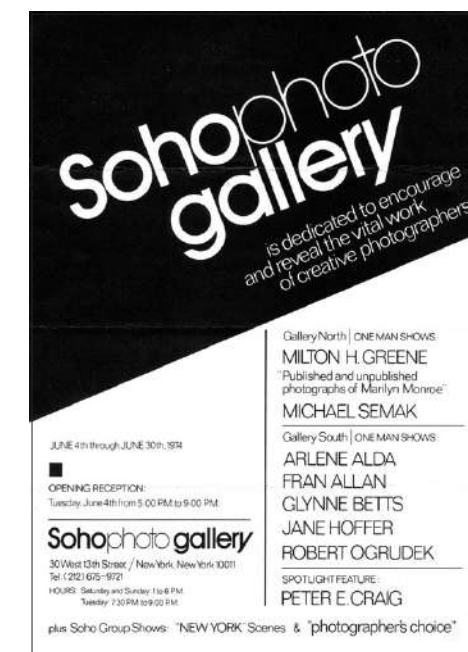
Exhibition of Edward Steichen's original and rare World War I photographs.

April 1974

Exhibition included Ansel Adams's *Portfolio VI*.

June 1974

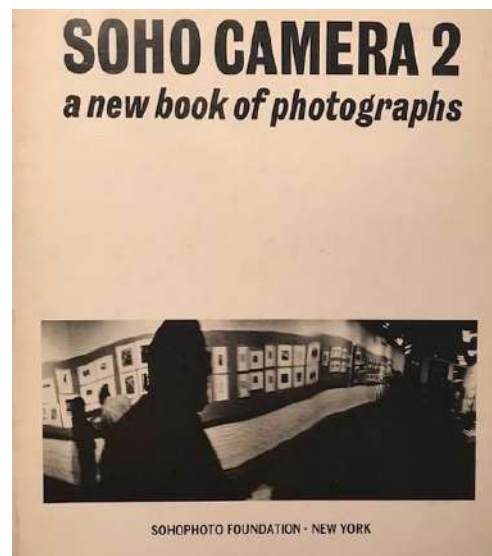
Guest speaker Milton H. Greene: *My Life in Photography and Shooting the Stars*.



Early monthly show announcement

October 1974

SOHO CAMERA 2
photography book published.



May 1975

The Alfred Stieglitz space in the Gallery exhibits August Sander's work of the 20s and 30s in Germany.

October 1975

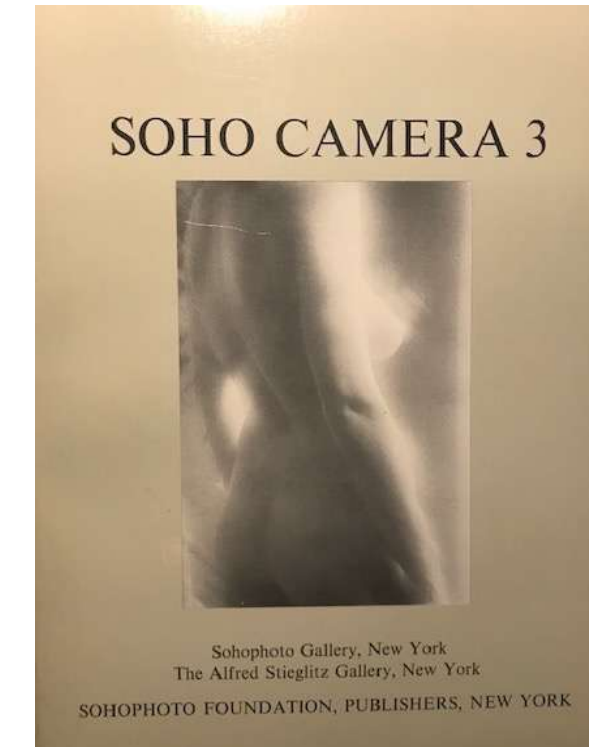
Ben Fernandez was a guest exhibitor and speaker. A photojournalist, Fernandez was the founder and head of the photography department at The New School.

September 1975

The Gallery rents a space above the Quad Theater at 34 West 13th Street. It required a total renovation; noisy work could only be done after the theater closes. A team of members worked from midnight to noon many nights to get the Gallery built.

September 1975

Peace and War exhibition, with solo shows by Hiroshi Hamaya & Don McCullin
SOHO CAMERA 3 photography book published.



1974



Informal gathering and guest presentation.

1975

Fall 1975

International Photo Show exhibited a selection of photographs from **SOHO CAMERA 2**.



Monthly show announcement postcard



Typical monthly show announcement

1976



December 1975

Cornell Capa Exhibition:
Margin of Life

Gallery moved to a loft space on the second floor at 34 West 13th Street. Photo: George Alpert in new space above the Quad theater.



April 1976

Norman Rothschild, *Popular Photography* magazine editor, showed color prints from the Xerox color copier #6500 – explorations of an exciting new process.

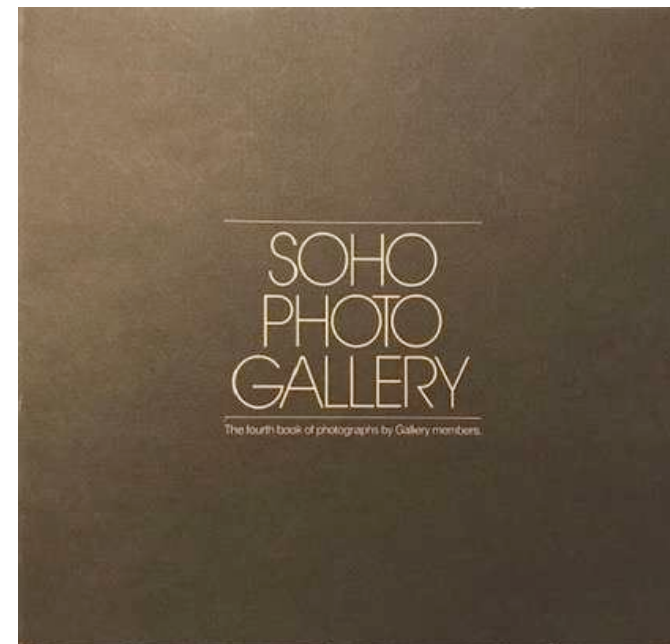
December 1976

Guest speaker: Cornell Capa, photographer, brother of Robert Capa, and founder of ICP. He was a friend and supporter of Soho Photo Gallery.



Cornell Capa in discussion with Gallery members at opening

October 1977



SOHO CAMERA 4, a book of members' work was published.



Typical monthly show announcement

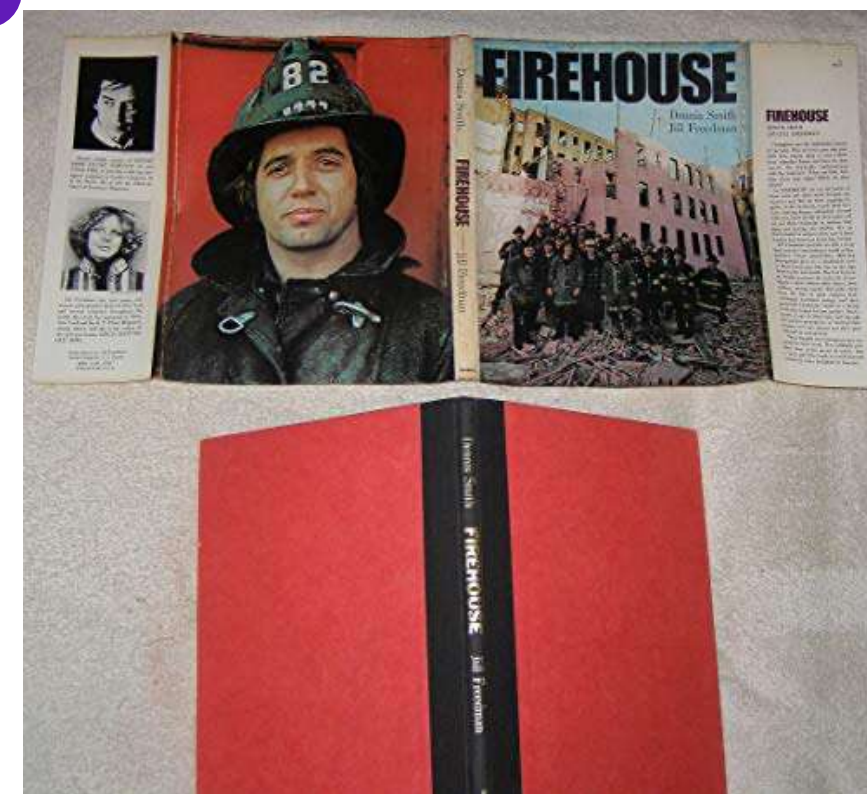
1976

1977

1978

March 1976

Marjorie Neikrug, a photo gallery pioneer, has a one-woman show of snapshots of China. After meeting Cornell Capa on a beach in Mexico, Neikrug launched her photography gallery in 1971 in a space designed by Charles Gwathmey. She lived upstairs in the townhouse where the gallery was located.



1977

Jill Freedman, one of the founding members of Soho Photo Gallery, published *Firehouse* in 1977. She spent several years following the daily lives of one FDNY engine company.



July 11, 1978

George Alpert says farewell to the Gallery after serving six years as its president.



May 1979

Urgent letter sent to all members about the future of the Gallery's relocation options. Proposed new location of Soho Photo Gallery is 72 Wooster Street in Soho. However, the plan does not materialize because of budgetary issues.



Review of the National Alternative Processes Competition in the *Newark Star-Ledger*... "Highlights work that may not be old but draws upon old techniques..."

December 1979

Opening reception planned for the new gallery space.

The first show at the 15 White Street location featured work by guests Joyce Baronio, Builder Levy, Mark Jury, and Nathan Farb, along with work of Gallery members.

1978

July 1978

Petersen's Photographic Magazine publishes an article by Peggy Sealton about cooperative galleries and the Gallery is mentioned.



Typical postcard show announcement

December 1978

Norman Borden's *The Face of 14th Street*



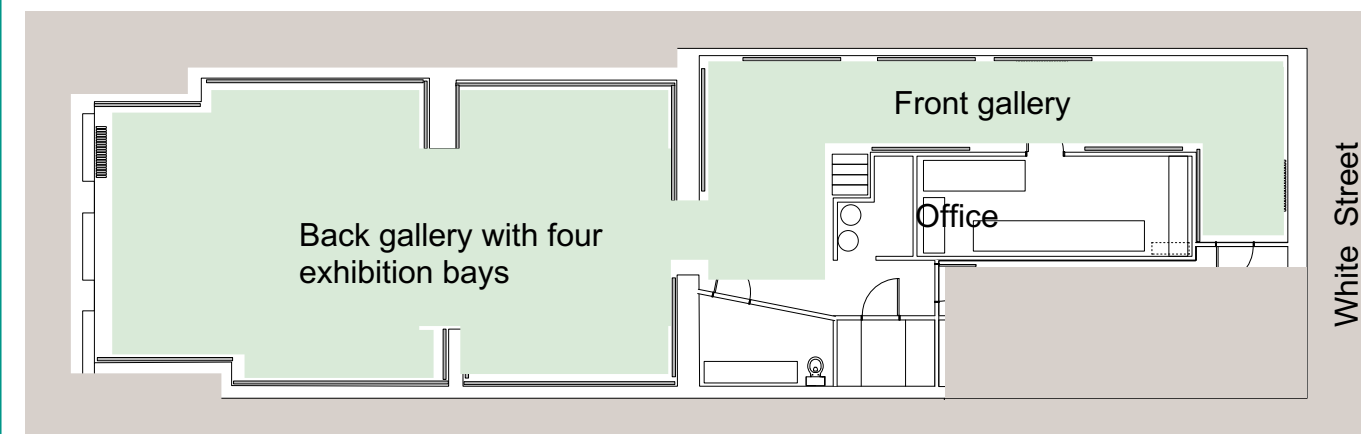
1979

David Chalk locates potential gallery space at 15 White Street in Tribeca. Conceptual drawings were prepared and a fundraising campaign gets underway.

A new lease is signed.

July 1979

Soho Photo Gallery at 15 White Street. Primary construction work took five months. More than 60 members worked spare hours; cooperative created nearly 400 feet of linear exhibit space, designed and installed the lighting and built a new restroom. Upstairs mezzanine level added two exhibition bays.



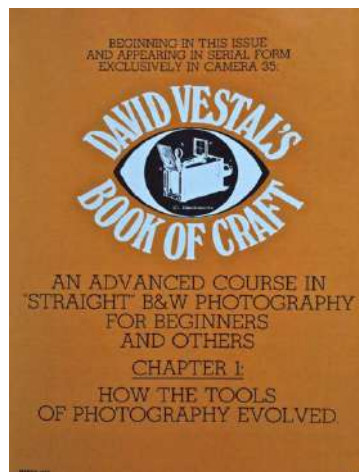
15 White Street: Lower level floor plan

1980

January 6th, 1980

Gala opening and inauguration of Soho Photo Gallery at 15 White Street. Speakers for Jan. 6th opening included Cornell Capa, Eugene Richards, and Arnsold Newman.

January 15th, 1980
David Vestal, speaker. His work is included in the public collections of the Museum of Modern Art; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum, and the Art Institute of Chicago.



Typical opening night reception as photographed from the balcony exhibition space.



Saturday mornings are reserved for monthly Portfolio Review Committee meetings to look at work presented by members to book shows and new membership applications.

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984

1985



Typical postcard show announcements



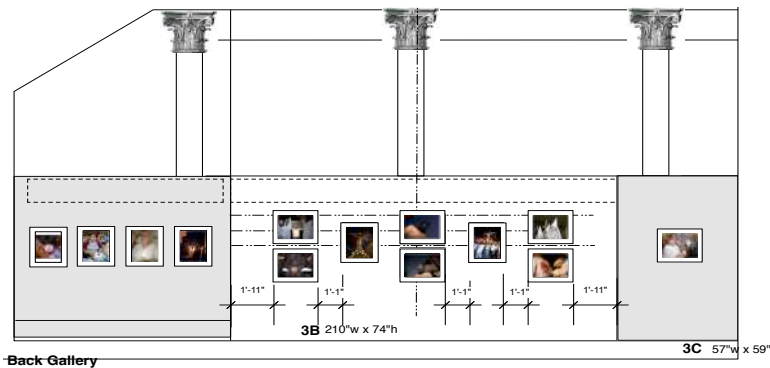
Monthly exhibition openings are popular and 15 White Street becomes a place for Gallery members and guests to meet.



Prospective members' work is reviewed by the Portfolio Review Committee. Applicants must submit a group of finished and mounted work.



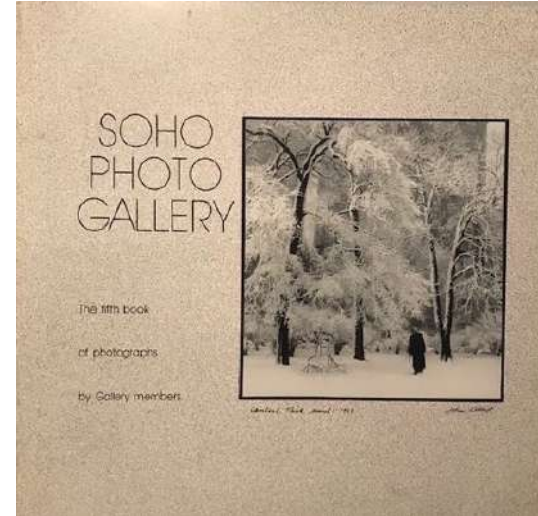
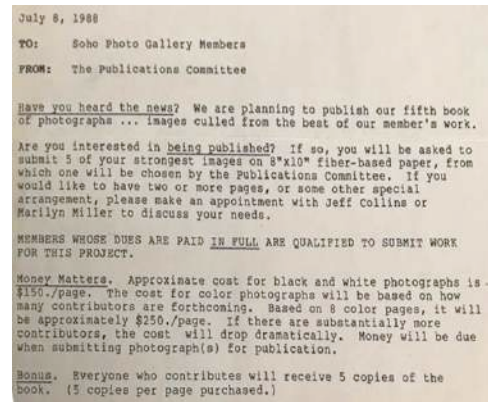
Typical postcard show announcements



Layout of photos proposed for a solo show

July 1988

Call for submissions of photographs for book publication:
SOHO CAMERA 5



Cover of completed book **SOHO CAMERA 5**. This is the fifth publication of gallery members' work.

June 1990

Soho Photo Gallery hosts second annual exhibition of student work from Brooklyn's Abraham Lincoln High School's photography program. Howard Wallach, Gallery member and photography teacher at Lincoln, presented student winners in the *Contest Worth Winning* at Soho Photo for over 10 years. *The New York Times* said contest had "prestigious judges like Jay Maisel, Howard Schatz, and Ben Fernandez, famed for his pictures of Martin Luther King."

<https://www.nytimes.com/1999/06/20/nyregion/making-it-work-teacher-who-imparts-a-lens-eye-view.html>



1986

1987

1988

1989

1990

1991



Monthly speaker events are a regular and well-attended part of the Gallery's agenda.

April 1988

Soho Photo Gallery Benefit Auction for photographer Keri Pickett raised \$11,000. Photographers who donated work included Gordon Parks, Cindy Sherman, Eugene Richards and Alex Webb.

March 1987

Guest exhibitor: Ben Fernandez's *Bikers*

1989

Several Gallery members visited the Soviet Union. Photographers from the Soviet Union visited NYC for "The Soviet Exchange" show and talked about their trip. The Moscow Show participants were part of the Soho Photo USSR/USA Exchange, a special show celebrating the Gallery's 20th Anniversary.



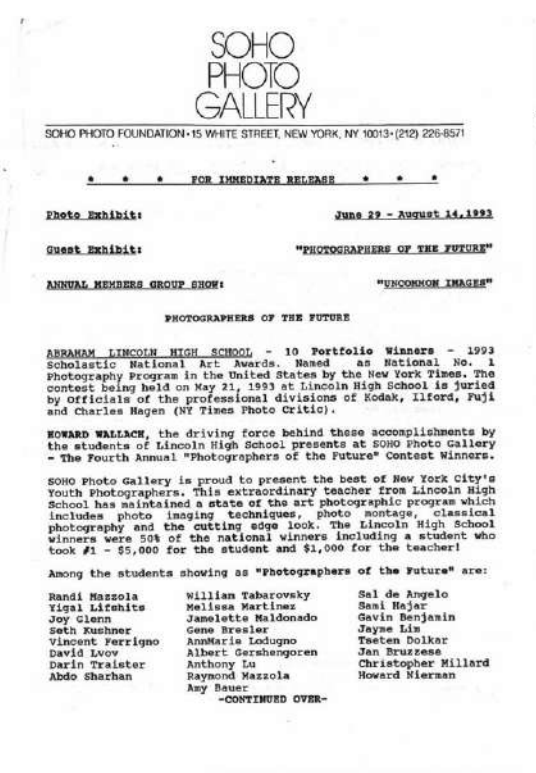
September 1991

Sandy Carrion created The Krappy Kamera Competition. Recalling how it all began, Sandy was at an opening in 1991 speaking with a few members about the beauty of lo-techiness. She asked other members if they were interested in a show featuring plastic cameras. Eighteen members signed on and the first KK show opened in 1992. It has become the most famous show of its kind and an important international competition for the Gallery.

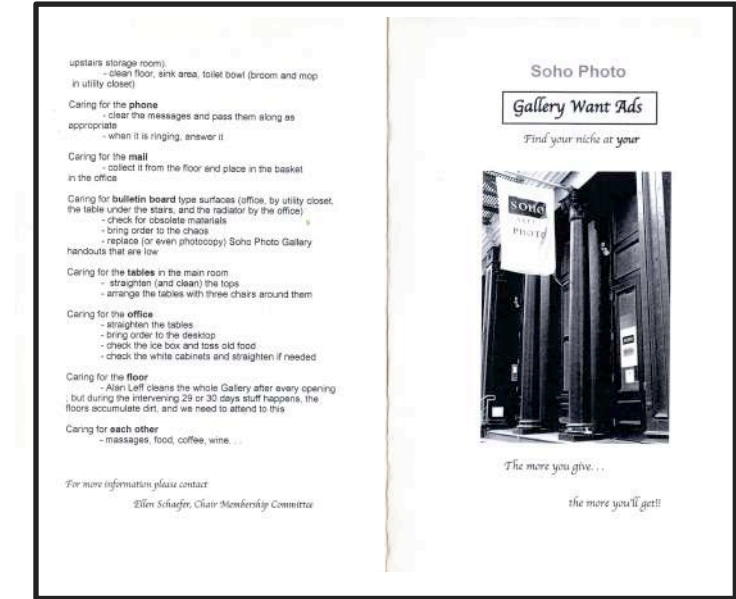


1993

In 1993, photojournalist Tequila Minsky, a friend of the Gallery, went on a human rights fact-finding trip to Haiti. This began a life-changing journey and love of the country and its people that has lasted 26 years. Her images include political unrest, women's health, economic issues and music festivals. She has talked about her work at the Gallery.



Salon evenings are an informal setting for members to discuss their projects.

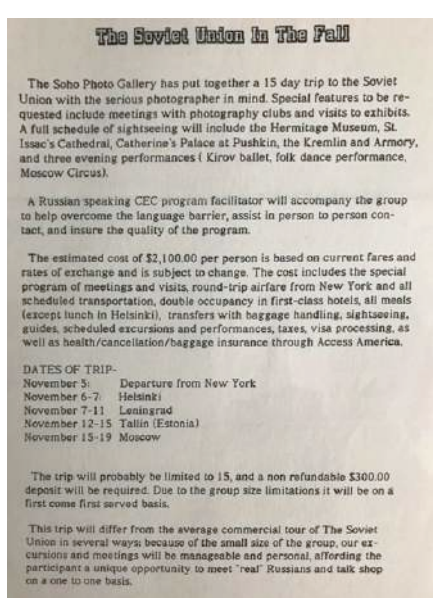


Help wanted ads: Since the Gallery is a cooperative, members do everything from managing gallery finances to sweeping floors.

1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997



Soho Photo Gallery celebrates its 20th anniversary.

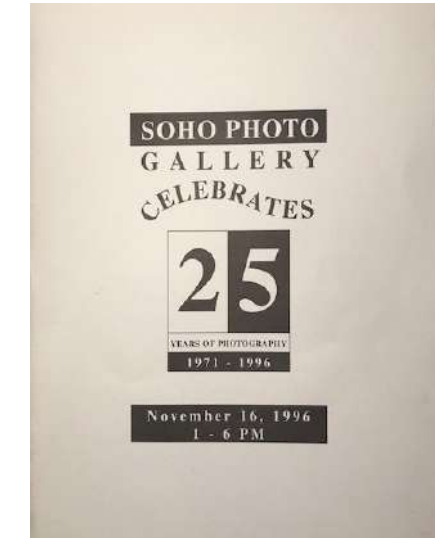


Letter to announce a trip to Russia that the Gallery is planning, open to members and guests.

December 1994
Soho Photo Gallery presents *Instant Gratification* group show with Polaroid process.



November 1996
The Gallery's 25th Anniversary Gala Celebration includes a benefit auction.



March 1997
Fifth annual *Krappy Kamera* Show

June 1997
The Gallery announced its second annual National Photography Competition.

November 1997
Xing Dan Wen exhibits *With Chinese Eyes*, photographs described as having a "bold-journalistic style".

March 1998

The Gallery presented its first digital photography group exhibition.



Monthly postcard show announcement



Sundays are hanging days for new shows.

October 2000

Gallery member Joan Lebold Cohen exhibited *Focus Iran*; her work explored the relationship of complex sacred and artistic traditions to the mysteries and contradictions of contemporary Iran.

June 2001

Exhibition of black and white landscapes by member John Custodio, photographed in South Carolina, Georgia, Washington State, California, Wyoming, and Utah.



Continuing through March 7, winners of the 2000 International Krappy Kamera Competition (Joan Lebold Cohen, Sandy Carrion, John Custodio, and Robert Roberts) exhibited their work at the gallery. March 8 - 14: Opening Reception, Tuesday, March 15: Special Event: The All Freedom Memorial Exhibition. March 16 - April 4: Opening Reception, Thursday, March 17: John Custodio On the Coast: Shrouded in History, Robert Roberts in Times Square, A Family History, B1 Men, The Jews, and Jane Barlow Lawyer Unleashed. Soho Photo Gallery Artists: Great Show, Thanks!

September 11, 2001

Ground Zero is near the Gallery. An exhibition to remember 9/11 was planned for November 2001.



1998

1999

2000

2001

February 1998

Guest photographer Jill Bough exhibited *The Russian Heart: Scenes from a Village*.

On the ladder is Sandy Carrion who originated the Krappy Kamera competition in 1991 which has a worldwide audience. Eighteen members participated in the first KK show that opened in 1992. Sandy says, "I sent out a press release and got calls from all over the country."



July 2000

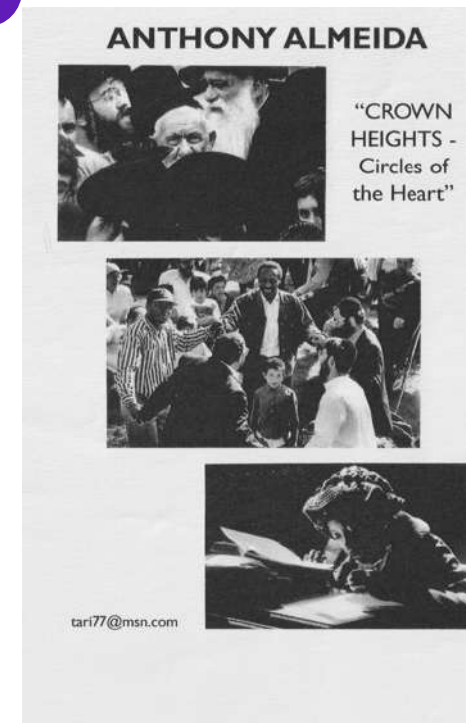
Nassau on White Street: Nassau Community College Student-Faculty Exhibition

March 2001

Holly Roberts, guest photographer, exhibited *Painted Photograph*. She pioneered mixing photography and painting into an art form.

July 2001

Guest photographer Gene Laughter exhibited *Bromoil Images* – a method of producing photographic images by replacing the silver image in a B/W photograph with an ink image or oil pigment.



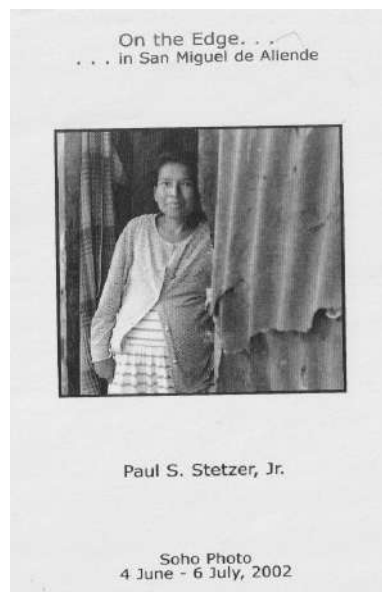
Monthly show announcement

October 2001

Photographs of Fidel Castro shown at the Gallery by Cuban photographer Roberto Salas.



Solo show postcard



June 2002

Paul Stetzer exhibited a series of portraits, *On the Edge in San Miguel de Allende*

September 2002

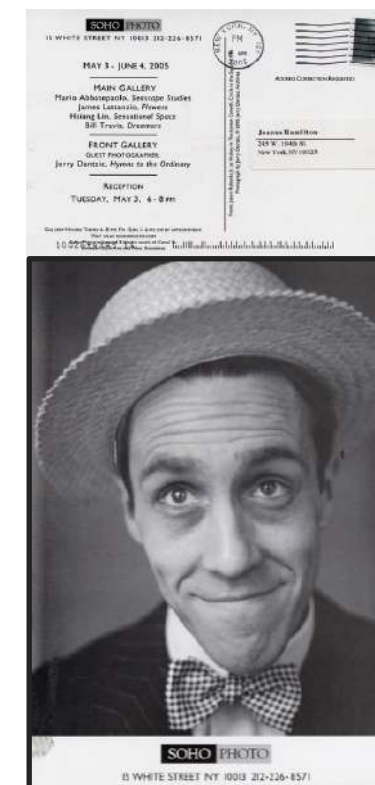
Tim Barnwell exhibited *The Face of Appalachia: Portraits from Mountain Farm.*



British photographer Justin Quinnell exhibited Krappy Kamera images he took with his mouth camera (2003).

2005

Postcard invitations from two guest photographer shows.



January 2008

Guest exhibition for 2008: *Psychologists in Focus.* The first show of its kind for psychologists who are also dedicated photographers. *Psychologists in Focus* was one component of a larger project that examined the many points of contact that psychology and photography have shared for the past 150 years.

2002

2003

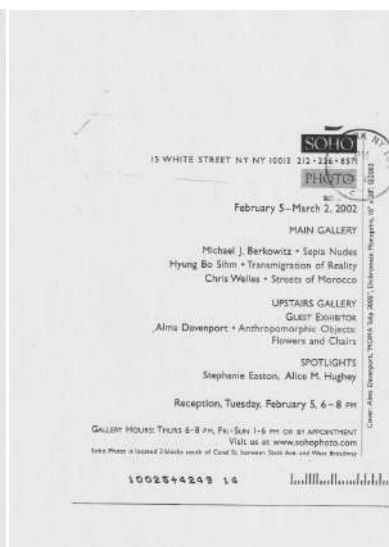
2004

2005

2006

2007

2008



March 2003

Annual *Krappy Kamera* Competition celebrates ten years.



October 2004

First annual National Alternative Processes Competition winners were exhibited. A top prize goes to Michael Mazzeo.



May 2006

Joy Goldkind, Gallery member, demonstrated her masterful use of the historic Bromoil process. Her work has been in *View Camera Magazine*, *B&W* and *Photographer's Form*. Other examples of alternative printing processes in the second annual Alternative Processes Competition included Cyanotype, VanDyke, Platinum, Palladium, Kwik Print©, Gum Bichromate, Gumoil, Calotype, Tintype, Daguerreotype, and Polaroid© transfer.

May 2008

The Gallery presented an exhibition of Photography MFA thesis work by Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) graduates. Spanning a broad range of content, work included staged portraits in panoramic landscapes to abstract images that investigated the history and process of photography.

December 2009

The entire gallery is dedicated to "Celebrating Central Park" on the 150th anniversary of Olmsted's and Vaux's "Greensward Plan" for the park's design. Guest exhibitor: Sara Cedar Miller, official photographer for the Central Park Conservancy.



April 2011

Some of the founders gathered for the Gallery's 40th anniversary. From left: panel moderator A.D. Coleman, Mark Haven, Sonia Katchian, Lee Romero, Jill Freedman, Catherine Ursillo and Harvey Stein.



May 2012

We presented a special exhibition of the work of Ruth Gruber, the 100-year-old legendary photojournalist and winner of the 2011 International Center of Photography's Infinity Cornell Capa Award. Show included screening of the documentary, *Ahead of Time*, and book signing of *Photographs as Witness*. Gruber was the world's youngest Ph.D., becoming a foreign correspondent at age 24. She had an extraordinary career that spanned seven decades.



2009

2010

2011

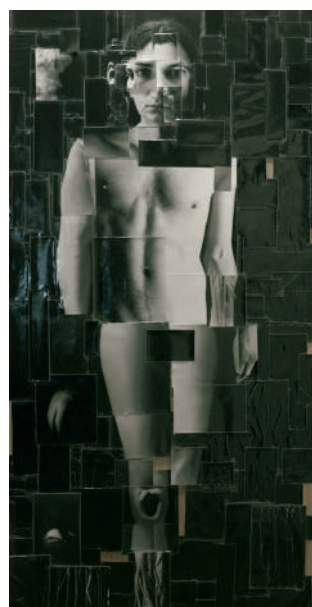
2012

2013

2014

May 2010

Soho Photo honored the memory of Alastair Finlay, a long-time member. He worked for various London photographers and came to the United States in the 1960s to further his photographic career. Finlay created inventive, sepia-toned gothic prints and won a number of awards.



Postcard show announcement



In 2011, guest speaker Norman Gershman, photographer and author of *BESA: Muslims Who Saved Jews in World War II*, talked about his exhibit.



In Sept. 2012, a lively panel discussion featured Rivka Katvan, *Broadway Cares* photographer, Alan Cumming, actor and *Broadway Cares* trustee, Tom Viola, Executive Director, *Broadway Cares*, and Randy Gener.



In 2013, the Street Photographers' Forum hosted by member Richard Gardner, with Marilyn Fish-Glynn, and guests Orville Robertson, Arlene Gottfried, Rebecca Lepkoff, Meryl Meisler, Tequila Minsky and Bill Perlmutter.



The Affordable Photography Fair becomes a yearly attraction and introduces the Gallery to new audiences.

2016

Moshe and Rivka Katvan, friends and supporters of the Gallery, have solo shows.



January 2017

Remembering Jeff Smith

Celebration of the life of Gallery member, Jeff Smith, who died in March 2016. Jeff created *The Family Project*, his beautiful, permanent installation in the bathroom. Jeff touched the hearts of everyone he met with his creativity, warmth and charming personality.



Jeff Smith's bathroom Installation

2014



Soho Photo @ Photoville

The Gallery was proud to be part of Photoville 2014, the annual photo event at Brooklyn Bridge Park. Images by thirty-four members interpreted the theme, *The Built Environment*, and were exhibited at the Gallery in January, 2015.

2015

2016



TOP ROW—Marilyn Fish-Glynn, Neil O. Lawner, Rumi Rai, David Troncoso
BOTTOM ROW—Lee Backer, Martin Rich, Martin Frank

SohoPhotoGallery

15 WHITE STREET NYC 212.226.8571 - SOHOPHOTO.COM
HOURS: WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY 1:00-6:00 PM AND BY APPT.

December 3, 2014 – January 3, 2015

OPENING RECEPTION: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 6-8PM

Lee Backer *The Edge of Night*
Marilyn Fish-Glynn *Blue Notes*
Martin Frank *Going to the Sun*
Neil O. Lawner *JuXtpositions, Coney Island*
Rumi Rai *As I Remember*
Martin Rich *Cemeteries—The Architecture of Remembrance*
David Troncoso *The Vivitar Portraits*

2017

November 2016

The November show featured winning entries in the 12th Annual National Alternative Processes Competition, with images of alternative processes by artists of the Penumbra Foundation; a members' group show; and a solo show of Morgan Post's work titled *Circo|Circus: Contemporary Carte De Visite*, a photographic exploration of American and Spanish circus performers.

They utilized a wide range of alternative methods including ambrotype, cyanotype, Van Dyke brown, platinum/palladium, photogravure, salt print, tintype, and wet-plate collodion, among others.

2018

2019

April 2019

The Gallery participated in the Soho Arts Network Downtown Culture Walk - a self-guided walking tour that lets visitors discover the unique, creative non-profit art spaces in Soho and adjacent neighborhoods.



January 2020



Curator Julie Grahame and Gallery president Thom O'Connor select images for the Jill Freedman Memorial Exhibition in March 2020 – the last show before the pandemic shut down the Gallery.

April 2020

Zoom lunch gatherings begin. Meetings are held each Tuesday and serve to establish a digital salon. The virtual audience averages 35 members each week.



October 2020

The Gallery reopened with new shows and a new look. It has been redesigned to protect members and visitors from the danger of COVID-19 transmission.



2020

February 2020

The Gallery hosted a workshop for Image Transfers that creates results reminiscent of the Polaroid transfer process popular in the 80s and 90s. Using digital files, students print to a specialty film and transfer to a new surface. This hands-on workshop is for photographers seeking more creative options for their imagery.



March 2020

COVID-19 pandemic strikes. NYC shuts down and the Gallery closes and goes digital with essential gallery business conducted via Zoom. 50th anniversary planning committee meets regularly online. Reopening Committee is formed to discuss way to keep the gallery vital during the pandemic. Research and scanning to collect gallery records for 50th celebration begins.



Giedrus Jokubauskis *Change Will Come*

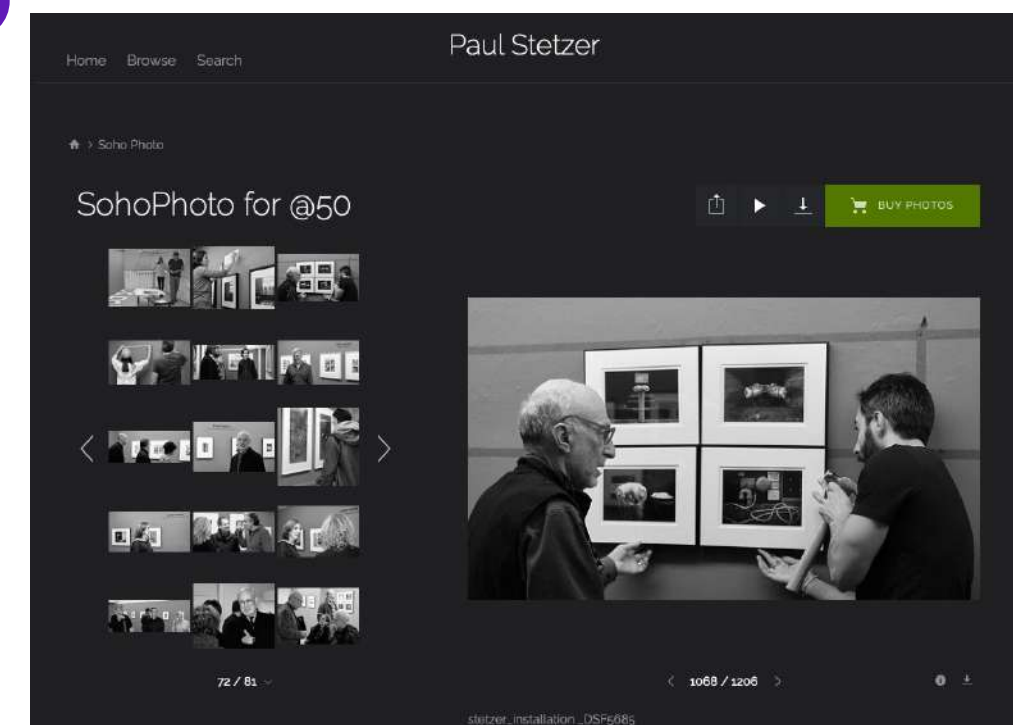
Lee Backer *Tropical Dreamscapes*

Saman Genshin *Animated Landscapes*

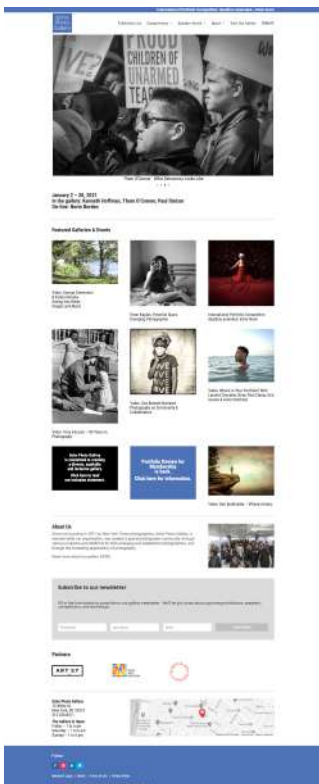
Thom O'Connor *My New Neighbors*

Paul Stetzer *Summer in the City: Sunlight, Humidity and Shade*

Announcement for August online exhibitions.



Members work together to hang a show.



March 2021

Ben Fernandez obituary:
A friend of the Gallery from the beginning. (See 1975 and 2014)

Benedict J. Fernandez, Photojournalist and Mentor, Dies at 84
He photographed Martin Luther King Jr. and produced classic images of the protest movements of the 1960s.



SohoPhotoGallery
15 White Street, New York NY 10013 (212) 226-8571

OPENING MARCH 26
at the gallery

2020 National Competition Winners



SohoPhotoGallery
15 White Street, New York NY 10013 (212) 226-8571

OPENING APRIL 23
at the gallery

Portraits



© Jake Lambroza Souls of NYC (and Their Humanity)

SohoPhotoGallery
15 White Street, New York NY 10013 (212) 226-8571

ART JUSTICE COHORT
PROTEST. RESILIENCE. IDENTITY.

OPENING NIGHT
August 12, 6-8pm

Special screening of Amber J. Phillips Film *Abundance* at 5pm
Please register [here](#). Covid protocols will be followed.



Visit our website



2021

2022

January 2021

What Democracy Looks Like
Paul S. Stetzer January 2021



Over the years many thousands of people have been engaged in democracy. They march, demonstrate, sit in, occupy, and rally to stand for justice, equality, peace, and elementary kindness. They do so with joy, rage, sadness, humor, confusion, vision, and hope. These portraits show the character and diversity of those who bear witness for justice.

Soho Photo Gallery 15 White Street NY NY 10013
for more information, including Covid-19 Protocols, go to <https://www.sohophoto.com/visit-our-gallery/>

Solo show postcard

January 2021

The speaker series continues online with Arthur Tress presenting.



January 2022

Delayed a year by the pandemic, Soho Photo Gallery begins celebrating its 50th anniversary.

A multi-faceted exhibition and event schedule is planned for 2022. Stay tuned.