

AIM

A Magazine of Art Photography



This Issue:
"Krappy Kamera" Photography

Volume 1, No. 4





The Corridor

A view of a long corridor in a Cell Block at Eastern State Penitentiary, Philadelphia
Photo was taken using a disposable film camera on Fuji color film.

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Elfreth's Alley, Philadelphia taken with a disposable camera & Fuji film.



Taking Aim:

I'm pleased with the comments that people have been conveying about AIM, especially the last issue. It did raise the bar slightly. I also hope this issue's theme doesn't encourage a barrage of negativity, as it might "lower the bar" slightly.

With this issue, I'm devoting it to "Krappy Kamera Photography". The misspelling is intentional but not mine. It belongs to the Soho Photo Gallery in Manhattan. The gallery runs an annual show devoted to film only photography shot with cameras that have plastic lenses, or no lens at all.. Some may have more durable bodies but the lenses must be plastic and the cameras must be film. Not even old digital cell phones or keychain digital cameras need apply.

For my own shooting, I purchased a Holga 120 about a year ago, and for more luxurious shooting, a polaroid back along with it. The polaroid back takes Professional Fuji film (ISO 100) and cost more than 4 times the Holga's \$30 price tag. In addition to the polaroids, I am shooting 120 roll film with the Holga which is standard. The Holga, however, is not my "Krappiest" camera. That honor belongs to an Instamatic camera I received for free from a Brooklyn clothier after buying 3 suits for my job.(about \$200.00) The camera is actually just a shell that attaches to the Instamatic film cartridge. Aim, push the shutter.... I was planning to shoot with it but when I inserted a roll of film, I found it would not advance. The suits weren't all that great either. Oddly enough, the camera outlasted the suits. To replace the 110 camera, I bought a Lomography Fisheye. It functioned very well, took interesting photos that included at times portions of my fingers. Sounds like art to me. Also among my cameras used for this issue, were a couple of disposable 35mm film cameras. One had Fuji color film, and 2 other contained Ilford Black & White. To round out my Krappy Kameras, I bought a not so crappy, Birch wood, lensless camera. It shoots 4 X 5 sheet film and has a Tripod mount. Perfect for shooting landscapes and buildings as long as people, birds, dogs and other forms of life control themselves. Exposures times are usually at least 4 seconds or greater. I haven't been able to produce any worthwhile images with it as of yet, but I'll keep trying. Much of the Black & White was developed by myself at home so the images have many developing flaws. In the spirit of Krappy Kamera photography, I did little in the way of Photoshopping to correct this. My digital work on this issue was mostly cropping and resizing and a tone curve adjustment. I wanted to be as pure as possible.

The only digital photos in this issue are the photos of the camera themselves. They're a very vain group and wanted to look their best. The disposable film cameras I used were a bit camera shy and do not appear in the issue.

So till the next issue, See you then.

Dominick Grosso
Editor & Publisher



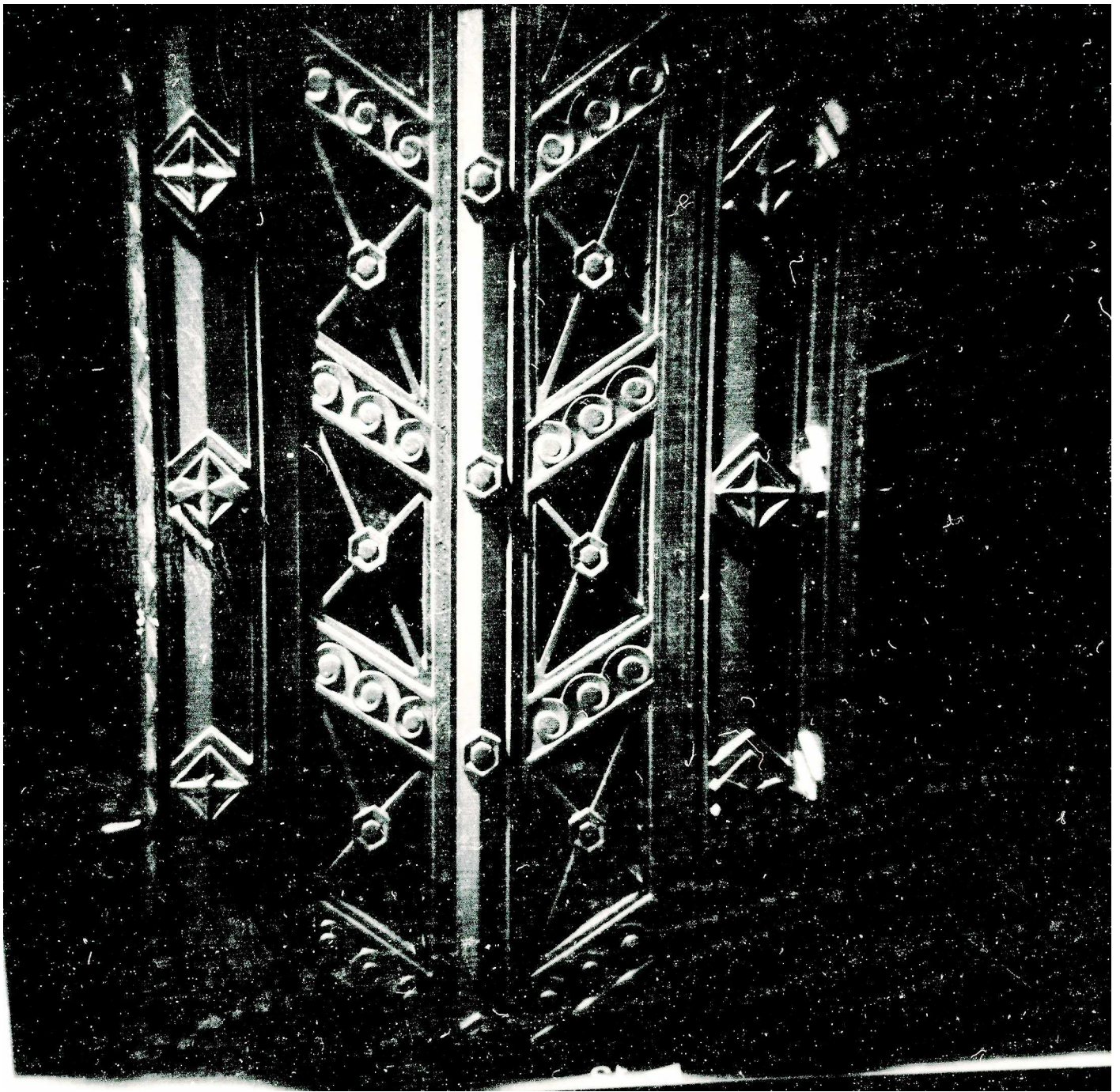
Holga 120 N

The Holga is the darling of the "Krappy Kamera" set. It comes in 2 color choices (black or black) :) It can shoot in color or black & white film in a 2 1/4" X 2 1/4" square format. It's best use is doing close up photography and has a number of accessories, including a 2.5 lens converter that makes your picture look like it was shot through a telescope. A flash and a Polaroid back. I call the resulting images with the back "Holgaroids." You must use Fuji Instant film, which means the color has a weird color balance that really should be corrected in Photoshop. Typical of a Holga camera is that it will fall apart and require emergency repair.. Mine did. The back kept coming off causing me to lose several shots. A simple metal clasp is suppose to hold it in place, now I use rubber bands.



"Knight"

A very large chess piece in Love Park, Philadelphia.



Old Penn Station, Philadelphia



Love Park, Philadelphia



Fountain at Love Park, Philadelphia



Bayonne Bridge "Holgaroid"



Lomography Fisheye 110

The Lomography Fisheye is one of the most fun of the Krappy Kameras and well made. All of the photos have a unique look about them with the circular vignette and my finger getting constantly in the way of the photograph adds a real personal touch. It was especially handy for candid street shots. Its small size makes it virtually unnoticeable by passerby. 110 film today is only available under the Lomography name and I found it difficult to get developed locally.



Homeless Man

In this shot I managed to get my entire midsection in the picture.
Shades of Alfred Hitchcock.



Harlem Line Station - 125th Street

On a trip to the NY Botanical Gardens, I took the Harlem Line of Metro-North.. the photo shown has a bit more photoshopping than the others that came out of the tiny Lomography camera, but is a good representation of what the camera is capable.



City Hall, Philadelphia



An assortment of photos from Philadelphia featuring my finger. :)

Left: The tower at Eastern State penitentiary

Below Left: Logan Square Fountain with Passerby.

Below Right: A jogger with Logan Square Fountain in the background.





Top Photo: The only waterfall in NYC at the NY Botanical Gardens in the Bronx.

Bottom: A pair of large boulders at the NY Botanical Gardens



Top Photo: A view of the Verazzano-Narrows Bridge

Bottom: Lower Manhattan through the framework of the Manhattan bridge while riding a subway train across it.



Top Left and Right: A couple of more photos of chess pieces at Love Park , Philadelphia

Below; A photo of West 30th St from the NYC Highline.



The camera shy disposable cameras I used produced the best quality images overall. They also featured a built in flash which I never wound up using.

Below: Bayonne Bridge Photographed with disposable camera and Fuji color film

Right Facing: Portrait of a Bridge and Photographer; Photographed with disposable camera using Ilford B & W film.



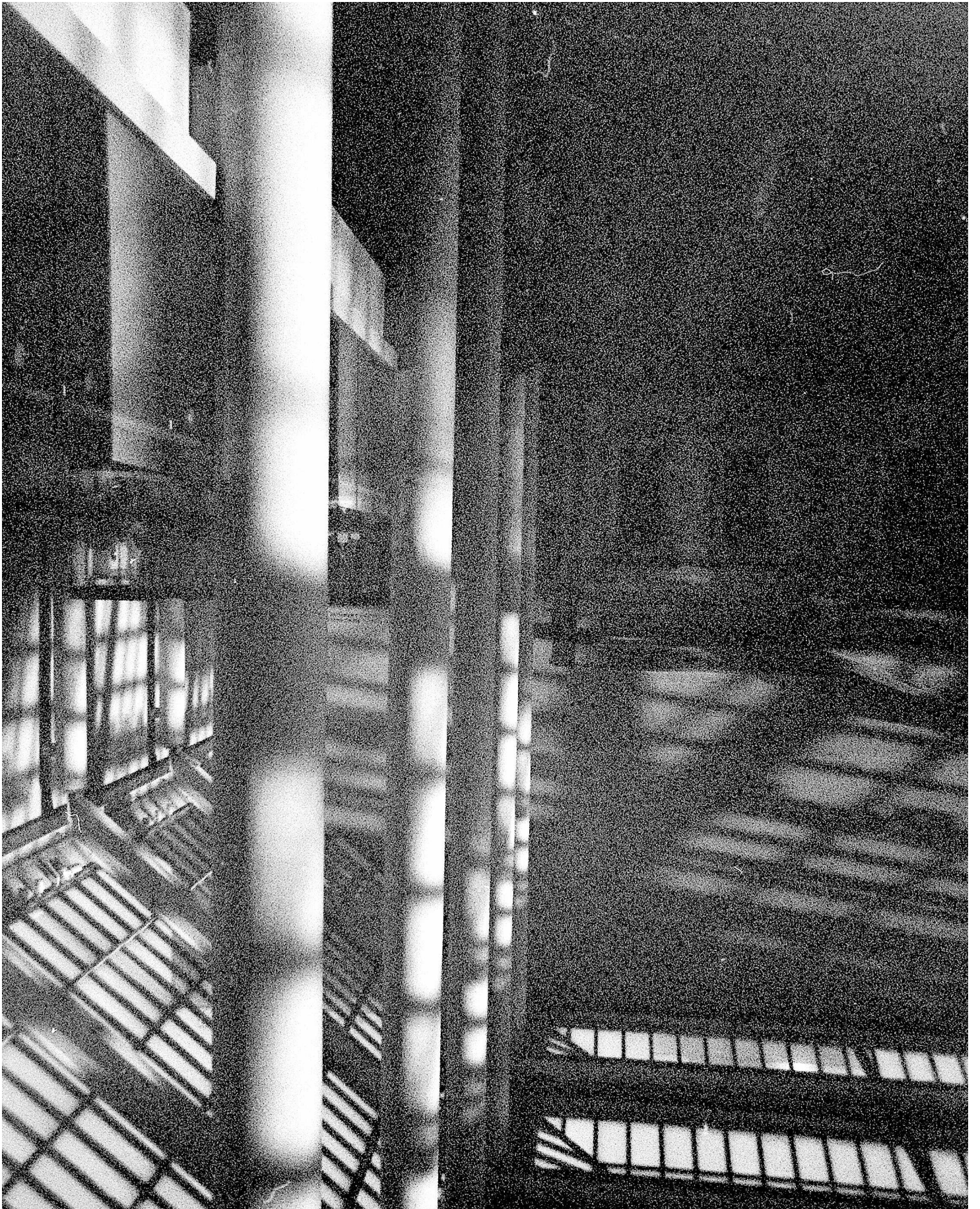




Pictured in the above frame is the Micro 110 camera which I got for free, many years ago from a Brooklyn clothing store. It provided me with shooting pleasure when I couldn't afford a real camera. However, it failed me for this issue.

The 4 X 5 pinhole camera pictured to the right is beautifully crafted out of Birch wood and I couldn't resist posing it for the magazine even though I have yet to obtain a reasonable good image from it. But I promise you, I will keep trying.





A Study of Light and Shadow

Photographed on Ilford Black & White film using a disposable camera, at the
Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC.

**Watch for the next issue
around January 2016**

Future Themes to look for:

Modeling

Environmental Portraiture

InfraRed

Art Nudes

Film Photography

