

SOHO PHOTO

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**SOHO PHOTO GALLERY TO BE 100% KRAPPY KAMERA DURING MARCH WITH
THE NATIONAL JURIED KRAPPY KAMERA COMPETITION,
THE MEMBERS' ANNUAL KRAPPY KAMERA SHOW AND
A NEW JERSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL'S PHOTO CLUB EXHIBIT**

March 1-April 2, 2005

OPENING RECEPTION: TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 6-8 p.m.

Hours: Thursday, 6-8 p.m.; Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 1-6 p.m., Wednesday, March 9, 6-8 p.m., and by appointment.

New York, N.Y. – For the first time ever, the Soho Photo Gallery will be completely dedicated to the art of the “krappy kamera” with three separate shows scheduled for March. This unique and eagerly awaited exhibition, which the Gallery has fondly termed the *Krappy Kamera Show*, will feature images that are produced using equipment from the lowest end of the technological scale. The concept underlying this show is that an artist can use any piece of equipment to create engaging photographs. Cameras generally range from the well-known Diana, Holga and Lubitel to obscure junk-store finds and homemade pinhole jobs. The March shows will include:

The *National Juried Krappy Kamera Competition* was started seven years ago in response to the tremendous number of photographers who were interested in the Gallery’s Krappy Kamera Show for its own members but were not eligible to participate in it. This year, the top entries in the national competition, in which 238 photographers from 42 states submitted a total of 1,400 photographs, will be displayed downstairs in the main galleries.

Dan Burkholder, author of *Making Digital Negatives for Contact Printing*, who is also internationally recognized for developing a unique method of generating digital negatives and producing platinum prints, selected only 60 images from 53 photographers to be part of the final cut. After Burkholder awarded the four top prizes and three honorable mentions, he said:

“The *Krappy Kamera Show* is, by its very "krappy" nature, flooded with esthetic variables that only sprinkle other photo competitions. Where else do you find work that is prized because it was made with a cheap, imprecise and optically impure camera? And where else would a juror get to witness artists--working with cameras missing the full range of image controls and accuracy--produce some of the finest photographs he's seen in years. Such was my job and my joy.”

The top prize winners are: Grand prize–Patty Lemke (Los Angeles, CA); first place–Louviere & Vanessa (New Orleans, LA); second place– John Beaver (Appleton, WI); third place–Martin Anderson (Brookline, MA).

More Krap downstairs . . .

The thirteenth annual **Members’ Krappy Kamera** exhibition, which will feature the work of 18 Gallery members who use pinhole and other low-tech cameras, will be in our front gallery downstairs. They are a small group of Soho Photo Gallery’s finest artists who have banded together to prove that the image is made by the photographer—not the camera. Point-and-shoot cameras and disposable cameras are too extravagant for this show—they are too easy to use. A Krappy Kamera takes work, which is a reminder that the elements that create a photographic image—aperture, shutter speed, focus mechanism and exposure—can be technically simple, manual operations which don’t have to be controlled by computer chips.

And even more Krap upstairs . . .

In March, the upstairs galleries will be devoted to work produced by members of the photo club at Cedar Drive Middle School in Colts Neck, NJ. The students will display photographs that they shot and processed using inferior equipment. The students will also install their exhibit.

Stop by to see these three remarkable shows on opening night and you will also see some of the Krappy Kameras displayed next to their owners’ work.

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Soho Photo Gallery has been showcasing a broad spectrum of imagery by emerging and veteran photographers since 1971. The Gallery is in New York’s historic TriBeCa district, three blocks south of Canal Street between West Broadway and Sixth Avenue. Subways: #1 or #9 to Franklin Street or the A, C, E, N, R or # 6 to Canal Street.

