



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Atlanta Photographic Society Turns 40

City's Oldest Photography Club to Host Talk from High Museum of Art Curator of Photography on April 22

ATLANTA – March 15, 2010 – The Atlanta Photographic Society (APS), the city's venerable, longest established photography club, celebrates its 40th anniversary Thursday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. Keynote speaker Julian Cox, High Museum of Art Curator of Photography, will discuss how today's digital technologies are impacting the world of photographic art. The talk is free and open to the public.



Cox, on staff at High Museum of Art since 2005, came from the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, where he served as associate curator in the department of photographs. He has also worked at the National Museum of Photography, Film & Television in Bradford, England, and the National Library of Wales.

The April 22 program also will include a look back over the APS' 40 years in Atlanta. The club's founder, Helene Mewborn, currently treasurer, started the group, originally called the Alpine Camera Club, in 1970, a year after she opened her photo processing store, Alpine Photo Lodge, in Tucker, Ga. The club began with about 12 members.



Today, the club's diverse membership ranges from young teens to seniors in their 80s and come from as far as West Point and Jefferson, Georgia, South Carolina and Chicago (via e-mail), and throughout the Atlanta area.

“We’ve met twice a month for the full 40 years except during the summer months and over Christmas, sharing knowledge and competing. It’s always been a very friendly club,” recalls Mewborn. “People are very willing to share their knowledge and I believe that most people in the club have learned quite a bit from being in the club.”

The group changed its name to Atlanta Photographic Society in 2000, to more accurately reflect its metro-wide membership and scope of activities.



APS President Al McLeod notes that some of the club’s unique attributes include monthly photo competitions judged and critiqued by area professionals, informal critiques, guest speakers, member programs and photo field trips held twice a year.

“Our mission is to improve your photography – whether you are a professional, an amateur, or somewhere in between. We get a lot of different perspectives on our images,” he says. “We share technique and strive to keep up with the latest in digital imaging software and equipment – the better your equipment is, the better your photos will be.”

About Atlanta Photographic Society

The Atlanta Photographic Society, Atlanta’s oldest photography club, was founded in 1970 and currently serves a rich base of photography enthusiasts, from students to accomplished photographers. The club’s programming emphasizes modern digital imaging techniques as well as traditional photographic values as members strive to enhance their skills and artistry. Meetings are the second and fourth Thursday evenings during the school year. The club also holds monthly photo competitions. The society welcomes visitors and new members. Details, directions and a map are on the APS website, www.atlantaphotographic.org.

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Editor’s Note: Access logos and high-res photos of the Atlanta Photographic Society’s early history at: <http://public.me.com/handleyhouse>.

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