



Bill Schwab



Bill Schwab is an artist for whom alternative processes, such as wet plate output, are a means of expressing a poetic view through photography. Although his style has gradually developed over the years, the common themes and thread through Schwab's ever growing body of work are those of the natural and urban landscapes.

His evocative imagery is created in a variety of photographic media ranging from 19th century collodion through modern, hybrid processes. Having been collected and shown in solo and group exhibition in the US and abroad since the early 1980s, his photographs continue to become widely known.



Wet Plate Printing

The wetplate process, though not difficult, is complex and best learned through practice and learning from all the mistakes that can be made along the way. Under the close guidance of the instructor, Bill Schwab, students will work separately and together learning each step of the process. The first part of the course will provide an overview of the entire process and cover the chemistry and its safe handling. Next, students will learn the proper preparation and pouring of plates, sensitizing, exposure, developing and fixing methods.

By the end of the first day, working as a team, participants will have created their first collodion images. Although students will concentrate on making positive images on aluminum, or "tintypes" as they are commonly called, there will also be a hands-on demonstration of glass plate negative creation on clear glass as well as positive plates made on colored or clear glass, or "Ambrotypes". By the end of this workshop, participants will have the knowledge to continue on their own and to refine their techniques and creative vision.

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Student Presentation at Gallery 44 Thursday, May 12 from 7-9pm:

To mark the final day of the workshops, a gala and presentation will take place at

Gallery 44: Centre for Contemporary Photography. Each student from the practical-based* workshops will be invited to present a print or negative that they have prepared during the course of their workshop. This event will be a networking opportunity for students to meet other like-minded photographers working in alternative processes. The presentation will also show the various applications of processes being taught in this year's APPS.



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*students taking demonstration only workshops may speak to program organizers about submitting a previously made photograph if it applies to the processes cover in the APPS workshops. Size restrictions will be enforced. contact info@alternativeprocess.ca