

May 14
1973

Hi, Ansel:

When are we going to beeing you around these parts again? I hope soon. It is always great to have a fine Pacific Breeze blow in to stir us all up.

After eighteen long years I have just had a trip to New York & Washington. Very brief, but full of excitement and stimulation for me. When I found that Paul Strand's exhibit was still at the Met, I went first to N.Y. He and Hazel came up to the Museum one afternoon and the three of us went around the galleries looking at every print. It was simply great. Since that day, Paul has had his second operation, again succesful, thank thank the Good Lord, and I trust that he will be abbe to continue his great work. Spent a whole day with Barbara, Lilliane and family and had another great day. Also saw Lee Witkin and his gallery (I am scheduled for a show in October) and met a lot of the younger people such as Gerge Tice and others.

Then on to Virginia where I spent a week with relatives, and back to work.

Another item on my list is that I have been selling a lot of my early platnums! These have been sitting in my print cabinet for 40-50 years! Witkin was the first, then U.N.M. now Princeton coming up, and one or two more coming up. All helps to enlarge the buget. This brings me to the point I want to bother you about. As I have also a big retrospective show ahead here for Nov. 1974, I must get myself an adequate enlarger lens for my 8x10. Which do you recommend? I am also thinking about building myself and enlarger like yoursam though the old Elwood can do as long the film and lens planes are true.

Had supper with the Newhalls last week and a good evenings talk.

I hope that all goes well with you and Virginia and that you will be coming thsi way. I hear you are giving a lerture at the Met. Great day. How suddenly a ttitudes and understandings can change place.

Now Photography is IT. And everything is buzzing. More and more photographers are coming to New Mexico. Those of us who think back to the 1916s and on, can too well remember the attitudes of institutions as well as the general public who used to say "Oh, its just a photograph". Incidentally, I was at Watkins the day of Imogen's opening and was delighted to see so much of her work that I had never seen.

Now I am settling down to much hard work ahead and the hope that I can pull it all off.

My very best to all of you out your way.

Goertz Red Dot Artar about \$380 odd do lard
Rodenstock Rodagon f 5.6 300mm \$400-plus
Schneider Compaxxon same price
Schneider Comparon Optically corrected fpr 1:2 enlgn \$200.

A young fellow who was supposed to be good at optics gave me these last three. The Goertz, ofcourse, I have known about a long time.

I would need this for enla gements from 8x10 and 5x7 negatives.

I would greatly appreciate your advice and the best place to obtain.