

CRAWFORD H. GREENEWALT
DU PONT BUILDING
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

December 27, 1954

Mr. Eliot Porter
Route 1, Box 5B
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Porter:

Thank you so much for your kindness in sending me the perfectly beautiful dye transfer print of the painted bunting. By an amazing coincidence, my wife and I are going down to Florida toward the end of January for virtually the sole purpose of photographing a series of painted buntings which a friend of ours has been able to entice to her feeding station at Coconut Grove. You have set an extraordinary standard for me to shoot at. I wish I could be sure that I could do as well.

I have been a great admirer of your bird photographs since I first discovered them in the Amadon Murphy book (its name slips me for the moment). Sid Kirkpatrick, of McGraw-Hill, was kind enough to send me the portfolio they had published of your photographs and it is one of my prized possessions. I was able to spot your pictures in the Amadon Murphy publication judging solely from their photographic quality. Whenever there was a particularly good one, it was by Porter.

I am taking the liberty of sending you one of mine under separate cover. I have been doing more flight pictures than anything else, a somewhat frustrating occupation when one has to compromise between flash duration and light output. Harold Edgerton is designing for me a special unit which is expected to have a guide number of 40 or so for Kodachrome with a flash duration of 50 microseconds and that, if successful, should put me out of my misery.

Thank you again for your kindness.

Sincerely,

Crawford H. Greenewalt