



ELIOT PORTER

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Dear Bill,

I have been away in the Northwest since June 10 having returned only ten days ago. Dave is leaving New Mexico and going to Chicago where he has been offered a very good job teaching at the Chicago School of Design. I couldn't meet their offer so he goes with my blessings.

This does not mean that I am not interested in precision equipment for making separation negatives from 35 mm transparencies and dye-transfer prints which we have discussed, and I hope you will be willing to pursue your investigations along these lines.

I have discussed the problems of prints from 35s with various people and have learned that there are generally two approaches to the problem. One solution has been to make contact positive masks from enlarged separations. The other solution is to go the way Dave and I were going with small masks and circumventing all the difficulties arising from scratches, Newton rings, and anti-Newton ring structures of anti-Newton ring glass by using silicone oil. Enlarged masks get around the problem of flare that the un-backed pan-masking film introduces. I know we have already talked about all these problems, but it seems to me the most serious difficulty is still how to hold the 35mm Kodachromes flat without some sort of pressure holder which of course gets one right back into the Newton ring-anti-Newton ring problems. If you have come up with any solutions I would be most interested to hear about them.

I am prepared to go along with your suggestion that all difficulties can be solved only by going to specially designed equipment with built-in registration from the first to the last step.

I shall be in Santa Fe from now until I go back to Antarctica probably not until some time in January. Call me collect any time you have something to tell me or to discuss.

With best wishes,