

NANCY NEWHALL 7 Rundel Park, Rochester, New York 14607

716-271-5381

4 January 1971

Eliot Porter
R.D.1. Box 33
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Eliot -

Just a note hoping you and Aline are also embarking on what looks, right now, a Happier New Year than some we have had lately.

Don't tell anyone yet, because we are not ready to announce it, but Beaumont and I expect to be living in New Mexico by next fall - how we hope in Santa Fe, or Tesuque or Pogaue. If you hear of a lovely adobe, say on the Camino del Sol, which somebody for some reason has to leave, will you say you think you know people who would probably love it? And give them our address and, if urgent, telephone number? (716 271 5381).

Beau, after 23 years at George Eastman House, wants to get back to work - Administration gets him down. Retirement - what a horrid word - wouldn't come for another three years, and if they could, the powers that be would doubtless keep him here until he is 80 or more. There have been glimpses of glamorous jobs - Rome and Harvard among others - but the one he likes best - 'as do I - is being a full professor at the University of New Mexico. He loves teaching, and the kids certainly love him. It would be both the history of photography, a seminar therein, and a course in the history of film. Van Deren Coke elicited this office from the University of New Mexico and would like nothing better than to come along back and all work together. But Eastman House is far too important to leave unguided or unguarded. It is the Metropolitan, or the Louvre of photography. Good leaders, administrators, exhibition makers, scholars and writers are still so rare in this field.

Beau tells me he received a letter from you about withdrawing your wonderful bequest (may you live forever!) of your color negatives. Where did you get the idea that Newhalls do not like color??? It is true we do not see much good color. Wynn Bullock has some fine things; so does Syl Labrot, but there are simply not enough color photographers of the Eliot Porter caliber - if indeed there ever will be or can be - The only color that hangs in the Art of Photography at George Eastman House is yours, and the same photographs, thank you, hung in our home. A lot more, as you know, hang in the Exchange National Bank in Chicago. And every time I see a Sierra Club Exhibit Format Book, or a paperback display of yours, I think of all those years when we tried to get your color published - and then, when you were here and Dave Brower called, and I introduced you two by telephone. What a resounding result!

What you want to do with your color negatives and prints is, of course, up to you. George Eastman House has an air-conditioned vault and our staff are becoming the leading authorities on the care and conservation of every type of photograph in our vast collections. (I think Beau would like to live here another hundred years if he could and

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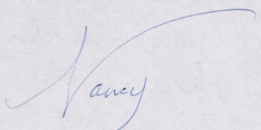
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just concentrate on the collections he has assembled.)

I do think we know a good color printer. Do you know Mac Galliard? He was at one of our Santa Cruz workshops. His own stuff is nice but not world shaking in its seeing. We think he is the best and most sensitive of the commercial color printers, and have used him several times. He would be exalted to the skies if you asked him to do anything for you. And he would be, I am absolutely sure, faithful to the last nuance you want. His address:

Mac Galliard
3104 Hollyridge Drive
Hollywood, California 90028

Much love, and may we see you both soon.


Nancy Newhall

When Nancy wrote this letter my leaving Eastman House was dependent on Van Deren Coke's acceptance of the directorship, hence I felt it wise to postpone mailing it to you. He has now accepted, and public announcement of the change — and my acceptance of the UNM professorship — will be on Feb. 18. As to color: Van himself is now working with it! As Nancy says, if we do not emphasize color, it is only because so few people are using it creatively. Please be assured that we are honored that you have chosen Eastman House as the ultimate trustee of

your superb color photography, and
I know that my successor — and
his successors — will preserve your
lifework with respect, with archival
care, and in the way you wish it
to be preserved.

Nancy and I look forward eagerly
to living in New Mexico, and to
the opportunity of visiting you and
Aline more frequently than we
have been able to over the past
years.

all best

Beaumont