11.10.76

Dear Mr. Porter,

Thought I would write you a note and say hello, as I've not seen you since one day in 1972 when I drove down to Santa Fe from Colorado Springs to meet you. I got up to the "Maine Photographic Workshops" too late this summer to catch you in Maine. Now I see that Harvey Ferdschneider of Stills, Ithaca, is doing a show of your work which I would surely like to see, but won't be able too. I continually feel indebted to you for the time you took and the confidence you gave me back in 1972. I am still a (non profit) photographer, a proffesional of sorts who is not always pleased with, but is certainly hooked on, photography. It has its ups and downs. But, things have improved with time, and now I have shows often, photographs tucked away in various galleries and museums, etc. However, the "audience" continues to be other photographers, not regular people, and this bothers me. Perhaps that will change in time as well. After I saw you (you suggested I get into 4x5 or Hasselblad & Dye transfer) I did "C" prints for several years. When Kodak changed to RC color paper, I changed to Agfa paper, but my negatives were Kodak and in six months I was nearly insane having night mares about color balancing. Then I spent a brief period living in Carmel, California, working for Morley Baer, an architectural photographer, which was an interesting experience. After that I had several jobs in the east, such as at one time driving a camp bus in Maine, another time managing an inn near Mt. Washington. And I took some b&w pictures. For a couple of years now I've been full-time b&w non-money-making picture-taking and living wherever and however possible. In January a promising possibility occurs: I'm to be an "artist in residence" at the Aperion Workshops, Millerton, New York. If things work out, I might stay there awhile. Perhaps I might see you there sometime (?) or catch you in Maine next summer. I visit Maine often, as I have several friends living there. Also I intend to eventually wind up living out west again, but that's another story. At any rate, just thought I'd say hello and thanks again —

Best wishes,

David Gengler

c/o 912 Hulls Farm Road, South Port, Conn. 06490