



2017 Latow Audio-Visual Festival

Entry Invitation

To all photographers who are creating audio-visual slide shows this is an invitation to submit your shows for consideration in this year's annual Latow AV Festival. The Latow AV Festival is regarded as the largest annual audio-visual festival of its kind giving photographers the opportunity to get wide public exposure in a showcase for the AV medium.

The festival this year takes place on Saturday April 8th, 2017 - 7:00pm in the main gallery of the Art Gallery of Burlington as part of Latow's major annual Photography Weekend and will typically have an audience of 150 to 250 people who come from all over Southern Ontario and New York State to view the shows presented. Shown on a theatre size screen with surround sound the concept is to entertain and at the same time give a new appreciation of still photography by using the AV medium in unique and imaginative ways and integrating them with dynamic soundtracks. Last year the Festival included entries from across Canada and internationally from the US, Germany and France.

Submission Guidelines & Specifications

Show Specifications: Submitted shows can be any length between 5 and 15 minutes and will be considered first. Shows shorter than 5 minutes or longer than 15 minutes will be considered on a secondary basis of how they might work into the overall final selection.

Shows can include transitional effects, image movements and limited stop animated sequences as long as they use still photography only and **cannot include any full motion video components.**

No "time lapse" videos will be accepted.

Shows can be any aspect ratio (e.g. 16:9, 4:3, 3:2 panoramic etc.) however the presented projected screen format will be 16:9. Aspect ratios other than 16:9 when projected will not fill the complete projection screen edge to edge and will appear as a window inside the presented 16:9 format.

Shows should **NOT have any startup menus** but start from a blank black screen with at least 5 seconds before either the images or music begins. No on-screen playback control bars are to be included.

Shows may be produced in the program of your choice and submitted as an Mpeg video file ("mpg" or "mp4") or an Executable ("exe" file) as long as they adhere to the show specifications. The resolution of your rendered "mpg" or "mp4" file should be at 1280 X 720 HD. "Exe" files should be at least 1280 pixels on the longest dimension. However if you submit an "exe" file and it is finally selected you must be prepared to provide an Mpeg video file at 1280 X 720 HD for use in the promo video and the final Festival presentation.

Shows cannot be submitted as a DVD video.

There is no charge to submit a show to the festival. You can submit multiple shows for consideration but if you are selected you can only have one production in the Festival.

Factors that will go into a show's selection:

Shows submitted for the Festival will be evaluated for artistic as well as technical quality. Given the number of shows that are submitted not all shows can be selected for the final Festival presentation.

The factors that go into the final selection will not only depend on the quality of the photography, but also the quality of the soundtrack, how the images and soundtrack worked together, and how technically the show uses the AV medium to further the overall production. The final selection will also be based on how different shows work together to make up the full festival roster.

Submitted shows must be finished (not works in progress) and ready to go when submitted in the format specified. Technical quality can often influence the final selection so you should strive to submit your entry at the highest technical standards.

Shows that are finally selected for the Festival presentation will be promoted in the media and be included in the AV Festival Poster and Photography Weekend PR material as well as web based promotion and video promo sent to all camera clubs and the general public to give the shows as wide as possible public exposure.

Submitting Your Show:

The show file(s) can be submitted on CD or DVD (as long as it's not in a DVD video format), on a USB flash drive or by using an online file transfer service. Please include with your submission a separate word document with the title, a brief description of the show (one to two lines only please), the show's running time and your contact information including e-mail & phone number.

Disks and/or flash drives cannot be returned unless accompanied by a self addressed paid envelope.

Submission Cutoff Date:

Shows will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis so get your entries in as soon as possible. The cutoff date for shows in my hands is **no later than Monday, January 23rd, 2017.**

How to get your show to me:

Please let me know ASAP first at psparrow@cogeco.ca your intention to submit a show and let me know whether you will be sending me a disc/flash drive or using an online file transfer.

Where to send your disks or flash drives:

Paul Sparrow
2 King Street West
Jackson Station, P.O. Box 57095
Hamilton, Ontario
L8P 4W9

Once I receive your material I'll e-mail to confirm that I've received your submission and will let you know if there are any problems.

Last year's AV Festival was the best ever drawing entries from across Canada, the US, Germany and France. With your submissions this year we hope to make the 2017 showcase even better!

For more information contact: psparrow@cogeco.ca
(905) 523-5665

I'm looking forward to seeing your submissions... all the best, Paul Sparrow