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### Fall 2020 Mini-Grant Proposal: Darkroom Exploration

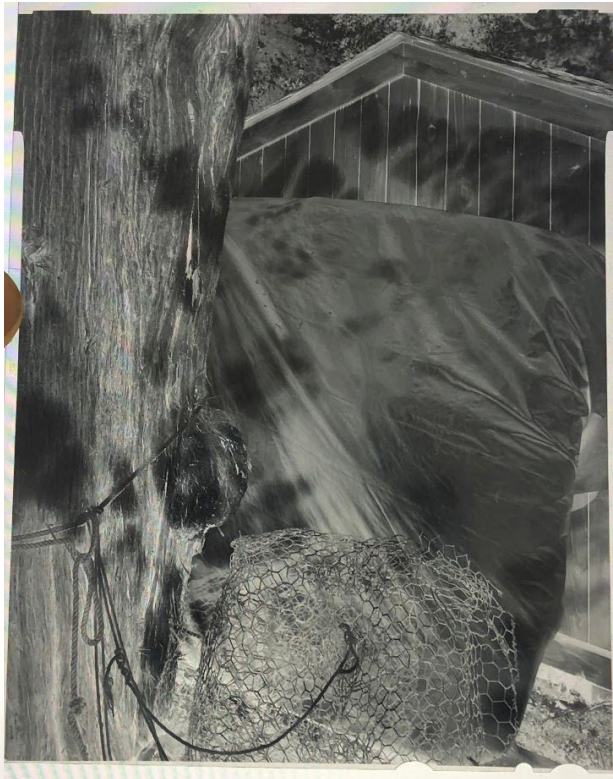
This semester, I am enrolled in the Studio Art Department's advanced large format photography course, ARTS 3110, and I am currently making pictures with the 4x5 camera and printing my work in the darkroom. In order to pursue this format of photography, many different costly materials are needed. I am requesting a Fall 2020 Mini-Grant that would aid me in purchasing black and white film for the 4x5 camera, 8x10 inch photographic paper, and 11x14 inch photographic paper so that I can continue rigorous explorations in the darkroom without being hindered by the cost of materials.

Firstly, when producing photographs with the 4x5 camera, you take pictures one at a time with sheet film. This film comes in boxes of 25, so one box of film allows for 25 exposures; in comparison to other formats of film photography, it is very costly to make a large amount of photographs. I want to be able to make more pictures without being concerned about running out of expensive film, so part of the Mini-Grant would fund three boxes of 4x5 black and white film to sustain my picture-making practice throughout the duration of the semester.

Secondly, after the pictures are exposed onto the film, they have to be printed in the darkroom on light sensitive paper. I am proposing to buy one box of 8x10 inch paper and two boxes of 11x14 inch paper. The 8x10 inch paper will be used to make exposure test strips—test strips are essentially rough drafts to final prints—so that I can configure the correct exposure times before I make my final prints. Having this paper is necessary as working in the darkroom takes a lot of experimentation, so it is imperative that I have enough paper so that I can produce prints that are properly exposed and have the proper amount of contrast. Furthermore, the 11x14 inch paper will be used to make large scale, final prints of my photographs. Printing my photographs on larger 11x14 inch paper enhances the presentation of the final pictures. Photographs made with the 4x5 camera have fine grain and are very sharp, and 11x14 inch prints accentuate these details. Ultimately, I intend to purchase photographic paper with the Mini-Grant so that I can work in the darkroom to produce large scale prints of my images.

Ultimately, with access to the Mini-Grant I would be able to explore making pictures with a large format camera and printing the resulting photos in the darkroom more freely.

**Several of the Negatives I have Exposed so Far This Semester:** *Examples of a few photographs I have made with the 4x5 that I'm currently printing in the darkroom*



**Itemized Budget:**

Item:	Cost:
Ilford HP5 Plus Black and White Negative Film (4 x 5", 25 Sheets): 3 Boxes	3 @ \$47.95 each= \$143.85
100 Sheets of 8x10 Ilford Fiber Based Paper	1 @ \$107.95
50 Sheets of 11x14 Ilford Fiber Based Paper: 2 Boxes	2 @ \$109.95 each= \$219.90

**Total Before Tax and Shipping: \$471.70**

If funded, in my outcome report I will include scans of my finished prints. These prints will be completed by the end of the Fall 2020 semester, but I intend to continue using a 4x5 large format camera in the future—so more prints will be made even after the end of the semester if I have an excess of supplies.