

3-D Imaging Past & Present

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Paris 1944

Honda Point

The "Original" J.A. Williams

'50s Flavored Finds

A taste of the late '40s through the early '60s found in amateur stereo slides

by Mark Willke

Celebrate!

Stereo photos are especially good at preserving memories of celebrations and special occasions. It's a magical feeling being able to step back in time and view such events in 3-D as if you were actually standing there again.

Both of our images this issue appear to have been made to capture such celebrations for future lifelike viewing. Unfortunately,

these slides are no longer in the hands of the photographers or other people who were at the original events, so such stereo time travel is no longer possible for any of them. But at least these slides can still be shared here in this column, allowing us our own little bit of time travel.

Our first slide shows four couples (counting the unseen photographer) celebrating a birthday with cake and ice cream that's about to be

served. A large mirror behind the table shows more of the house than we would normally get to see, including a parakeet in its cage. I'm impressed that the photographer managed to avoid his own reflection (although it might have been fun to see him also!)

The handwritten caption is only partially legible, but it identifies the scene as someone's birthday party in February, 1954. This is a Kodachrome slide in an older style (gray with red edges) cardboard mount.

Our second slide (by a different photographer) shows a nicely decorated Christmas tree, and although there is no celebration in progress, it is clear that someone was pleased with the result of all the decorating and wanted to preserve the scene in stereo. The tree is nice, but I especially enjoy the floral drapes and the classic '50s rosy beige wallcovering and woodwork! This unlabeled Kodachrome slide is in an older style (gray with red edges) cardboard mount. 📷



This column combines a love of stereo photography with a fondness for 1950s-era styling, design and decor by sharing amateur stereo slides shot in the "golden age" of the Stereo Realist—the late 1940s through the early 1960s. From clothing and hairstyles to home decor to modes of transportation, these frozen moments of time show what things were really like in the middle of the twentieth century. If you've found a classic '50s-era slide that you would like to share through this column, please send it to: Fifties Flavored Finds, 5610 SE 71st, Portland, OR 97206.

As space allows, we will select a couple of images to reproduce in each issue. This is not a contest—just a place to share and enjoy. Please limit your submission to a single slide. If the subject, date, location, photographer or other details are known, please send that along too, but we'll understand if it's not available. Please include return postage with your slide. Slides will be returned within 6 to 14 weeks, and while we'll treat your slide as carefully as our own, Stereo World and the NSA assume no responsibility for its safety.

