

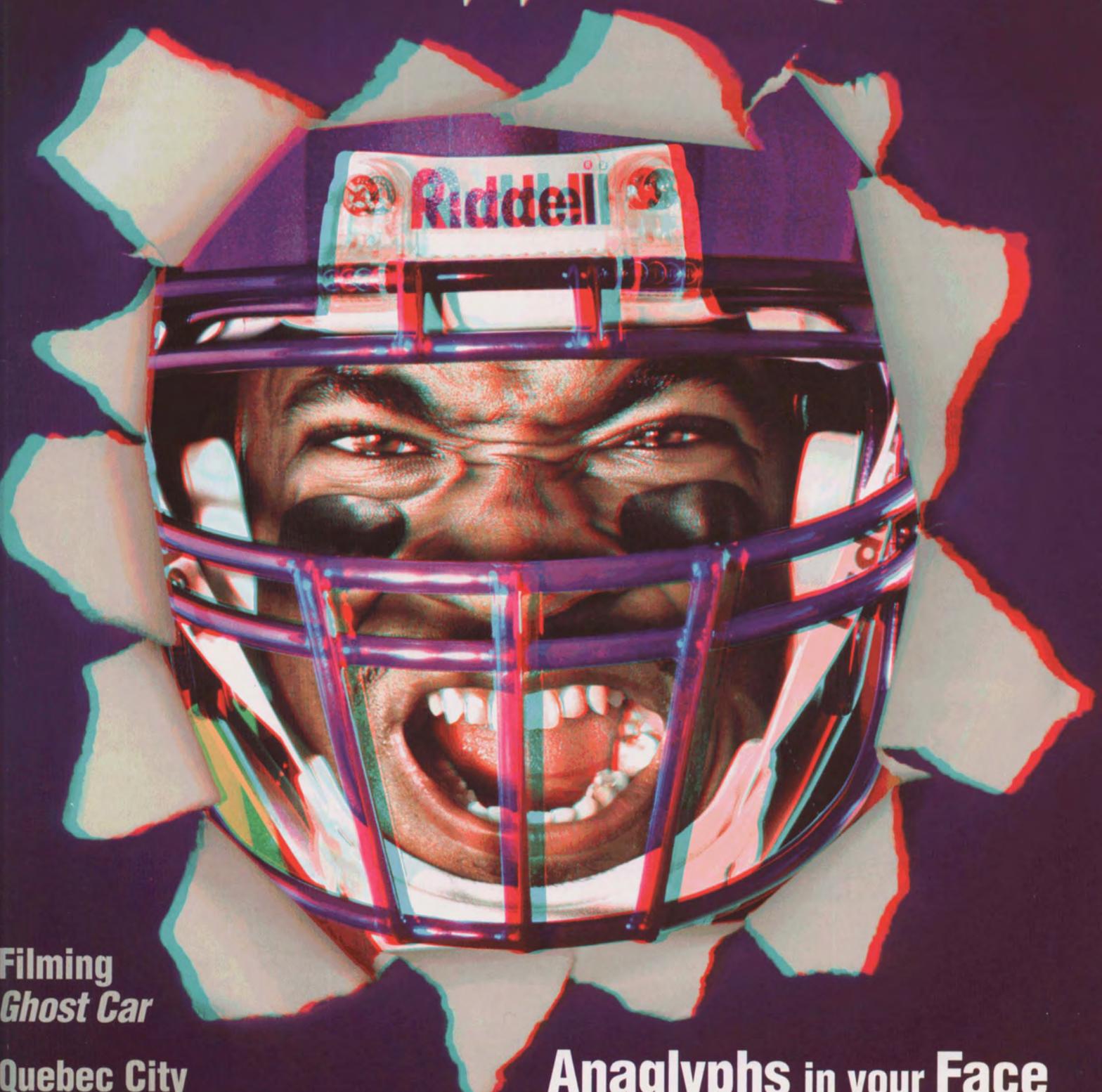
3-D Imaging Past & Present

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National
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Filming
Ghost Car

Quebec City

Anaglyphs in your Face



'50s Flavored Finds

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

by Mark Willke

People on the Street

One kind of photography that I've never been comfortable doing is taking candid shots of strangers on the street. Even taking photos of buildings or scenery that happen to include people—unless I'm at a tourist attraction where everyone has a camera or camcorder—make me feel as though I'm invading people's privacy. As a teenager in my high school's (2-dimensional) photogra-

phy club, I recall seeing ads for an innocent-looking lens attachment that fit on the end of an SLR lens and contained a mirror which allowed the photographer to take secret candid shots by appearing to aim the camera 90° from the actual subject being photographed. I never obtained such a device, but I always thought it would be a good way around my candid discomfort.

Both images shown here were made by the same photographer. The first is from a wonderful but

unlabeled series of over 100 slides that you will be seeing more of in this column. I was able to determine from various signs on buildings and streets shown in other views in the set that the images were taken in and around Tampa, Florida in about 1964. This view of the woman approaching the camera really has the look of a candid shot—almost as if the camera was secretly fired while hanging at an angle from the photographer's neck rather than being aimed and leveled using the viewfinder. Perhaps the photographer was also uncomfortable making this kind of candid image. I usually consider a tilted horizon to be a flaw, but I like the rushed, grab-shot feeling that it lends this view.

The second image is simply labeled "Rag Picker, LA", with no date. This may not be a true candid shot, as the photographer was so close to his subject here that he may have first asked permission to take the photo. That's quite a heavy-duty cart he's pushing! 📷



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.

