

3-D Imaging Past & Present

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STEREO WORLD

**A Grand Show
in Grand Rapids**



3D-World

**Stereo Paintings of
Abe Fagenson**

'50s Flavored Finds

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

by Mark Willke

Space Gear for Christmas

It's not often that both images in this column are of the same subject, taken within moments of each other, but this pair just seemed too good not to share them both!

These slides were found in an accumulation of images that appear to have been taken in the 1950s, although these particular ones contain no notes or information as to when or where they

were made. They are both mounted in the old style gray Kodak heat-seal mounts with red edges.

These two brothers apparently got up Christmas morning and found space helmets (complete with inflatable shoulder pads) and weapons waiting for them under the tree. Since this was a bit before my time, I don't know if these outfits were official replicas based on some TV show or comic book series, or if they were just generic space toys. Personally, I grew up

watching the adventures of the Robinson family in *Lost in Space*, which I'm sure had numerous tie-in products that made their way to Christmas wish lists, but that was probably nearly a decade after these guys became space explorers.

The photographer must have been using a rather slow exposure setting and moved the camera when taking these photos, since flames from the fireplace can be seen through the one boy's pants, and I'm sure he's not on fire!

Fortunately for the boys, these bubble-style helmets appear to have had large rectangular openings in front of their faces, which would not be so useful in space, but would have kept young explorers on earth supplied with enough oxygen to avoid problems. Each helmet does have some kind of symbol or logo over the forehead area which appears to include a yellow triangle, but I was not able to make out anything else there (such as the name of a character, movie, show, etc.) ☺☺



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.

