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Erotic Photography Guidelines 7/2001

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS IMPORTANT
INFORMATION FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Specialty Publications LLC publishes several erotic titles catering to a gay male audience, including *Men*, *Freshmen*, [2] and *Unzipped Monthly*. We are happy to accept unsolicited photography submissions for possible publication. Before making any submissions to us, please familiarize yourself with our magazines. You can purchase them at most newsstands, or bookstores like Barnes & Noble and Borders.

RIGHTS

- Any photo set purchased by SLI must grant SLI full universal rights, including all electronic rights and universal resale rights. These rights are specified on the Model Release form and Assignment of Rights form.
- Any photo sets submitted to SLI must be exclusive; they cannot have appeared in any other publication, nor can they be submitted simultaneously to another publication. **We will not purchase duplicates.**
- Any photo set, once purchased, becomes the exclusive property of SLI.

TEST SHOTS

- Test shots of models for consideration are welcome. Please send several prints or slides (via mail) or JPEGs (via e-mail) of the model dressed and completely nude from a variety of directions. If you want your submissions returned, please send along a stamped, self-addressed envelope (SASE). If no SASE is provided, test submissions will be destroyed after consideration.

MODELS AND DOCUMENTATION

Due to U.S. government record-keeping regulations, Specialty Publications operates under a strict set of documentation and proof-of-age guidelines. Requirements are briefly stated below. Please see the "Documentation Checklist for Photographers" for complete specifications.

- Models must be at least 18 years of age or older.
- The model, photographer, and a third-party witness must each complete a separate part of our model release and certification form.
- The photographer may also be required to complete a form transferring the ownership of photographs to Specialty Publications, which also requires the signature of a witness.
- Model is required to have TWO forms of identification. One must be a government-issued photo ID that includes the model's signature and date of birth.
- Proper identification of models must be included with a signed release. We also require a photo of the model holding both IDs near his face, so that both the model's face and the IDs are in focus and the IDs are clearly readable in the chrome (under magnification).
- The ID slides must be the first pictures taken at a shoot. The slides must be taken on the set at the actual time of the shoot. The model's hair and clothing must be the same as in the set. We cannot accept photographs of IDs that are negatives or Polaroids--slides only.
- In addition, we require clear, readable photocopies of the IDs. Note: Polaroids are NOT acceptable.
- **The photographer is responsible for paying the model(s).** The model's fees are to be negotiated between the photographer and the model. We may ask you to provide proof of payment.
- Incomplete documentation cannot be considered and will be returned.

VIAGRA® WARNING

Viagra®, a prescription medicine used to treat erectile dysfunction, should not be used during a photo shoot because of well-known side effects that may seriously alter the model's facial expression and skin tones. The most common side effect of Viagra is facial flushing or reddening of the face. Other side effects include headaches, indigestion, and temporary light sensitivity. The latter may cause the model to squint or act uncomfortable. These side effects may last up to four hours after ingestion of the medication. More information can be obtained by visiting Pfizer at www.viagra.com.

FORMAT/LIGHTING/TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- We prefer mounted 35mm slides shot on Kodak Ektachrome film, preferably E100S. Avoid film speeds above 100 ASA.
- We will consider 35mm/120mm color negative film on a case-by-case basis.
- When available, natural light is always best. Do not shoot in situations that require a shutter speed of less than 1/60 sec.
- Use fill lights if model's face is in shadow.
- When using artificial lighting, make sure the film is balanced to the temperature of the lighting. For example, strobes =

- daylight balanced and hot/tungsten lights = tungsten balanced. Do not use warming filters. Avoid all effects filters.
- Avoid harsh shadows and "flash" effects. If you are shooting in bright, high-contrast light, diffuse the light with a large silk.
 - At a minimum we require 120-150 publishable slides to complete a set. Stylistic requirements also apply.
 - All sets purchased must include all film shot for the set, including outtakes. Do not edit the set.

GENERAL STYLISTIC REQUIREMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- Models can be photographed in an interior location, outdoors, or in a studio environment.
- Creative and technically skillful photography is a definite consideration for purchase.
- Details that create a particular environment are important, but keep extraneous, potentially distracting items to a minimum.
- Compose the frame carefully. Avoid unnecessary or distracting cropping of the model.
- Try to put the model at ease. Avoid obvious posing. Be aware of stiff, awkward positions.
- Shoot the model in various states of undress. There should be two different strip-downs in a set. Photograph the model fully-clothed in both outfits. Avoid clothing/items with prominent logos, as logos of any kind cannot appear in the magazines.
- If logos such as those on underwear are unavoidable, do not attempt to hide them. They will be removed digitally.
- Avoid clothing with distracting patterns or highly contrasting color combinations. Solid colors, neutrals, and timeless styles are best. Avoid trends.
- Shoot the model in a variety of positions, ranging from full-length establishing shots to close-ups and head shots.
- There should be at least 12 completely different nude poses, plus variations (not including strip-downs).
- We need numerous shots of the model erect. Please DO NOT submit slides that suggest or document masturbation (*i.e., blurred hands at the penis and/or photographs of ejaculatè*).
- Make sure all shots are in sharp focus.
- Make sure the face is viewable in a majority of chromes, and be aware of the model's facial expressions, posture and body language.
- If you incorporate props, choose subtle ones and keep their usage to a minimum. Props should not appear in every shot throughout a set.
- AVOID photographing models using lube or covered in body oil; wearing jewelry or body piercings; actual sexual activity between models; any type of bondage or unusual fetish gear or related situations; interaction with inanimate objects.
- If there are problems with a location (for example, it's not up to the expectations of the photographer or SLI) or a model's appearance or attitude, cancel the session. In the case of assignments, call SLI and inform the assigning art director or employee as soon as possible for instructions. Problematic situations will translate into a compromised shoot and such sets will not be considered even if assigned.
- Interiors: Remove or be aware of all distracting or personally identifying items such as personal snapshots or items with logos. Create a realistic lighting ambiance. Be aware to fill in heavy shadows with limited fill light. Do not attempt to complete an entire set with a model on a singular piece of furniture or against one small area of a room. Vary the location and composition wherever possible.
- Exteriors: If you are shooting in bright, high-contrast sunlight, you must diffuse the light with a large silk. If you are unable to use any diffusion, be aware of squinting by the model and harsh shadows on the face. If you employ backlighting or are shooting on an overcast day, use fill light for the face.
- Studio: Carefully choose backdrops. Avoid pale models against white backgrounds, or dark models against black ones. Props may be used to allow the model room for more variation, but keep these elements simple. Avoid yellow and bright red. As a general rule, don't use a color that overpowers the model.

COVER CONSIDERATION

- If you think a model is exceptional, please submit one to two rolls (120mm format preferable) for cover consideration.
- Shooting for the cover should be treated separately. Each element should be carefully considered. Composition, posture, facial expressions, color and lighting are all extremely important to the success of an image for use on a cover.
- Use a neutral or muted background or non-distracting location.
- Model should be either be bare-chested or revealing themselves in an interesting way. Minimal revealing of pubic area is OK. Model's expression should be engaging. Avoid blank stares and frowning.
- Make sure the model's face is clear and well-lit.
- Allow room at the top and sides of the composition for placement of logo and printing bleed.

Please call or e-mail us at photosubmissions@specpub.com for further details and instructions, or if you have any questions.