Spéos Records

(1984-2003)

An international photographic institute, a professional training centre.

I TECHNOLOGICAL WATCH

As new technologies such as digital ones developed in the world of photo, Spéos always anticipated the evolution by resorting, as soon as 1992, to digital techniques.

- France Photographie n° 158, p.33: "Photobiographie" (October 1998)
- Le Monde de l'Image: "Une école photo à l'heure du numérique" [A photo institute facing digital techniques] (June-July 1999)
- Best of the Web: the best 500 Websites of the moment (September-October 2000)







II EVENTS

Spéos is known for its continuous presence in many crucial photographic events.

- JIP: Journées de l'Image Professionnelle [Days of the Professional Picture]

Each year Spéos participated in this major event that was linked to the Rencontres d'Arles and prefigured the current evolution of the profession.

- Le Photographe 1993
- Photographie 1993
- Le Photographe 1995
- Le Photographe 1996





- Photofolie

A major national event, Photofolie exhibited in 1993 a giant camera in which the public could enter to watch an audiovisual show.

Spéos set up a system that could transmit pictures of the camera from the Champ de Mars to the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, simultaneously broadcasting them in New York.

Moreover, this event being intended for a very large public – more or less experienced –, Spéos gave initiation courses for the beginners and conferences for the professionals, on digital pictures as well as on commercial photography.

- Le Parisien: "Photofolie: tout un week-end à l'œil" [Photofolie: a whole week-end of free photographic events] (June 5-6, 1993)

- Photofolie: program of the events
- Le Figaro: "Grandes Ecoles Universités: Délire d'images" [A picture frenzy] (June 8, 1993): Article on the second edition of Photofolie that took place from the 4th to the 6th of June 1993 on the theme "Let's open our eyes".



- Days of the Transmission

Spéos was the initiator of this event, supported by France Télécom. The Days of the Transmission presented all types of transmission available at the time, and in particular the Spéos kit that was distributed by the SAT.

This aspect of digital pictures was a forerunner of the broadcasting of information that is Internet today.

- The Paris Free Voice: "Spéos Pictures the Future" (March 1993)
- Vente Photo Video Labo: "Spéos et la transmission d'images" [Spéos and the transmission of pictures] (March-April 1993, n° 37)
- Herald Tribune: "Impressing your friends and other travel lessons" (April 30th, 1993)
- Le Photographe: "Création interactive à distance par Spéos" [Interactive "telecreation" by Spéos] (June 1993)
- Photographies Magazine: "Photofolie" (June 1993): "During three days Spéos will transmit pictures from the Palais de Tokyo in Paris to New York via the Numeris network."
- Photo Echos: "Polaroïd aux JIP" [Polaroid at the JIP] (July 1993). Digitized pictures were transmitted to the premises of the Spéos institute in Paris, which was able to modify them at will on a screen, thus simulating the work of a potential client.
- Democrat and Chronicle: "Art goes high-tech at four-day exposition" (July 11, 1993)
- Democrat and Chronicle: "Midway to the future" (July 24, 1993)
- L'Echo de la Presse: "Création en direct" [Live creation] (September 1993): "Spéos set up an interactive system permitting to transmit and manipulate digital pictures between distant machines."
- Le Photographe: "L'argentique, d'un atelier à l'autre" [Traditional photography, from one studio to

the other] (September 1993). Transmission to Paris by Numeris network via Spéos.

- BAT Magazine: "Dialoguer d'un écran à l'autre" [Conversing from one screen to the other] (October 1993)
- Le Photographe: "Les journées de la transmission d'images" [The Days of the Transmission of pictures] (May 1994)





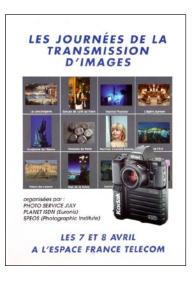














- Stop System

This method, invented by Spéos, assures a quick and good command of the photographic technique. It helps controlling the density of the picture contrasts. The Stop System has had an industrial application through the timer "Timer Stop System", trays and accessories distributed by the Deville company.

- Réponses Photo n° 84, March 1999, Readers' comments column: "About the Stop System"
- La Photo Librairie, June/July 1999: "La photo en pro grace au Stop System" [Professional photography thanks to the Stop System]
- France Photographie n° 163, October 1999: "La photo en pro grace au Stop System" [The professional photo thanks to the Stop System], "Technique Stop System"
- La Photographie en France 1975 à 2000, Christian Gattinoni, published by the Department of Culture

de conseils sur le traitement, les chi-mies, l'aménagement du labo, le masquage, le repique... Ce lure est en réalité le fruit de la collaboration de trois auteurs, les Américains Richard Zakia et Gordon

or formation au prestigieux Institute of Technology de Rochester et le Français Pierre-Yves Mahé, directeur du Centre de Formation Spécis. Il a













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- Arles

Arles is the oldest photography festival in the world. It has existed for nearly 40 years. Each year, more than 3.000 specialists go there in order to attend workshops, debates or special events and see exhibitions.

Spéos has played an important role in several of the Rencontres, organizing workshops, summer schools or meetings and events (videoconferences). The first official presentation of the film concerning the renovation of the Maison Nicéphore Niépce happened during the Rencontres of 1999 at the Roman Theatre.

- Free Voice: "Interactive Photography revolutionizes visual communication"
- Official programs of the Arles Festival





- Fringe Festival

This festival aims at promoting young photographers. Since the beginning, Spéos has financed the event and presented many of its students, as well as the first photos concerning the Stop System and the House of Nicéphore Niépce.

- International Festival of Fashion Photography (Monaco and Biarritz)

This festival used to take place each year in different European towns. It gathered the elite of the profession (photographers, agencies, publishers...).

In Monaco, Spéos took part in it with Polaroid in order to show the reality of the pictures' transmission and present the system of the "telediscussion" about snapshots.

In Biarritz, Spéos organized a slide show during the interlude of the awards ceremony, realized with one of the very first digital Nikon cameras.

- Biarritz Magazine: "6º Festival International de la Photographie de Mode", p.7 (April 1996)
- Sud-Ouest: "Festival International de la Photo de Mode à Biarritz" (May 1996)

- DTP (Desktop Publishing)

In 1996, the DTP show was the meeting place of graphic designers, advertising agencies and printers. Spéos was asked to organize an event during the exhibition: it presented a robot realized by Gérard Perron, designed to make photos in three dimensions thanks to the software QuickTime VR.

- Montage 93

A unique and international event that took place in Rochester, initiated by Nathan Lyon, founder of the famous "Visual Studies Workshop" school in Rochester. Its goal was to show the present state of new technologies at international level.

Spéos was invited to make a demonstration of a photo-videoconference : "Take a seat, take a mouse and speak with Paris".

In front of lecture halls attended by 200 people, several guests commented and modified a picture with the Spéos team in Paris.

- Musique d'images

Musique d'images [Pictures' Music] was a group of pictures' creators from Avignon that Spéos was affiliated with for a few years. It reached an enormous audience thanks to the display of huge digital pictures throughout the city. Those giant prints were realized on a wide-format HP printer with RIP Cactus, a technology that was already taught at Spéos at the time.

- L'Artisan, July 1995

III PARTNERSHIPS / COLLABORATIONS

Spéos has held long and solid partnerships with major actors in the world of photography.

- UPC (Union des Photographes Créateurs)

The UPC gathers the bulk of the profession: commercial and fashion photographers as well as photojournalists. Spéos has often hosted the digital Commission in its premises and has organized many workshops and demonstrations likely to guide the profession.

- SIPI

Each year, Spéos holds a stand at the International Show for the Pictures' Professions (SIPI). Its aim is to offer an initiation to the vocabulary and the existing techniques in an educational perspective.

For the last two shows Spéos occupied a 200 m2 stand right at the entrance that was financed by all the photo manufacturers: it helped explaining the broad lines of the digital techniques and directing the public.

- International Show for the Pictures' Professions: press kit (March 13-16, 1998)

- Prophot

Spéos frequently offers its digital equipment and studios to Prophot (the first French distributor of professional photo consumables) for the creation of mini exhibitions aiming at showing new professional equipments in a real context.

- Forum of digital communication

Since 1994, Spéos presides over the Image group which is constituted by the big photo manufacturers and telecom operators and which is in charge of testing all input and output peripheral devices via all types of phone lines.

- The French Federation of Photography

The French Federation of Photography chose Spéos to train its members. Spéos regularly hosts them in its premises.

- American universities/American University of Paris

In 1997 Spéos collaborated with the American University of Paris, training its students for the first time in digital techniques during programs of continuing education.

- Club des créateurs

Spéos organizes shooting sessions with young fashion creators for their collections. The pictures that are produced are frequently exhibited during the big fashion events.

IV ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In addition to the aforementioned specific actions and events, Spéos has accomplished many projects.

- Spéos Sagem Kit (1993)

Spéos set up a computer system permitting to visualize, discuss and modify pictures from a distance in an interactive way. It is an original combination of programs, "telerepair" work, image reading and transmission. The system is designed for picture professionals (photography, graphics, drawings) who can through telework gain an important amount of time.

- Websites (1996-2002)

Ten websites dedicated to Spéos and more generally to photography:

http://speos.fr

http://niepce.com

http://www.petitesannoncesphoto.com

http://www.stop-system.com

http://www.pixoclock.com

http://www.pixpartners.com

http://www.photo-paris.com

http://www.prophot-numerique.com

http://www.speos-photographers.com

http://www.formation-Photo.com

- Stop System (1997)

The Stop System is a method invented by Spéos permitting to obtain the right density rapidly. It permits to rectify mistakes, to modify contrasts and to quickly control the picture in the laboratory as well as in the studio. This method has been described in a book written by Pierre-Yves Mahé in collaboration with Dick Zakia and Gordon Brown, distributed by Kodak Books in the United States for the American version and by France-Delory for the French one.

http://www.stop-system.com

- Program for the hearing-impaired

Special programs have been set up in 1997 at Spéos allowing, for the first time in France, the hearing-impaired to get a photographic training.

France Télécom (Forum of digital communication) and Spéos sponsored a year of studies for a young deaf girl in the United States (at Rochester Institute of Technology / NTID). Since then, Nadia Kantara, while keeping links with NTID through videoconference, has taught two years at Spéos.

- House of Nicéphore Niépce (2001)

Spéos restored the house of Nicéphore Niépce, the place where the first photography in the world was taken. This house, full of history, has been transformed into a museum and into a place where workshops are organized, in order to perpetuate the processes of Niépce and Daguerre.

The film about the restoration of the house, which was coproduced by Spéos/CNRS, was nominated at the International Festival of the Scientific Film in 2001 as well as at the Festival of the Researchers' Film in 2002.

- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "Un coup de projecteur sur Saint-Loup-de-Varennes" [A spotlight on Saint-Loup-de-Varennes] (October 19th, 2000)
- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "Exceptionnel, la maison Niépce ouvre ses portes" [Extraordinary: The house of Niépce opens its doors] (September 9th, 2001)
- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "Nicéphore sur la toile" [Nicéphore on the Web] (February 1st, 2002)
- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "Technologie de pointe, le Site 'Niepce.com' présenté à Saint-Loup-de-Varennes" [State-of-the-art technology: the Website Niepce.com presented in Saint-Loup-de-Varennes] (February 2nd, 2002)
- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "La vente du Château de Lamartine engendre la zizanie. La maison Niépce en exemple à suivre" [The sale of Lamartine's castle generates discord. The house of Niépce: an example to follow] (February 5th, 2002)
- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "La maison de Saint-Loup et Internet pour redécouvrir Nicéphore Niépce" [The house of Saint-Loup and the Web: rediscovering Nicéphore Niépce] (February 3rd, 2002)
- Le Bien Public: "Chez Nicéphore Niépce à Saint-Loup-de-Varennes" [At Nicéphore Niépce's in Saint-Loup-de-Varennes] (September 15th, 2002)
- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "Le 'Joyau' des Journées du patrimoine 2002 en Chalonnais" [The 'Gem' of the Heritage Days in the region of Châlon-sur-Saône] (September 20th, 2002)
- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "Le 'Clou' des Journées du patrimoine 2002. Sur les traces de Nicéphore Niépce [The star attraction of the Heritage Days 2002. On the steps of Nicéphore Niépce] (September 21st, 2002)
- Le Progrès: "Inauguration réussie de la maison Niépce" [The successful inauguration of the house of Niépce] (September 22nd, 2002)
- L'Indépendant: "Les premières photos du monde en Saône-et-Loire" [The first photos of the world in Saône-et-Loire] (September 24th, 2002)
- *Midi Libre*: "Un des premiers Daguerréotypes de Paris à Saint-Loup-de-Varennes" [One of the first Daguerreotypes of Paris in Saint-Loup-de-Varennes] (September 24th, 2002)
- Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire: "Patrimoine photographique. Le monde de Nicéphore expliqué aux élus" [Photographic Heritage. The world of Nicéphore Niépce explained to the elected representatives] (October 21st, 2002)
- Le Figaro Magazine: "Le mystère de la première photo" [The mystery of the first photo] (September 2002)
- Le Photographe (January 2003)





















- Prophot Numérique

Prophot Numérique was born from the association of Spéos and of Prophot SA (the first French distributor of professional photo consumables). Its aim is to orient, equip and train photographers in all new technologies.

- Photo Echos, "ProPhot, un nouvel espace numérique" [ProPhot, a new digital space], November 1997
- Le Photographe n° 1556, "ProPhot, 50 ans de service des professionnels" [ProPhot, 50 years of service for the professionals], July/August 1998
- Le Monde de l'Image n° 10, "ProPhot fait salon" [ProPhot holds its exhibition], November 2000

- Pixpartners

In January 2002 Spéos launched a hosting service for photographers, the commercialization of which was assured by Prophot Numérique. Apart from being a hosting service, Pixpartners had an educational aim: it consisted in explaining to photographers the importance of referencing one's website and of maintaining one's visibility in the case of a change of host.

In April 2002 Spéos also launched a photo search engine called "pixOclock.com", an on-line service for filing and searching pictures based on the description of pictures according to the IPTC international norm.

Since then, PixO'clock has become Spéos' brand for consultancy and training in the field of image management and publication.

V CONFERENCES / EVENTS

- "International transmissions of interactive pictures, by Spéos"
- Spéos, Paris, July 6th, 1992
- Rhodes Island School of Design, USA, March 6th, 1993
- Imagol for Gallimard, Paris, June 3rd, 1993
- Photofolie, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, June 4-6, 1993
- School of Visual Arts, New York, June 23th, 1993
- Espace Entreprise France Telecom, les Halles-Paris, November 19th, 1993
- SATIS, Paris, March 6-10, 1994
- Rochester Institute of Technology, USA, March 18th, 1994
- Fotofest, Houston-Texas, March 19-27, 1994
- Apple Show, July 5th, 1994
- Pixel et Grains d'Argent, Apple Exhibition, Paris, September 16th, 1994
- Hôtel Georges V, Paris, March 28-29, 1995
- Espace France Telecom, les Halles-Paris, April 12th, 1995
- Apple France, les Ulis, April 13th, 1995
- Musique d'Images, Avignon, June 21-22, 1995
- Days of the Professional Picture, Arles, July 5-10, 1995
- Festival of Fashion Photography, Biarritz, May 1-5, 1996
- Communica, Deauville, 1998
- Communica, Deauville, 1999

- "Distance transmission, with Polaroid"
- Spéos, Paris, October 1992
- Festival of Fashion Photography, Monaco, December 1992
- The Photo Show, Paris, February 1993
- "Transmissions of interactive pictures for the professionals, by Pierre-Yves Mahé", Days of the Professional Picture, Arles, July 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996
- "Distance transmission, by Pierre-Yves Mahé", Days of the Transmission, France Telecom-Les Halles, April 1993
- Inauguration of the distance learning course between Spéos/Rochester Institute of Technology/Rhodes Island School of Design, Days of the Transmission, France Telecom-Les Halles, April 1993
- Workshops Black & White/The Stop-System at the National School of Photography for the Rencontres d'Arles, July 1993
- Montage 93 : Photo-videoconference
- "Take a seat, take a mouse and speak with Paris", Rochester, New York, July 1993
- Organization of a videoconference with Arnauld Newman based in New York, during the evening events of the Roman Theater at the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Rencontres d'Arles, July 1994
- Organization of the Photo Summer School for the National Centre of Photography and the Department of National Education:
- Arles, July 1996
- Paris, July 1997
- Organization of computer courses at the National School of Photography for the Rencontres d'Arles, July 1995 and 1996
- "The picture in 3 dimensions on the Internet, QuickTime VR", DTP (Desktop Publishing) Exhibition, Paris, February 1996
- Participation in the exhibition "3D Picture" and in the catalogue "Musée Carnavalet" in Paris, June 1999

- "Distance transmission, by Pierre-Yves Mahé": Organization of an overhead projection during the interlude of the awards ceremony, realized with one of the very first digital Nikon cameras, at the International Festival of Fashion Photography in Monaco and Biarritz in May 1996
- First official presentation of the film depicting the renovation of the Maison Nicéphore Niépce at the Roman Theater during the Rencontres d'Arles, July 1999
- Fringe Festival of the Rencontres d'Arles:
- Presentation of the Stop System, July 1999
- Presentation of the Maison Nicéphore Niépce, July 2000
- Conferences on the restoration of the house of the first photography (Maison Nicéphore Niépce) and presentation of the Website "niepce.com" dedicated to the man, his time and his inventions:
- University of Orsay, Orsay, November 2000
- Society for Photographic Education, Savanah, USA, March 2001
- Society for Photographic Education, Hampton, USA, March 2001
- Society for Photographic Education, Austin, USA, March 2003
- Appalachian University, USA, March 2001
- Maison européenne de la photographie, Paris, April 2002
- Town hall of Saint-Loup-de-Varennes, Burgundy, April 2002
- International Symposium "At First Light", Austin, USA, November 2003