

In Memoriam - Carlos Cacola

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on behalf of

Dalhousie Notice <notice@DAL.CA>

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To: DAL-NOTICE@LISTS.DAL.CA <DAL-NOTICE@LISTS.DAL.CA>

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University Photographer 1978-1989

Carlos Cacola worked as official university photographer at the Departments of Photography Services and Instructional Media Services during an era pre-dating digital cameras, auto-focus or photoshop. A sensitive photographic artist and an excellent technician, Carlos was renowned for his portraits of Honorary Degree recipients, presidents, deans and faculty members. These portraits still hang on the walls of Dalhousie offices and boardrooms; each is marked by Carlos' distinctive gold signature in the lower right corner. Many of Carlos' negatives and prints have been donated to the University Archives in the Killam Library.

Former university videographer Findlay Muir, Manager of Classroom Planning and Technology, Centre for Learning and Teaching, recalls his years working alongside Carlos:

"Carlos mentored me when I first joined the photography department at Dalhousie. He had an amazing eye for detail, for a well composed shot and for his ability to blend into events he was covering, watching intently for the moment where his huge camera would trigger with a solid clunk. How he held that camera steady was a mystery, but the images were always sharp and perfectly exposed.

"In the darkroom, Carlos was a master. He knew every trick in the book and was willing to share with a junior technician, me, at that time. It seemed there was nothing he didn't know about photography and it was only later I found out that Carlos held the title of Master of Photographic Arts from the PPAC (Professional Photographers Association of Canada). Carlos put a huge amount of energy into his portrait sessions and photographed many well known and not so well known subjects. His pictures still hang in many locations at Dalhousie and his style was as distinct as he was."

Carlos Cacola's obituary can be found at: <https://www.localxpress.ca/obituaries/cacola-carlos-alberto-brilhante-378658>