

RIVERARTS

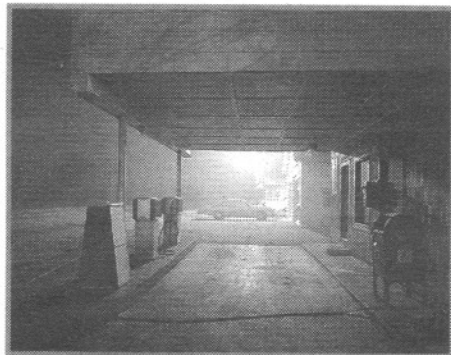
River Arts District gallery attracts founder of NYU Photography Department for upcoming show

BY BETH GOSSETT

You might see Paul Own, the founder of the Photography department at NYU, riding his Harley Davidson down a country road somewhere around Asheville, but if you want to see some of his photographs you will have to visit Bella Vista Art Gallery, 240 Clingman Ave., in the River Arts District.

There will be an opening on June 2, 5-8 pm, through the end of the month, featuring his *Night Light* series.

Paul's photographs are hanging in the Museum Of Modern Art in New York and have been published in the *New York Times* as well as a list of other prestigious publications. Own's early photography experiences were in Vietnam and are now on display at the National Vietnam Veterans Arts Museum.



*Gas Station in the Fog*, by Paul Own, photograph

Like a scientist, studying his own connections and disconnections with the Vietnam experience, he captured, tagged and recorded moments, which had larger meanings, from the whirlpool around him.

Own's *Night Light* series is characterized by rich shades of black, and subtle ranges of grey, which capture some of the

beauty our eyes just begin to detect in the night air around us. Taken in the Catskill region of upstate New York, using a 4 X 5 view camera, with exposures that ranged from five to 35 minutes, Own has snatched some of the magic out of the evening hours and skillfully translated it into images that give pause and respect for the nocturnal world.

Own's wife, Wendy, was the catalyst for their move to Asheville. He has embraced the move to the mountains of North Carolina and indicated that showing his work in Asheville was important to him because he wants to build his ties and relationships with the local art community and that showing his work in the River Arts District is one of the doorways to that relationship.

*For more information and directions to the gallery visit [www.BellaVistaArt.com](http://www.BellaVistaArt.com) or call (828) 768-0246.*