

Lawyer finds new image

From rock to justice, lawyer totes camera everywhere

BY SANDRA GIONAS
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Paul Sanderson always wanted a career in the arts.

During the mid-1970s, the Scarborough native stopped dreaming of becoming a major rock star to find success behind the scenes instead as an entertainment lawyer. Now the 41-year-old lawyer and author is finding success behind the camera lens.

"I was looking for other ways to express myself," Sanderson says from the office of his private practice on Queen Street West.

The result is a budding career as a photographer after he took a couple of photography courses just a few years ago. Sanderson's work is noted for its use of light and its focus on everyday objects, city and industrial landscapes.

"I just keep my camera with me at all times and snap away," Sanderson says of his stark black and white images. He regularly stops on his way into work in the mornings, pulling the camera out of his brief case to capture something that's captured him.

"I also do moving shots out of my car," he says.

Sanderson's career path has taken many twists and turns since he graduated from R. H. King Collegiate in 1972.

He started his professional



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NEW SCENE: Lawyer Paul Sanderson is surrounded by his black and white pictures. His work is noted for its focus on everyday objects.

music career, playing guitar in a band called West. Quickly realizing how tough the life of an aspiring musician can be, Sanderson supplemented his income by working at odd jobs, including dishwashing and fac-

tory work. It was during a stint as a law clerk that Sanderson realized he could remain in the music industry by working on the business side.

He returned to school and eventually graduated from Os-

goode Hall law school at York University in 1981. Two years later, Sanderson became a published author with his book *Musicians And The Law In Canada*.

"It took a full year out of my life to write it," he says of the book often called the "bible of the music industry." Sanderson wrote an updated version a few years ago, double the size of the original.

Despite his busy career, Sanderson still finds time to mount photo exhibits. His first show, *The France Portfolio* at the Express Cafe on Queen Street West, was a series of shots taken during a business trip to Cannes.

Sanderson had another show at the Scarborough Arts Council office a few months ago and a piece called *Scarborough Depicted* was featured at Scarborough College's gallery. The triptych — or three-photo image — includes a cyclist on Brimley Rd., commuters walking up the steps of the Warden subway station and a shot of his father Harold mowing the lawn at the Eastville Ave. house where Sanderson grew up.

Currently, Sanderson has a piece featured in the show *PhotoCoffee* at the Jet Fuel Cafe on Parliament St. He's also preparing for a couple of shows at Eight Elm Photo in June and July and in Haliburton in 1997.

If he ever got bored with his clients, book-writing and photography, Sanderson could always turn to poetry, another of his new hobbies.

But he still can't get away from his first love. Sanderson still jams on his guitar at the east end home he now shares with his wife of two years, fellow lawyer Cassandra Phillips.