

Nimslo 3-D

TYPE: 35mm 3-Dimensional camera.

LENS: Four non-interchangeable 30mm f/5.6 Quadra lenses with stops to f/22, fixed-focus.

SHUTTER: Electronically-controlled behind-lens leaf shutter with speeds from 1/30 to 1/500 sec., X sync.

VIEWING: Direct optical finder with bright projected frame.

OTHER FEATURES: Three 1.5-volt silver oxide batteries power CdS circuit for programmed auto exposure with single cell reading scene directly; sufficient-light and underexposure warning LEDs in finder, hot shoe accepts dedicated electronic

flash unit.

PRICE: \$249.50.

MANUFACTURER: Timex Corp., Dundee, Scotland.

IMPORTER: Nimslo Corp., Atlanta, GA.

PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS: 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. wide, 2 $\frac{15}{16}$ in. high, 1 $\frac{11}{16}$ in. deep.

WEIGHT: 12 $\frac{1}{8}$ oz.

Certainly the most innovative and unusual camera in our top camera assembly this year is the Nimslo 3D, destined by its creators to carve out yet another niche besides those occupied by standard 2-D, video and instant photography.

You examine the plastic-coated 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. prints you have received from the processor. They are vertical. The camera does not make horizontals. Color is much as you would expect from regular 35mm color prints. But the pictures have three-dimensional depth and you're seeing it without any special glasses. The effect reminds you a bit of those trick 3-D postcards you've seen for sale made by elaborate camera techniques, but unlike them, these pictures which were made by you, don't have the pronounced cardboard cutout look and, as you turn the prints from side to side slowly, the images don't black out. You seem to be able to see around subjects.

The photographs you are holding could be produced from any negative color film: Fujicolor or Kodacolor, with speeds of 100 or 400, but the exposures must be made in the Nimslo 3-D camera. This leatherette-covered aluminum die-cast bodied camera makes 18 3-D pictures on a regular 36-exposure roll, 12 on a 24-exposure roll or 10 on a 20-exposure roll. The four half-frame, vertical negatives are snapped at the same instant through four carefully matched three-element f/5.6 lenses, each with its own synchronized rear leaf shutter. In insufficient light, a red LED appears prominently to warn you to use flash. In proper light a green LED appears at the projected frame bottom in the finder. A press on the soft, quiet release and you have made a 3-D picture of any subject matter between 6 ft. and beyond (although the 3-D effect is most pronounced at 6 to 25 ft.) You needn't focus. The lenses are fixed-focus at their hyperfocal depth.

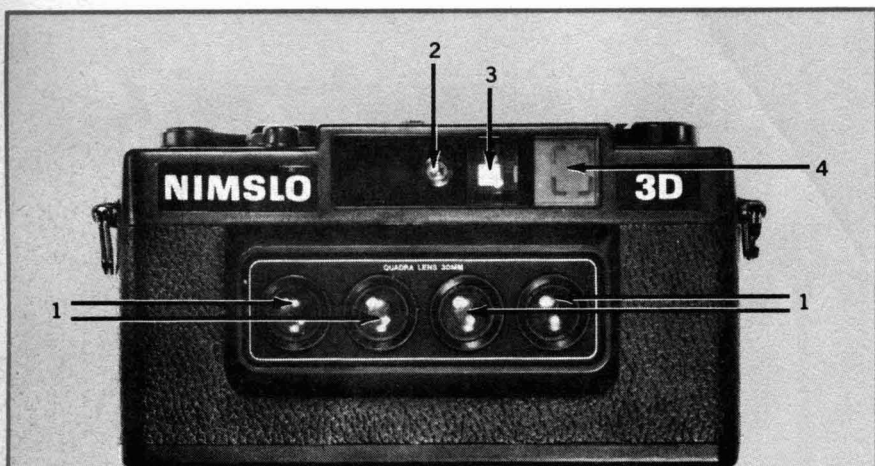
Need flash? A Nimslo two-AA-cell Optilite flash unit provides direct or bounce light.

You mail or drop off your pictures and they are returned at the usual cost of processing a roll of negative color plus 95¢ a 3-D print. Can larger prints be made? While Nimslo isn't yet making them commercially, they will. An 8 × 10 Nimslo 3-D print is impressive.

The prints can also be transilluminated from the back and viewed in a light box (although there is the danger of eventual print fading particularly if the light box is left on. However this would be true of all commercially made prints today, two dimensional or three, if left in similar circumstances).

While Nimslo has not revealed just how the prints are actually made, the technique seems to be as follows: The four pictures are made into six stereo pairs (the pictures from lenses 1 & 2, 1 & 3, 1 & 4, 2 & 3, 2 & 4 and 3 & 4 making up the six) which are printed in a sequence by a special enlarger system through a permanently-attached lenticular grid onto a sensitized color print emulsion. The fine grid can be detected on the prints if you look closely.

The camera went on sale first in Florida. The sales program will roll out north and west from there. By the time you read this, you probably will be able to see one and its results in your neighborhood stores in most parts of the United States. If not, it's worth waiting for.



1. Matched 30mm f/5.6 Quadra lenses in individual leaf shutters. 2. CdS meter cell. 3. Direct optical viewfinder. 4. Bright frame illumination window. 5. ASA 100-400 film speed selector. 6. Shutter release. 7. Frame counter. 8. Rapid-wind lever. 9. Dedicated flash hot shoe. 10. Rewind knob and crank.

