

# Rolleiflex SL35E

**TYPE:** 35mm eye-level single-lens reflex.  
**LENS:** 50mm f/1.4 or f/1.8 HFT Planar in Rollei bayonet mount, stops to f/16, focusing to 18 in.

**SHUTTER:** Rollei electronically-controlled metal-blade focal plane with speeds from 16 to 1/1000 sec. plus B, X sync, electronic self-timer.

**VIEWING:** Non-interchangeable eye-level prism with diagonal split-image rangefinder, microprism spot, full-focusing interchangeable screen.

**OTHER FEATURES:** 6-volt silver oxide battery powered silicon cell circuit with cells on either side of eyepiece measures center-weighted area of focusing screen at full aperture for auto exposure (aperture-preferred), manual override with blinking match-diode exposure system, depth-of-field preview button, multiple exposure provision, diode battery check, film box reminder slot, auto-exposure compensation, memory lock, shutter speeds and apertures visible in the finder, shutter-release lock, hot shoe.

**PRICE:** \$475 with 50mm f/1.8 Planar. Black body, \$25 additional.

**MANUFACTURER:** Rollei Singapore Private Ltd.

**IMPORTER:** Rollei of America, Inc., Littleton, CO 80160.

**PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS:** 5.3 in. wide, 3.4 in. high, 3.5 in. deep.

**WEIGHT:** 28.4 oz.

Rollei has now discontinued all other 35mm SLRs save this auto-exposure model. A wise decision. This is their best, and an excellent camera. At the heart of the camera is Rollei's 14-bladed metal shutter, unique in concept. It's electronically controlled and features a remarkably broad range of shutter speeds—down to 16 full seconds. Camera operation is also unique. Slight pressure on the huge shutter-release button turns on the meter circuit, revealing bright red diodes at the left within the viewfinder. These indicate the shutter speed set by the center-weighted, fast-acting silicon cell meter circuit. More pressure causes the memory lock to operate, thus locking in the reading. Additional pressure trips the relatively quiet shutter. Besides a  $\pm 2$  f/stop auto-exposure-compensation control, the metering system can also be used when you move the shutter-speed dial from the A setting to manual electronically-controlled shutter speeds (which are infinitely variable, by the way, and can thus be set between markings). When you press the shutter release you will see one or two diodes constantly lit, showing you the shutter speed you've selected, while one or more other diodes pulsate to indicate the speed setting suggested by the metering system. You can match diodes or not, depending on your needs. The meter coupling range is satisfyingly great: We were able to make exposures all the way down to 16 sec. at f/1.8 with ASA 400 film.

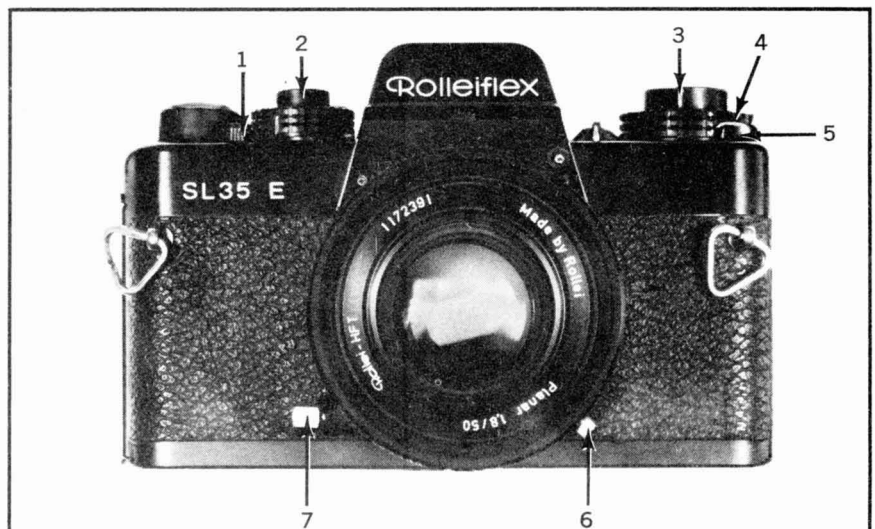
Besides the shutter-speed diode display,

the finder also incorporates an adequately bright focusing screen (interchangeable from within the mirror chamber) with the unique Rollei diagonal-bar split-image rangefinder plus a generous outer microprism spot and full-focusing screen. Below the finder area is an uncommonly large window in which the highly magnified and very legible aperture numeral set is reflected from the lens barrel itself.

There are many added features of this Rollei you don't expect to find on a camera of its price class—multiple exposure provision and Zeiss-designed lens, for instance.

The electronic self-timer and self-timer diode, which warns the subjects the self-timer is operating, are welcome touches, as is the frame counter, which will not operate unless film is advancing properly.

The lens uses the Rollei bayonet mount. Rollei has a series of lenses for the camera from 28 to 200mm plus zooms. More are on the way. We are hoping the future will see the promised auto-winder and perhaps a fully dedicated electronic flash system. Even without these, however, the SL35E is an outstanding camera quite capable of carrying the Rollei name.



1. Shutter-release lock. 2. Shutter-release button/meter LED actuating switch/exposure memory-lock hold. 3. Rewind crank with folded rapid rewind lever. 4.  $\pm 2$  f/stop exposure compensation dial. 5. Exposure compensation dial release-lever. 6. Lens release but-

ton. 7. Preview and lens stop-down button. 8. Rapid wind lever. 9. Exposure counter. 10. Auto-exposure dial. 11. Combined rewind/multi-exposure lever. 12. Hot flash shoe. 13. Battery check button. 14. Electronic self-timer. 15. ASA index-setting window.

