

[Home](#) > [Arts & Lifestyle](#) > [Arts & Culture News](#)

 [E-mail](#)  [Graphic](#)  [Popular](#)

A global family

By **Jennifer Lord**/ Daily News Staff

Thursday, November 9, 2006 - Updated: **02:55 AM EST**

Carl Shedd was a wanderer and a shutterbug in his younger days, so it was no surprise when his daughter Elizabeth started toting her camera on adventures to far-off lands.

It was more of a surprise when she recently announced that she was putting on a photographic exhibit -- and, by the way, it was a father-daughter show, and he was required to participate.

"Suddenly, I had to go to work to get things ready," said Carl Shedd with a laugh. "Go through all my old pictures, figure out what would work...but she was excited about it, so why not?"

The collaboration resulted in "Old Worlds, New Worlds," an exhibit spanning over 50 years and four continents now on display at Dunia, an eco-friendly store in downtown Maynard. The photographs were shot both by Carl Shedd, 74, a Sherborn resident, and Elizabeth Shedd, 27, who calls Ashland home when she's not traveling through South America.

Carl Shedd first picked up a simple box camera at the age of 13 and moved on to his grandfather's old Leica.

"They were built back then to last a lifetime and they're wonderful," he said.

In 1952, his great-aunt took him on a summer tour of Europe, and many of the photographs in the show date from that trip: a red-light district in Amsterdam; stag hunters in Northern Ireland; the Ponte Vecchio in Florence, Italy. In the 1970s, his travels took him among the hippies of San Francisco. His more recent photos are digital and stick fairly close to home, featuring scenes from Farm Pond in Natick and other natural settings.

The photographs are an interesting contrast to those of his daughter, whose travels with the National Outdoor Leadership School have taken her throughout South America. Elizabeth Shedd recently returned to Peru, where she's studying Quechua, the indigenous language of the Andean region.

"I am attracted to the vast amount of open, free space here in South America," Elizabeth Shedd wrote in an e-mail. "I come here to feel human. My hope is to continue learning the languages from the mountains into the rainforest, human and animal alike. Perhaps I will pursue a degree in ethnobotany, I am not sure. First, I need to finish college."

Her photographs reflect her travels: Chilean Patagonia at sunset, a woman begging in Bolivia, the mountains of Cusco, Peru. While she missed the opening of her first photo exhibit, she's continuing to add to her portfolio, posting the occasional shot to the blog she set up to communicate with family and friends back home.

In her artist statement, Elizabeth Shedd speaks of her fascination with language, introducing with a Quechua greeting: "Allpamanta kanki, allpaman kutinki. You are of the earth, and to the earth you will return."

Writes Elizabeth Shedd, "I thank my father for introducing me to photography. He is a man who sees beauty in all things, and has supported me in my effort to do the same.

"Photography isn't just capturing an image," she added. "A photograph represents pushing your body to its limit, to eating two meals at night just to dry the clothes on your back, it means sitting still and listening. Photography is learning a new language. Each photograph here represents an amount of time and energy spent in learning and living consciously within this world."

"She's very independent and a good kid," Carl Shedd said.

The Shedds will donate half of the proceeds from the show to the Earthwatch Institute, a nonprofit that supports scientific field research by offering volunteers the opportunity to join research teams around the world.

Elizabeth Shedd plans to join her first Earthwatch project in Puerto Maldonado, Peru, to study macaws, a species of parrot that is threatened by rainforest clearing and the pet trade.

"Old Worlds, New Worlds" will be on display through Jan. 6 at Dunia, 43 Nason St., Maynard. An artist's reception featuring Carl Shedd takes place Sunday, Nov. 19, from 2 to 5 p.m. The exhibit may be viewed during store hours, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Thursdays until 8 p.m.



A Bolivian beggar. (Elizabeth Shedd photo)

Herald Interactive Tools

-  [Related articles](#)
-  [E-mail article to a friend](#)
-  [Graphic version](#)
-  [Search site](#)
-  [Sign up for home delivery](#)