

Backstage Pass: Photography
Miguel Hortiguera, Photographer
Royal Ontario Museum

[Podcast begins with animated ROM logo and sound sting; Zoom in on the centre of the 'O' to transition to a black screen with the animated Schad specimen medallion; animated title with animated green butterfly appears: Schad: Backstage Pass]

[Music starts and plays softly throughout the podcast; View of Miguel Hortiguera, Photographer, in a lab] **Miguel Hortiguera:** I've been a photographer for roughly twenty years, *[sound of a camera shutter clicking]*... mostly doing commercial work.

[Cut to a shot of Miguel working at a table; Cut to a shot of Miguel looking at an image on a computer screen] **Miguel:** It really started it off much as a hobby. *[Cut to shot of Miguel picking up a specimen and carrying it to the portable studio]* At some point the hobby became expensive *[Cut to shot of Miguel speaking in a lab]* and I thought I should really try to earn some money back from this equipment *[sound of a cash register]* and that's essentially how I started.

[Cut to shot of Miguel setting up a specimen; Cut to Miguel rotating the specimen; Cut to shot of Miguel speaking in the lab] **Miguel:** The photographs I'm producing here are being used on some touch screens, um, for the gallery, because again, the nature of a lot of these specimens is that they are very tiny, *[Cut to shot of Miguel adjusting the camera for a close-up]* the visitor will be able to view the...the actual item on a panel *[Cut to shot of Miguel adjusting the height of the camera then stepping in to take a photograph]* then look down on a screen and zero in on what it is *[Cut to Miguel standing in the lab]* and obtain some information about it that way as well.

[Cut to split screen; On the left-hand side an example of Miguel's photography showing a cluster of shells on a white background; On the right-hand screen, a shot of Miguel looking through the viewfinder of a camera; There is a flash and the sound of a shutter as he takes a picture; Cut to Miguel standing in the lab]

Miguel: What I like about working at the ROM...is the people. *[Cut to Miguel cleaning the background for a shot; Cut to Miguel setting up a shot as he looks through the viewfinder]* Whether it's because I'm a photographer or not, I'm a very

curious person by nature, *[Cut to Miguel standing in the lab]* so I like to ask people what it is they're doing and get some background on things I have questions about as well.

[Screen fades to white; Black text fades in: In total, Miguel shot over 600 photos of the Schad Gallery specimens]

[Screen fades to white; Red text appears: Schad Gallery of Biodiversity; a green and black animated butterfly flutters across the text]

[Podcast ends as screen fades to black]