

Tripod test results for Ethno-Zoological field trip photography



Gitzo & Manfrotto (Bogen)

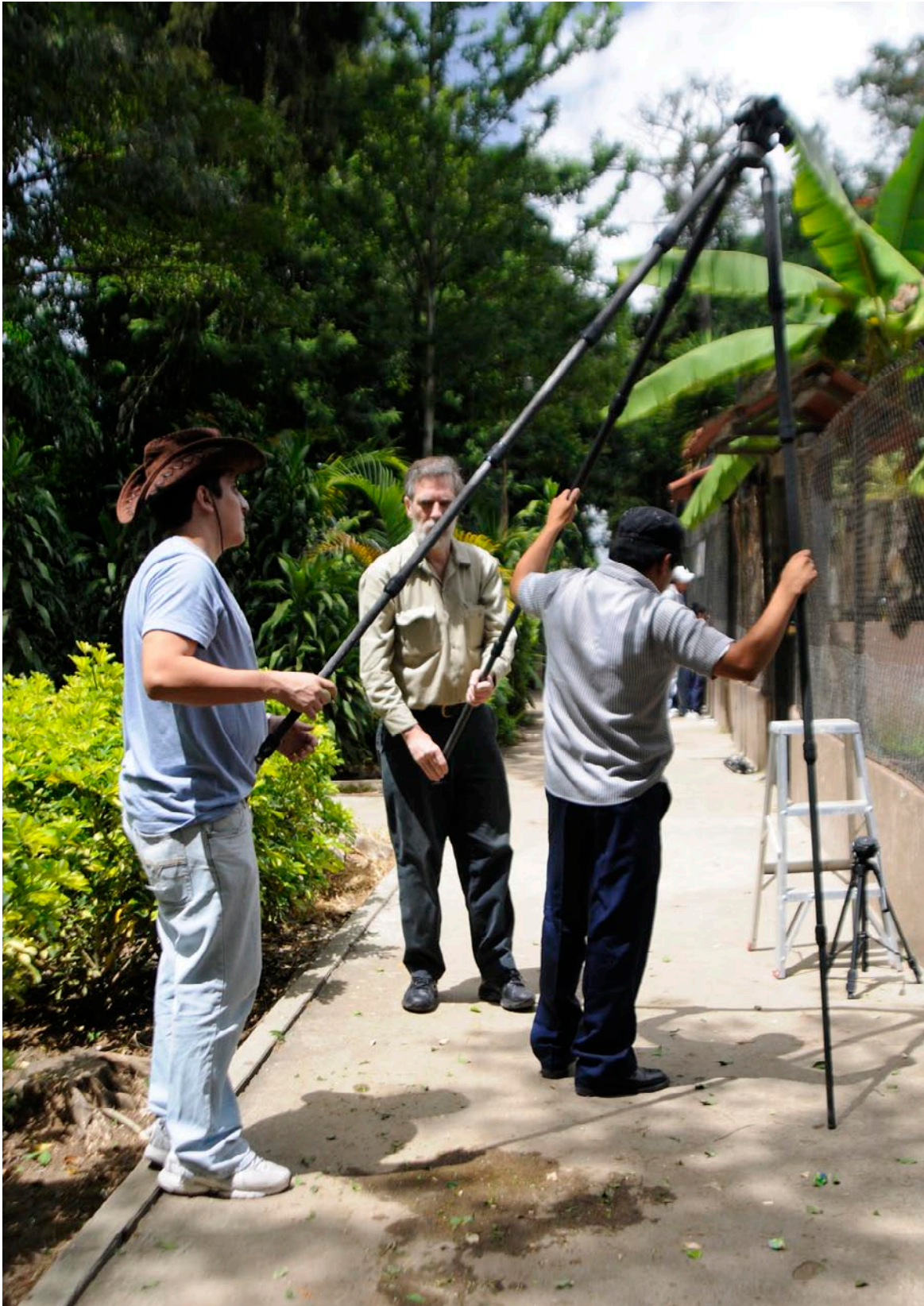


Figure 1. Here is Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth and FLAAR staff setting-up the Gitzo G1548GT tripod.

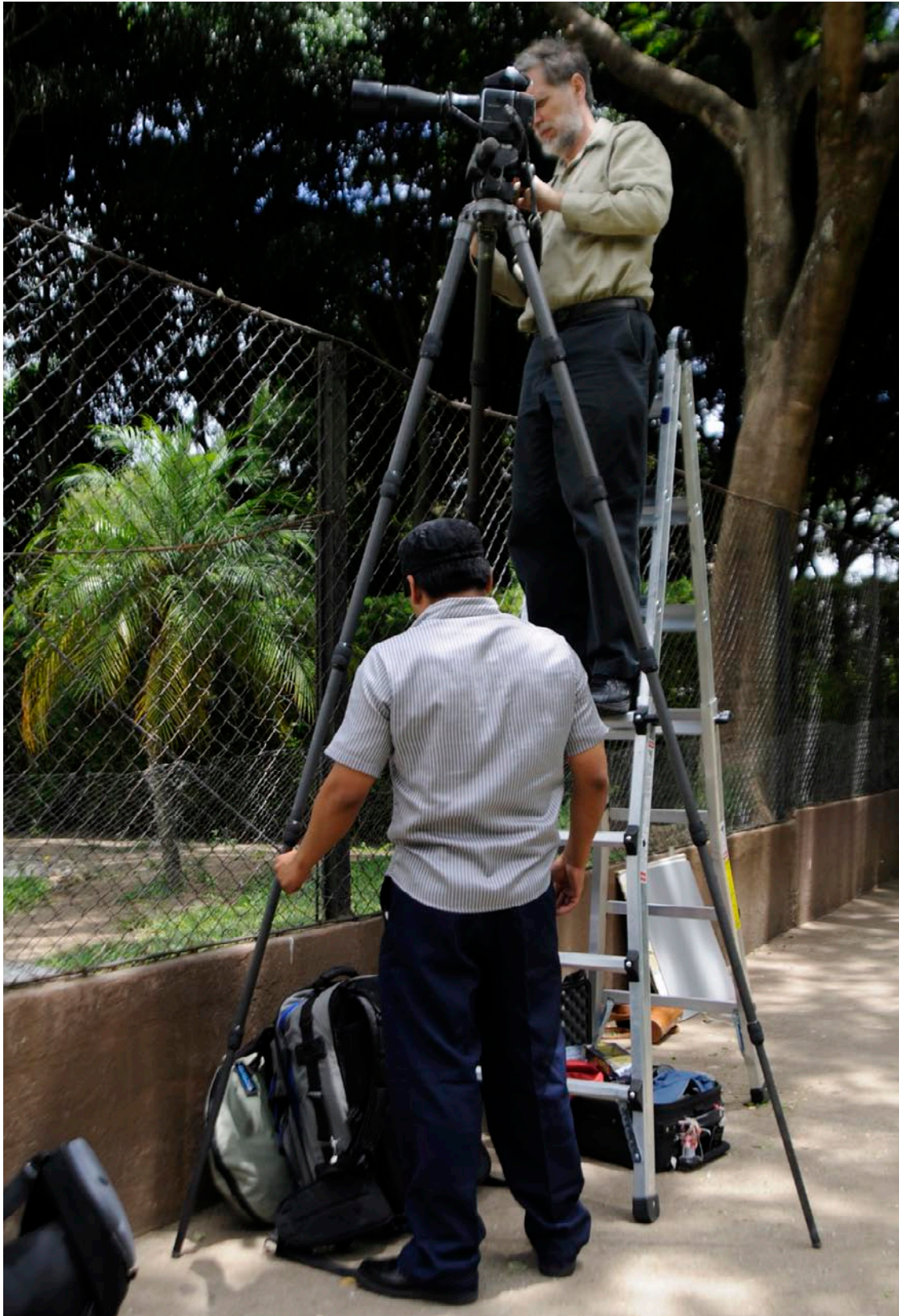


Figure 2. Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth has used the Gitzo G1548GT tripod for many years. He is taking photographs in front of crocodile cage.



Figure 3. The Gitzo G1548GT tripod can be extended up more than 3 meters (actually up to well over 11 feet), it is a good option when you have a fence or a wall in front of you, and you can't focus on the object like in this situation. If you need to shoot over a fence or a wall, then you need a tripod that is this high (and which remains sturdy at this height also).



Figure 4. Here is Nicholas trying to focus the crocodiles with the Hasselblad ELX. If you see the mesh is not as high as the Gitzo G1548GT tripod, so it's perfect when you can't go inside the fence.



Figure 5.



Figure 6. You can see the *Cocodrilus acutus*. This photo was taken with a Hasselblad medium format camera and Phase One P25+ digital back.



Figure 7. In this photo you can see Nicholas Hellmuth inside the crocodile cage. He is trying to get a good close-up of crocodiles at La Aurora Zoo in Guatemala city. He likes to use Gitzo G2257 tripod for more stability. The Hasselblad camera and Phase One P25+ is too heavy and the Gitzo tripod can support the weight.



Figure 8. This photo show you Nicholas trying to focus the crocodile with the Hasselblad camera and Phase One P 25+ digital back using the Gitzo G2257 tripod.



Figure 9. When Nicholas was inside the crocodile's cage, he took this beautiful picture of this wonderful animal. The crocodile spines, appear in many of Maya archeological pieces, that's the reason Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth has interest of this massive reptile. This is the *Cocodrilus acutus*.



Figure 10. One of the most important things you have to know when you are photographing dangerous animals like, crocodiles, alligators and caimans, is to be alert all the time. Nicholas decided to go into the crocodiles cage with the Gitzo G2257 tripod, Hasselblad camera and the PhaseOne P25+ digital back. At the right of this page you can see the image result, this photo was taken with PhaseOne P25+ digital back medium format camera.



Figure 11. Here you can see the *Cocodrilus moreletii*. Nicholas Hellmuth took this photos at La Aurora Zoo in Guatemala city. He used a Hasselblad EXL medium format camera with Phase One P25+ digital back.



Figure 12. The turtles were hard to photograph because they are covered with slime.



Figure 13. Note that Nicholas is standing as far away as possible. A fully grown crocodile can charge rapidly. It is important to watch how it breathes; breathing pattern will tell you when the crocodile is about to attack.



Figure 14. Here you can see Nicholas using the Gitzo G2257 tripod, setting-up the Hasselblad EXL and the PhaseOne P25+ digital back. At the right of Nicholas you can see Manuel Agreda one of the Zoo employees.



FLAAR Mesoamerica and our director Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth wants to thank Lic. Gabriel Rodriguez Coloma, Dra. Laura Gómez and La Aurora Zoo for giving us the opportunity and the permission to photograph the animals we used to our research. Also we want to thank Manuel Agreda to help us in the crocodile cage and teach more about this great animals.

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