

RAW 2018: Photography Exhibition – Finalists



Jessica Orlowicz, *Caretaker*, Canon5D3, 9x13

Juror's Choice: Jessica Orlowicz

Caretaker, Canon5D3, 9x13

Website: www.peachandport.com

Artist Statement

These images show my daughter Anna, who has Autism Spectrum Disorder. She wants so badly to connect with people, but doesn't know how. Photographing her moments of loneliness and moments of joyful connection has been therapeutic.

Biography

Born in South Carolina, Jessica found her way to New Jersey by way of Texas, Hawaii, Illinois and New England thanks to her job as a Navigation Specialist and Coxswain in the United States Coast Guard. Jessica joined the USCG in 2000 and after completing her service in 2004, she went on to attend Benedictine University in pursuit of a Political Science degree. During her time in college, Jessica found her voice as a lifestyle blogger where her love of storytelling photography truly grew. As her blog following increased and advertisers began reaching out, Jessica realized that she needed to focus on improving her photography skills. Soon her blog focused solely on her imagery, leading to the Walt Disney Company listing her as one of the Top 20 Photography Bloggers of 2012. Jessica now calls Cape Cay, NJ home with her four daughters. Her work includes editorial, food, landscape, architecture, portrait and product photography. She has a deep love and passion for photographing children on the autism spectrum as she has a daughter with high functioning autism. In her free time she and her girls love to travel, cook together and enjoy their quaint beach town.



Krista Svalbonas, *Eichstatt 2*, layered laser cut pigment prints, 2018

2nd Place: Krista Svalbonas

Eichstatt 2, layered laser cut pigment prints, 10x21, 2018

Website: www.kristasvalbonas.com

Artist Statement

“Displacement” captures the traces of former WWII displaced person camps; combining past and present in a series of laser cut images on photographic paper. Using my documentation of the camps, I am laser cutting plea letters the refugee were sending from the photographs. My family’s displacement, which I am re-imagining and restoring in this body of work, is part of a long history of uprooted peoples for whom the idea of “home” is contingent, in flux, without permanent definition and undermined by political agendas beyond their control.

Biography

Krista Svalbonas (b.1977, USA) holds a BFA Photography (Syracuse University) and an MFA Interdisciplinary (SUNY New Paltz). Her work has been exhibited in a number of exhibitions including at the Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, Howard Yezerski Gallery in Boston, Klompching Gallery and ISE Cultural Foundation in New York. Her work has been collected in a number of private collections, as well as the Cesis Art Museum in Latvia. Recent awards include the Rhonda Wilson Award (2017), Puffin Foundation Grant (2016) and a Bemis Fellowship (2015) among others. In 2015 Svalbonas exhibited a solo installation at the Spartanburg Art Museum in South Carolina. She is an assistant professor of photography at St. Joseph’s University. She lives and works in Philadelphia.



Sherman Fleming, *invisible n00se bearing witness at underground railroad museum*, photograph, 2017

Honorable Mention: Sherman Fleming

invisible n00se bearing witness at underground railroad museum, photograph, 22"x30", 2017

Website: <https://shermanperforms.wordpress.com/>

Description:

A series of photographs that chronicle my bearing witness at sites of terror and resistance that impact black and brown bodies.

Artist Statement:

I create projects that identify cultural and social mechanisms that resonate with my processes of art making combined with my experiences of social activism. *n00se* is an 18-month project, which began in 2015, where I wore a hangman's noose around my neck while performing daily activities. *Invisible n00se* evolved from that action. That series of photographs aimed to frame resistance as an action by bearing witness to locations of systemic oppression and terror.

Biography:

BFA and MFA from Virginia Commonwealth University and Hartford Art School respectively. Grantee, the Franklin Furnace Fund in 2013. Artist-in-Residence, the African American Museum in Philadelphia and Rush Arts Philadelphia Residency for Art and Social Change in 2018. Performed *pose* with JOCKO, JACK Performance Space, Brooklyn, NY, July 2013, Straight Line, Cross and Point, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, 2013. Presently performing *n00se*, begun in 2015. Group exhibitions include Time Machines, Mary Cosgrove Dolphin Gallery, Worcester State University, Massachusetts, February 2018, The Global Metaphysics of Abstract Painters/Performers, East Hawai'i Cultural Center, Hilo, February 2018. Presented *n00se* at the 5th Conference of the International Association of Inter-American Studies, "Reinventing the Social: Movements and Narratives of Resistance, Dissension and Reconciliation in the Americas, Coimbra, Portugal, 2018.