



ALONDRA ANAHÍ TORRES

b. 2001

Alondra Anahí Torres is a Mexican American artist based in Houston, Texas. Inspired by her identity as a first-generation American, familial relationship to substance abuse, and intergenerational accounts of historical recurrence, Alondra uses photography, immersive staging, and nostalgic audio to transport her audience into a phantasmic, hallucinatory, and sensory-submerged memory. Determined to make her debut as a visual anthropologist, she blends the intuitive with the chronological now through portraiture intentionally styled for emotional provocation.

Looking in the Mirror and Seeing You

Looking in the Mirror and Seeing You is an anthology defining parts of Torres' self perception through an internal battle of nature vs nurture, and a feminist lens as she uncovers a new through-line of her character through the women who have grazed her life. Her mother had 10 step mothers, this project introduces you to four. Torres' mother is seen embodying the different energies of these women in her life through their clothes or facial expressions, but the personification moves beyond that—Torres' mother also embodied her step moms through her parenting. This project is a sliver of the full scope of what it means to begin to define your identity.

ELIZABETH OSORIO

b. 2001

Elizabeth Osorio (she/her) is an artist native to Houston, TX. Her love for the natural world has expanded themes all throughout her career. Studying Environmental Science to Care-taking in the mountains, she continues to follow the common denominator, the natural world. She now explores hospitality, initially learning about environmental relationships, then moving into the human touch and the importance of details within restaurant settings. Through her photography intimate movements are shared with her, as matter begins to take different forms.

Human Touch ; Progression of Hospitality

Human Touch; Progression of Hospitality, is an acknowledgement towards the extensiveness of hospitality. Through this visual menu, Elizabeth takes the viewer through three visual courses. Each demonstrates an aspect of hospitality. The orchestrated movements in restaurants involve many steps before we have a seat at the table. Before we know it, we have the memory of celebrating an anniversary, birthday, promotion at our favorite restaurant. Hospitality reaches every corner of the world, regardless of being with loved ones or on your own, someone will have a table setting, a seat, a warm meal for you to enjoy & feel at home. Our home kitchens and family meals are the foundation of hospitality, we learn to take time to prepare a meal for our loved ones, we become familiar with our own needs. Hospitality is the care that will always be there for you, even when you are far away from home.

HANNAH MITCHELL LOWERY

b. 1988

Hannah Mitchell Lowery (she/her/hers) is an interdisciplinary artist specializing in site-specific botanical set pieces that center strange, beautiful elements from a subject's heritage, dreams, or life experiences. She is a Johnny-come-lately to photography, and is learning how to capture her more ephemeral work on film as an extension of its storytelling power.

Ian and Clinical Trial A5374

Houston-based florist Ian Lehmann (they/them) is one of only a few dozen people currently receiving experimental treatment in the A5374 (Triple Immune Strategy for HIV Remission) medical research trial. As the first participant to begin this study's treatment course, it's possible that Ian will be one of the first people in the world to be intentionally cured of HIV. Since this moment is significant not only for Ian personally but for the whole immunology community, I wanted to document my friend's experience with a photo journal of sorts, and this installation piece is the final form of that portrait project. (Shared with permission.)

KATE HERMAN

b. 1997

Kate Herman is a photographer specializing in portraiture and alternative processes exploring subjects such as queerness, intimacy, love and family. Her work represents an investigation of one's own connections and their social and societal significance. Drawing from her own experiences and those of her subjects, she seeks to evoke introspection and empathy, inviting viewers to reconsider conventional notions of intimacy and belonging.

Family Photos

Family Photos is an exploration of traditional notions of family, belonging, love and childhood. Often, family photos present a tailored snapshot of people and their relationships; posed and dressed to fit an often rigid notion of what family should be. Photographer Kate Herman exercises the vocabulary of familial photos to explore what makes a family. This work is an act of play; performing and subverting expected notions of family.

KATHLEEN MEDINA

b. 1992

Kathleen Medina, aka Kat, is a Dominican American photographer from Houston. Her photography is inspired by her travels, color, and her love of food. With a background in culinary arts from The Art Institute of Houston, Kat's love of photography started with taking pictures of food. Kat's food photography has been featured in Local and National media outlets. When not taking pictures she enjoys traveling the world (when she can), learning about different languages, and obsessing over cats.

Cats of 2nd Ward

This exhibit showcases a series of photographs by Kathleen Medina, who brings to light the unique personalities and stories of these urban cats. Each image invites viewers into the world of these community icons, highlighting their resilience and the subtle interplay between their independence and their reliance on the human communities around them. Complementing these compelling photographs is 'The Cat Menagerie,' a collection of cat figures and ceramics curated by Kathleen Medina, with pieces donated by local art collector Suzanne Cornwell. This collection enriches the narrative, offering a deeper appreciation of feline beauty and mystique across cultures and time periods. Join us for a glimpse into the intriguing lives of the Cats of 2nd Ward, a heartfelt tribute to the spirited companions that roam the bustling streets of one of Houston's most dynamic neighborhoods.

KENDAHL 'K.K.' ROSE

b. 1995

kendahl 'k.k.' rose (she/her/blessed) is an exploration of what happens when someone on their way to freaknik and a student home for a break meet at a texaco gas station in houston during the nineties.

thots after a storm...

thots after a storm... is rooted in the same absurdity as pecola breedlove finally getting her blue eyes. it's an exploration of projections carried by black womxn, and what it means to face the world within systems meant to disenfranchise and displace us mentally, physically, and spiritually.

MARICRUZ KWON

b. 1981

Maricruz Kwon, a native Californian, is a portrait and lifestyle photographer based in Houston, Texas. She began her career in videography before transitioning to explore the art of photographic storytelling. She balances her artistic pursuits with raising her two children in Texas.

Out of the Shadows

Out of the Shadows focuses on women who have survived traumatic events, highlighting their healing journey. Through portrait photography, these women showcase who they are now, embracing their new identities beyond their past traumas. This project was birthed from the artist's own personal experience of surviving a narcissistic, psychological, and emotionally abusive relationship.

PILAR IBARRA NORIEGA

b. 2000

Pilar Ibarra Noriega is a Mexican American photographer with a background in photojournalism and a penchant for capturing candidness. In her artistry, Pilar seeks to immortalize the enchantment of life's fleeting everyday moments by embracing what makes them, and life, special: their impermanence. Her work explores themes such as childhood nostalgia, familial bonds, and the profound significance and duality of 'growing up' and embracing the uncertainty of new beginnings throughout life while also striving to maintain an ever-growing sense of child-like wonder.

Magical Realism

A chronicle of the magic we create when we embrace life and love with childlike wonder, celebrating growth and new beginnings, even in the face of grief and loss. This exploration delves into what makes life so sweet, precious, and worth reveling in: its impermanence.

ZOILA LIZAMA

b. 2003

Zoila Isabel Lizama is multidisciplinary artist who takes scenes from her familiar experiences and translates them into sculptural elements within photographs. The concepts of personal relationship between their family and one's femininity inspire them to create still lifes and capture them in an image. She is interested in the beauty of detail and how to depict one's essence without being in the frame. She continues to explore the balance of color and personality to express the layers of human feelings.

Formas de conexión (Forms of connection)

Formas de conexión (Forms of connection) interpret Lizama's identity within her home and her complex relations with those in her compact family structure. She portrays her perspective of each familial bond through surface-level interactions with moments of quiet vulnerability. The still lifes reflect her comfort in what some would consider "clutter" while opening up to the feeling of sinking too much into that continuous reassurance. Throughout this project, she identifies her parental influences and how they continue to shape details in her person. While she forms an understanding that relationships should grow past what she holds as the current reality, she structured the scenes around the heart of her present feelings, to be honest with herself and her family.



BLOOMING ARTISTS



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