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Kleptomaniac

Leslie Frank

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Leslie Frank
Artist's Statement
April 9, 2018

I am a Kleptomaniac of public and private moments. I steal images of people and objects in public environments and frame these moments for detailed observation with the addition of my own poetic essence. For the past 3 years, I have surrendered to and embraced the use of my iPhone camera as a source of creative achievement. In my work, I observe people and their environments, mostly in public space and primarily in Los Angeles, where I was born and have lived for most of my life.

I feel that Los Angeles is a unique city which has been built on imagination, expectations and disappointments.

Another aspect that is satisfying to me is the validation that I feel when I am at the right place at the right time.

We don't always get to feel this in everyday life.

Using an unconventional device to take photographs takes away the focus of validity of the machine and places it on the artist's decision. This is a challenge that is gratifying to me. It is about decision making and opportunities. I feel that as an artist, I can take these events and present them in a visual manner that can evoke the essence of the emotion involved within the story-the hidden codes in life-and perhaps bring to light a common understanding or connection between the viewer and another person's experience.

Whether that experience is similar or foreign, the empathy is significant.

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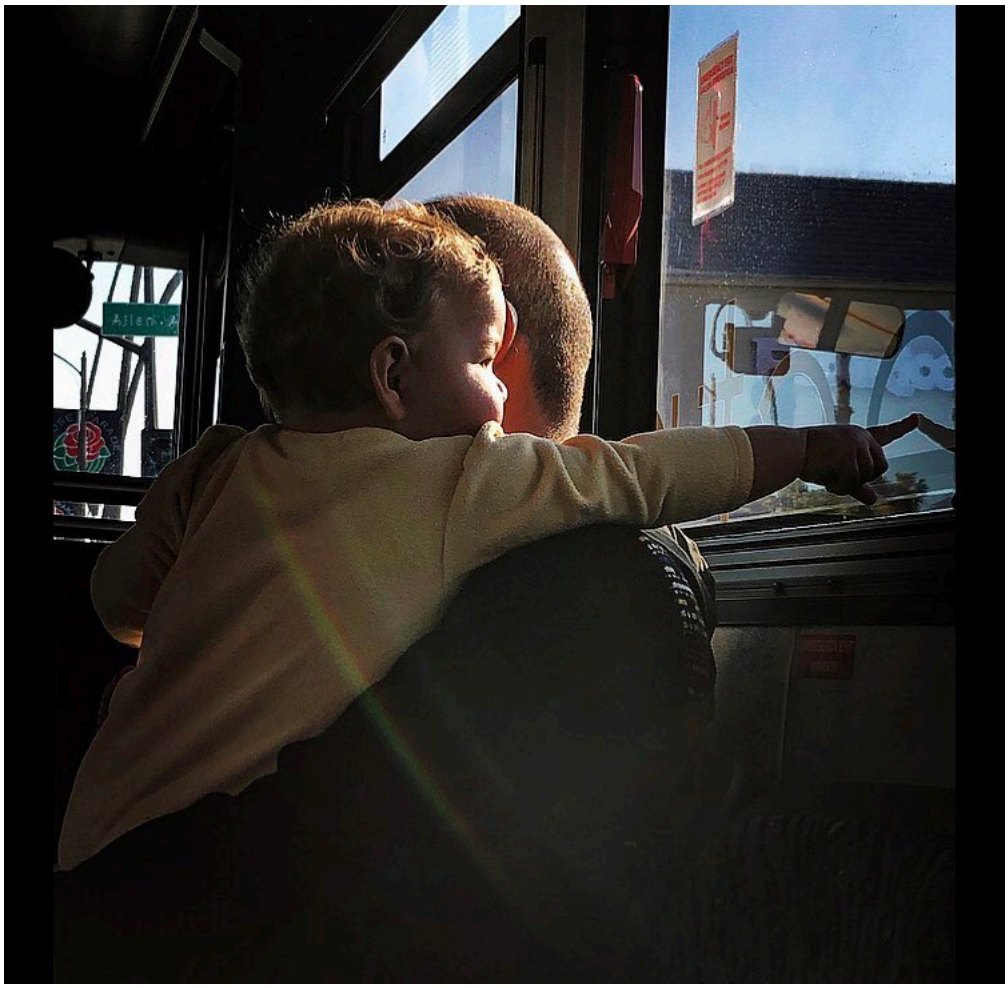

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