

IMAGINE... THE POWER OF A PHOTOGRAPH

LACP

Los Angeles Center of Photography

Serving the
Photo Community
Since 1999

*Celebrating our
20th Anniversary
in 2019!*

Summer/
Fall 2019



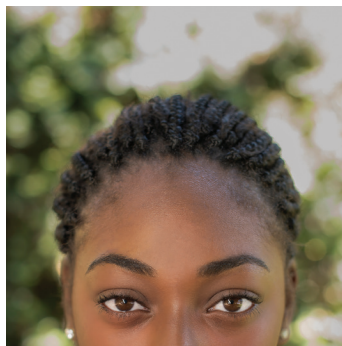
Rohina HOFFMAN

LACP: What led you to pursue an interest in photography?

ROHINA HOFFMAN: I have been interested in photography since high school, first introduced to it by my English teacher who also taught photography. I remember not being able to fit photography into my course schedule but he was willing to teach me in his free time by giving me assignments after school and that is how I got my start.

LACP: How long have you been photographing?

RH: I have been taking photos ever since high school, in one form or the other. In college I took photos for the college newspaper. My career path in medicine and neurology thereafter did not allow much time for pursuing photography full throttle but I continued taking photos as a hobbyist, mostly of my family, friends, and travel. In 2012, I decided to put my neurology career on the proverbial back burner so I could pursue photography full time. I signed up for my first class with Julia Dean at what was then Julia Dean Photo Workshops (now LACP) and was enthralled. I even toyed with the idea of going back to school so I could pursue a BFA but decided I could get the skills and education I wanted by taking classes at LACP.



LACP: Where did you get your training?

RH: I had some formal classwork at Rhode Island School of Design when I was in college at Brown University. Other than that, almost all of my photography education has been through LACP workshops and being mentored. I studied under Ken Merfeld, and Aline Smithson and various special guests. I also attended portfolio reviews sponsored by LACP.

LACP: Tell us a little bit about your selection of images.

RH: I have chosen a selection of images from my series Hair Stories that explores at the psychology behind women's hair. It consists



of portraits and excerpted interviews and is now a book. I am very passionate about this project and about women's issues.

LACP: What do you love most about photography?

RH: I love connecting with my subjects. I mostly take portraits and thus meeting people in this manner and forming a trusting bond is central to my photographic practice. I also love creating images that come from ideas and thoughts and feelings.

LACP: How has your involvement with the LACP community helped your photography?

RH: Where do I begin? The LACP community has been instrumental in teaching me, helping me learn not only the technical skills I needed but in supporting me throughout my journey. I lean on them heavily whenever I have questions ranging from how do I ship multiple pieces from one place to another to what to do when my printer is acting up? There is always someone who has been there or done it before who can lend a hand. LACP members show up for each other when we have exhibitions in the area and offer support. This willingness to help out and be there for one another underscores the meaning of community. I count many LACP members as dear friends now.

LACP: What do you feel is the biggest advantage of being an LACP Member?

RH: The biggest advantage of being a LACP member is the community you have access to that builds over time (as I mentioned above) and the world-class educators.

LACP: What would you tell someone contemplating Membership at LACP?

RH: I would highly recommend it! What you gain is so incredibly rewarding and so well worth the membership fees.

LACP: What advice would you give someone starting out in photography?

RH: I would recommend shooting in manual mode right away and really learning your camera. Take as many different types of classes/workshops as you can and practice diligently. When you are not in a class, give yourself thoughtful goals to accomplish and be persistent. Find a mentor. Enjoy it and be spontaneous and free with photography and leave room to experiment. Ask questions. Try things!