PETER MIRAGLIA

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"Portraits as a Human Theater"

Latest portrait work is studio based and part of a continuing series from the past few years. This new work represents a kind of psychological theater, the narrative of the heart and the mind. The staging of what is imagined and what is real.

These portraits are the result of an intense collaboration, between the subject and the artist. Very little direction was given to each person photographed. We worked for hours at a time in my photographic studio...mostly silent...waiting, feeling, looking inside. We were separate and we were one.

Each portrait suggests to the viewer a dramatic moment, a window into the person's inner life and emotional story.

My intention is to create a body of work that will be eloquent, haunting, and compassionate. Yes, portraits alive and breathing in their humanity.

Artist studied at the University of Rochester and Rochester Institute of Technology. Research and curatorial studies at the George Eastman House included working on the now seminal "New Topographics" exhibit. Lives and maintains a studio in Philadelphia. Professional biography appears in "Who's Who in American Art" and "Who's Who in America".

Work has been widely exhibited, including the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Allentown Art Museum, California Museum of Photography, The Alternative Museum (New York), Delaware Art Museum, Marcuse Pfeifer Gallery (New York) and The 2012 Les Rencontres d'Arles Photographie [International Photography Festival, Arles, France].

Awards received include the National Endowment for the Arts Visual Arts Fellowship, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Fellowship in Visual Arts (four time recipient), The Photo Review National Competition, First Prize, The Center for Documentary Studies/Honickman Book Prize in Photography, Finalist (two time recipient), Forward Thinking Museum Photography Award.

The work has been reproduced in many publications/catalogs and is included in numerous public and private collections, including Philadelphia Museum of Art, Baltimore Museum of Art and the California Museum of Photography.

The artist has traveled extensively around the world. He has a continuing interest and involvement in the field of Psychiatry.