Introduction to Basic Photography

Photo Assignment # 5: Strangers - Photographing people that you don't know

Due Thursday Oct 30

What is due?

- 1) 4 jpeg digital images, approx. 1080 pixels on the long edge, placed in a folder on our vico 2521 server space at: afp://photoserver.viscom.ohiou.edu
- 2) The pictures should be of at least two people that you didn't know beforehand. You may shoot more than two people if you wish. All of them must be approached by you for permission first.
- 3) A digital "contact sheet" in PDF format showing at least 40 of your camera raw images, please place it also on our server space.
- 4) A signed parental model release if you photographed anyone under 18 years of age or someone photographed in a private place. A hard photocopy or electronic PDF on the server is OK.

This is an exercise about approaching strangers (people that you don't know) in your photography. In most photographic careers outside of fine-arts, this will be a necessity. Photojournalists shoot interesting pictures of people candidly - without directing pose or action. Commercial photographers shoot models that are hired because of their suitability for the job, or for their specific "look". More often that not, these models are new people to the photographer and he/she must put them at ease.

Use Camera-Raw format on your camera. You'll convert the files to jpegs in post-processing for submission to the server.

The Shoot:

Approach at least two people that you don't know and ask about taking their photos. The photos may be posed/setup like a commercial photographer might do, or you could approach them in a situation where you are essentially a "fly on the wall "as they go about their business undirected by you.

Do not submit photos of people just walking by on the street, or just assembled at a sporting event, etc. Part of your grade reflects how well you direct the people, or how difficult the situation may be to gain access to.

The photos must go beyond mere "surface recording" of appearance. Points will be awarded based on how interesting the picture is, how creative devices were deployed, how a peak moment has been captured, etc. You will initially find this difficult to do with a stranger, and the tendency is to just shoot without thinking how to make a compelling picture.

Submitting the Files:

In the Assignment 5 folder, place the selected JPGs plus the PDF contact sheet named as follows:

Re-name your selected files as: LastName_FirstInitial_strangers_01.jpg Examples: Jones_R_strangers_01.jpg, Jones_R_strangers_02.jpg, Jones_R_strangers_03.jpg, etc. The PDF contact sheet would be named Jones_R_strangers.pdf

Grading:

This set of photos is worth 100 points out of the 1200 total points for the class. Scores will be assessed equally on technical and creative merits.