

The Photographic Portrait

A Workshop with Robert Lyons and Jörg Colberg

Northampton, MA

Summer 2009

The Photographic Portrait is a workshop for practicing photographers and advanced students who specialize in portraiture, to be held in Northampton, Massachusetts from July 31st, 2009 until August 2nd, 2009.

The Photographic Portrait

What makes a good portrait? How does portraiture work? Why are some portraits so much more powerful than so many others?

The workshop will explore these topics through a survey of portraiture from its earliest days onward. Participants will work together in an open critique to study their own work and to discuss editing. In addition, the class will critically examine and discuss the responsibilities of a portrait photographer to her/himself, to her/his subjects, and to the social milieu in which s/he works.

The workshop will contain a study of portraits taken by a variety of practitioners, ranging from anonymous tintype studio photographer via seminal German portraitist August Sander to contemporary masters such as Alec Soth, Richard Renaldi, or Hellen van Meene.

The class will also discuss the impact of the internet on contemporary photography. How can a photographer can make use of the internet as a research tool and as a vehicle for marketing work?

Class structure will include both critiques and a discussion of technique as it relates to current practice in both analogue and digital formats.

In preparation for the workshop, participants will be sent a suggested reading list as well as a list of artists with whose work they should become familiar.

Students may work in color or black & white.

Instructor Profiles:

Robert Lyons lives and works in Berlin, Germany, and Massachusetts. He has taught widely in the USA and Europe. Presently, he is a guest lecturer at the

OstkreuzSchule in Berlin and the University of Hartford Art School. His work has been widely exhibited in the United States and Europe and is represented in numerous permanent collections including: The Metropolitan Museum, Seattle Art Museum and the Henry Art Gallery. He has published four books including "Another Africa" (Bantam Dell Doubleday) and, most recently, "Intimate Enemy:Voices and Images from the Rwandan Genocide" (Zone Books, 2006). He has taught workshops at the ICP, Photographic Center Northwest and the Berlin Photo Workshops.

Jörg Colberg is a curator, writer and photographer, most well known for his photography blog, *Conscientious*. His work has been published in numerous magazines and books, and it can be seen on a wide variety of websites both nationally and internationally. Jörg has been a jury member of Critical Mass, Hey Hot Shot!, and the International Fashion and Photography Festival in Hyères, France 2008.

Application information:

This workshop is open to artists using photography, practicing photographers, and advanced students in photography (analogue or digital). Participants will be selected by Robert and Jörg based on materials submitted for review.

The following items must be submitted by email to ralfoto@aol.com by **June 30th, 2009**. Materials sent after that date will not be considered.

- Up to 10 jpeg images (*no other images formats, please!*)
- Artist statement or statement about the images submitted
- A concise summary of experience (photographic experience, education, exhibitions, publications, etc.)

Terms and Fees:

The cost of the workshop is \$375.00. Travel expenses and accommodations are the responsibility of the participant.

Upon acceptance accepted a \$100.00 deposit is required to hold one's place in the class. The remainder of the fee will due at the beginning of the workshop.

The workshop is limited to 7 to 10 participants.

Travel and Accommodations:

Northampton is approximately three hours from New York City, and just over an hour and a half from Boston by car. Bus and train services are also available from these cities. Bradley International Airport, located in Hartford, CT is about forty-five minutes away and offers many direct national and international flights.

The area known for its natural beauty and for its five colleges: Smith, Hampshire, Amherst, UMass, and Mount Holyoke. Northampton also boasts a vibrant arts scene and an eclectic mix of shops, restaurants, and galleries.

A list of local accommodations will be provided to participants upon acceptance.