

Bio

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A New York native, I've spent the last few decades calling Los Angeles home. I grew up looking at *Life* and *Look* magazines, influenced by documentary style photography. The photograph of John-John under JFK's desk taken by Stanley Tretick has always been my favorite image from that era. My father would work late in the city and where my father's plate would be at the dinner table, we put a small black & white television set. Not much talking went on at the dinner table. Children should be seen and not heard was the norm. I became the observer in a 2-family house that housed 6 children.

I have been told that I make some people uncomfortable. I believe the problem is my gaze...which I inherited from my mother who, after waiting for me to be born after 5 years, never took her eyes off of me! Children do learn by imitation and that gaze became part of my behavior. That gaze got me into trouble in grade school as I stared curiously at the tough kids - taking in all their differences. This "staring" problem had repercussions and I remember my mother having to go to school on my behalf on 4 separate occasions. This was years before I started asking for a camera.

I finally got a camera when I left home at 18, traveled around the U.S. in a van for 5 months and honed my craft via photographic film and slides. Now a digital photographer, I love the instant access to the process. I had no patience for waiting to have film processed.

I was one of the first female engineers to work in the male-dominated broadcast market in Los Angeles in the late 70's. That was interesting as mostly all of my co-workers literally had real war stories to tell! I moved around in that world ending up in TV news production for 20 years where I won the L.A. Press Association award for continuity. In the late 80's, I was a contributor to the LA Reader and shot over 25 stories.

To read more about my work go to:

<http://www.lauriefreitag.com/artist-statements-portfolio>

Works held in private collections:

California
Arizona
Colorado
New York

Member: Los Angeles Art Association, Los Angeles Center of Photography, The Lucie Foundation, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, INFOCUS /Phoenix Art Museum (PAM), & Photographic Resource Center at Boston University & The Center for Fine Art Photography (CO).

Director: L.A. Photo Curator www.laphotocurator.com