

***The Los Angeles Center of Photography Announces
Documentary Exhibitions
Marking America's 250th Anniversary***

The Los Angeles Center of Photography (LACP) announces an exhibition program to coincide with America's 250th anniversary, focusing on documentary projects that chronicle life across the United States.

America's 250th anniversary arrives at a moment of profound political, social, and ecological fragmentation. The images that defined previous anniversaries were made by photographers embedded in communities, conflict zones, and everyday life. That tradition is not nostalgic—it is urgent.

Documentary photography insists on presence and connection between photographer and subject, and on the primacy of the human record over the algorithmic.

(Curator: Dr. Rotem Rozental)

Expand and Contract: Notes About Documentary Photography in the Twenty-First Century

This group exhibition focuses on American photography today, as the first quarter of this century drew to a close. It considers how America sees itself, its highlights, and what might be missing from the frame. Beginning with the turn of the century and ranging from 9/11, political protests, shifting living conditions, and the aftermath of wildfires.

Susan Meiselas takes the viewer to the border, creating its physical presence in the space with a photographic mural, shown alongside compilations of videos grabbed from social media and other digital sources, depicting deportations and conflicts with ICE agents. **Isadora Kosofsky** looks at the lives of families with incarcerated parents at twelve men's and women's prisons in Florida. **Eric Smith** has been chronicling the protests in Los Angeles between 2016 and 2026, beginning with the first Trump presidency. **Marcus Ubungen** has been returning to Altadena to capture portraits of residents and the incongruities between incomprehensible devastation and persistent rebuilding efforts. Documentary filmmaker **Keva Rosenfeld's** intimate Polaroid portraits of some of the most famous people in the world capture a culture in transition, triggered by the rise of digital technology. **John Senese** shares a never-before-seen series about the World Trade Center and 9/11, depicting a world shifting forever in front of the lens.

Opening: July 25, 3-5 pm (walkthrough, 3:30 pm). [More here.](#)

Timeline: A Record of the Moment

Throughout 2026, cohorts of photographers in Los Angeles and San Francisco created long-form documentary projects, led by mentors Ed Kashi and Ibarionex Perello. Their work will be added to a growing online archive on LACP's website and will be presented at LACP, with work by **David Ellis, Karen Friedmann, Patricia Lemke, Julie Pawlowski, Philip Sager, Nicole Schwegman, Chris Stevens-Yu, and Xan Walker.**

Timeline: An Archive of the Moment is a real-time exploration of our changing world through the photographic lens—a living, evolving archive built by documentarians, photojournalists, and street photographers capturing what is happening right now in the places they call home, documenting a nation in flux and creating a visual record for next generations.

Opening: August 28, 3-5 pm (walkthrough: 3:30 pm). [More here.](#)

About the [Los Angeles Center of Photography](#):

From its home in DTLA, LACP enables its communities to capture, interpret, and reimagine the individual and cultural conflicts and the creative combustion that shape Los Angeles and influence the world. LACP stewards and supports a thriving photographic community centered on the essential art that captures universal moments of reflection, resilience, and light through the lens of Los Angeles.

Each year, LACP offers hundreds of workshops and classes of all levels and genres in-person and online, exhibits over 300 photographers in virtual and in-person gallery exhibitions, which are free and open to the public to attend, and partners with other organizations to offer photography and visual literacy education for youth and children in underserved communities.