

## Teenagers: Portraits of Identity and Expression

May 6 - June 24, 2011

*Teenagers: Portraits of Identity and Expression* presents the work of five contemporary photographers - Natan Dvir, Martine Fougeron, Alison Malone, Rania Matar, and Nancy Newberry. Each of these photographers create portraits of teenagers yet each selects a different angle to explore similar themes. Dvir and Matar go into the personal spaces of teens to create environmental portraits that present the person and their surroundings in a straight manner, bringing attention to the belongings that represent the identity and expression of the individual. Newberry and Malone both enter subcultures to create portraits of teens as they partake in distinct traditions yet convey concepts and emotions common to groups beyond that which they partake. Fougeron has a unique perspective as the mother of two teens. These photographs take a narrative approach and depict the time and sequence of teens. All of these portraits are intimate yet universal as the subject confronts the camera and viewer.

**Natan Dvir** photographs the human aspects of political, social and humanitarian issues through teenagers of Arab descent living in Israel. His series, *Eighteen*, is an artistic point of contact serving as an invitation to get closer. A project aimed at reconciliation through understanding and respect. An inside view by one who is typically regarded as an outsider.

**Martine Fougeron's** series, *Tête-à-Tête*, began in 2005 and features the lives and adventures of her two adolescent sons and their friends. These intimate portraits captures the adolescents in the transition between childhood and adulthood. Many of the portraits are taken in their environments--the couch, bed, hiking trail, a party. Photographed over several years, the series records her sons through boyish moments, after-prom parties, and high school graduation.

Based in New York, **Alison Malone's** photography focuses on the relationship between people and how they exist in the world. While photographing the disparities among people, her work often illustrates the common nuances that connect us all. Her series, *Daughters of Job*, features a secret society of daughters and granddaughters of Freemasons. These young ladies are at the age of self-discovery and trying to establish their own identities while participating in a strongly patriarchal organization.

**Rania Matar** was born and raised in Lebanon and currently teaches photography at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. During her summers, she teaches photography to young girls in Lebanon's refugee camps. Her series, *A Girl in Her Room*, features young women on the cusp of adult-hood in the private world of their bedroom - a place of escape, of refuge, of identity.

**Nancy Newberry**, a native Texan, began her series on the Homecoming ritual of gifting elaborately decorated mums to friends and significant others. The decorations signify interests, organization involvement, and social status. Her series, *MUM*, also tries to illustrate the importance of rituals as vehicles of communication and reflects upon the interplay between individuality and social affiliation.



