

Jana Kristine Carrey is a photographic artist, educator and visual anthropologist who currently lives and works in San Francisco. She is currently a member of the American Society of Media Photographers (ASMP).

She earned her BA degree in psychology, with a minor in anthropology and photography at the University of Pennsylvania and graduated with honors. Upon graduation, she worked on a series of independent photographic and educational projects working to help inner-city youth find means of self-expression and empowerment. After traveling to Bolivia, Peru and Guatemala to explore and photograph the impacts of globalization and neoliberalism on indigenous peoples - particularly women and children - she decided to pursue her MA in Visual Anthropology at the Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, University of Manchester. This program allowed her to focus on her ethnographic photography as well as new media - film, sound, and web 2.0 - practices. In this rich international academic and artistic environment, she also developed her skills in visual criticism and material culture/display. Her final MA graduate dissertation and ethnographic photography project, "*Envisioning Normality*," explores how youth with serious illnesses and disabilities maintain a sense of normality despite continual life disruption. She exhibited this work in the *Global Eyes* exhibition in Manchester and in London as part of *Photomonth '07*, the East London photography festival. This exhibition was the first of its kind, showcasing work combining art, ethnography and social documentary completed as part of the MA in Visual Anthropology 2006-2007 at the Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology. This exhibition was recognized by the Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI) as a "model of innovation in Visual Anthropological outreach and education."

Carrey's anthropologic training and her background in psychology influence her photographic practice. She feels her work and research in the social sciences helps to deepen her practice in that she incorporates her knowledge and theoretical frameworks into her photographic work. Additionally, she juxtaposes her images with text and other new media to fully engage and educate her audiences. Her personal work is largely concerned with better understanding the human condition: in particular exploring identity, image and personal transformation through healing self-narratives. She has recently begun working on two new projects: *Childhood* and the *Modern Day Venus* project (MDVP). *Childhood* is a street documentary project that explores the uninhibited spirit that flows through children as they play and engage with the natural environment. The MDVP is a social documentary project that aims to explore how modern women of all ages and cultures come to understand and embody a sense "beauty" in the context of our world, where image and reality are constantly being re-defined.

Carrey's curiosity and openness, along with her adaptable and flexible nature, lends itself to working with a diverse range of clients and projects. Recent work has centered on portraiture and ranges from working intimately with families, community-based organizations, institutions such as UCSF and companies such as Lynda.com. She has worked globally on projects in London, Manchester, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portugal and throughout Latin America.

While maintaining her personal practice, Carrey has successfully worked as an artist educator, working on participatory and community-based photographic projects.

Since Carrey embraced photography at the age of 19 to help deal with the death of her younger brother to osteosarcoma, she maintains a firm belief that photography is a valuable tool for self-expression and healing. In this capacity, she has worked with a large number of young people through her projects, in particular “at risk,” disadvantaged, seriously ill and disabled, as well as refugee youth. She has gained much inspiration from working in a community-based context, whereby her work has helped to unite individuals as well as inspire positive personal and community transformation.

In addition to pursuing her personal photographic projects, she is available on a freelance basis for commissions, portraiture, editorial work and photographic assisting. Although classically trained in film photography, she now works primarily within the digital realm. Please contact Carrey for information about project rates, licensing or purchasing print photographs.