

# Humans

Photography by Cierra Maher





# Introduction

Human beings are the most interesting subject for me to photograph, seeing as I am one. In fact, we all are. I like my work to be visually appealing, while also conveying or evoking emotions.

I believe this is easiest when the subject is relatable.

However, relatable is not always comfortable. Some of my photos bring memories of happiness, while others may remind the viewer of darker, more stressful times.



# Human Lightshow

Digital Photography  
2012

This piece is part of a series in which I chose to explore photographing people as a source of light. It interested me to play around with the idea of causing somebody to purposefully stand out in a situation where they would normally go unnoticed. I created the dress for the model to wear using basic Christmas lights glued to an up-cycled dress.

# Innocence

Fujifilm Color Film, 400 Speed  
2013

There's something about this photo that draws me in and keeps me thinking about it. The soft light contrasts with the almost disheveled appearance of the girl, and her expression leaves you wondering, "What is she thinking about?" I'm very pleased with this image, as I only took one shot to get it, and it has the slight grainy look unique to the medium used.



# Distortion

Digital Photography  
2013

Recently I've become more experimental in my photography, and something that's interested me is the distortion of light, resulting in a distorted image. This photo is not a composite, but was taken with a prism filter, capturing the face from slightly differing angles. That's what I really enjoy about this image, the fact that each face is slightly different, with varying intensity and clarity.









# Julia

Digital Photography  
2013

This is a candid photo from a summer biking trip I took with my friend Julia. I love the motion of her hair and how she's taking in her surroundings. I believe this photo really captures that special moment in time.

# Snapped

Digital Photography  
2012

This photo is a self-portrait that deals with a lot of the darker feelings one can have. This is the breaking point; after being distraught for so long you can just snap, and you can even become detached from yourself.







# Life After Death

Digital Photography  
2012

This piece is from a series of mine that focused around portraying Halloween-related subjects in a more realistically creepy way. Here, my models are painted like Mexican sugar skulls, which traditionally represent a departed soul and were used to honor the return of a particular spirit. The models are like spirits trapped in limbo.

# El Mañana

Digital Photography  
2012

This title is in reference to the Gorillaz song of the same name, which is a play-on-words in Spanish (El Mañana means “The Morning,” but here it means “The Mourning”). I wanted to convey a calm sadness in this self-portrait, and how deep rooted sorrow is always there, even at the beginning of a new day.





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