





CURATED DESIGNED & PUBLISHED BY E. Hirano (平野工).





The thought of same sex couples as a repulsive act says more about society than it does about homosexuality.





Editor E.Hirano. redbubble.com/people/ehirano



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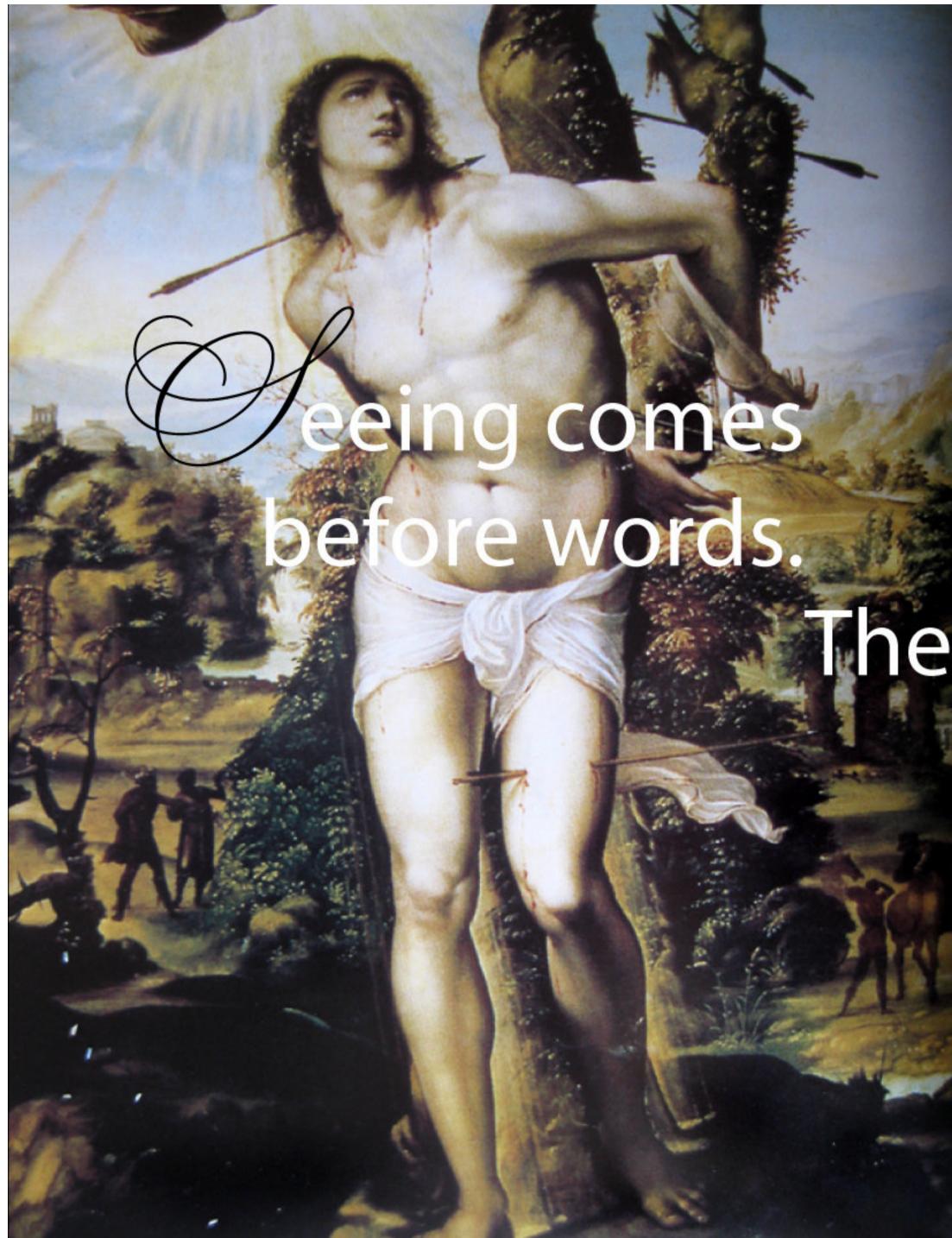
Cover: E.Hirano

Contributors: John Douglas

Steve Snap

Mark I. F. Jarvis

Thomas Synnamon



# child looks and recognises before it can speak.

John Berger, Ways of Seeing.

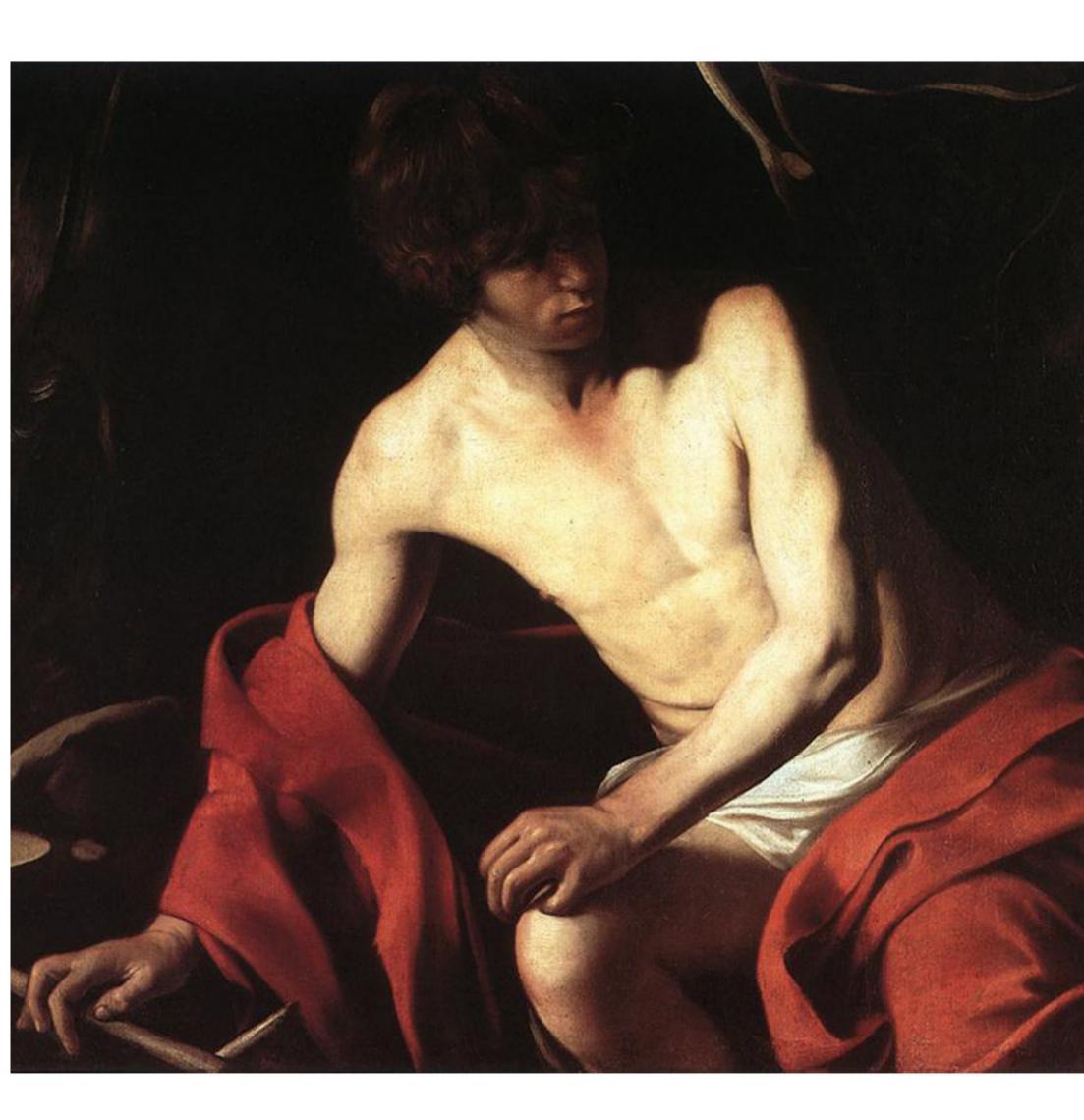
I've long been fascinated by the homo-erotic Persian seals of the 8th century BCE. The images depicting anal intercourse are intensely stimulating. They give loads of inspiration, even at an artistic level.

As a young man exploring my sexuality within the confines of a conservative country town in the pre-internet era I would have been elated to find such images in our hulking volumes of World Book Encyclopedias. Alas, the best I could come up with after scouring the A-Z was a cross-section diagram of a flaccid penis in an entry on conception. At the time I was looking for visual answers to questions I didnít have thenecessary vocabulary to ask.

As art historian **James L. Saslow** explains in his book Pictures and Passions, around the time these male-male imprints were produced ~showing a society sophisticated in its understanding of sexuality ~ the homophobic Zoroastrian faith was concurrently on the rise.

Via the considerable span of the Persian empire, into the Jewish faith and thus through to the small cult of fanatics who came to be known as the Christians, the notion of the inherent evil of any sexual practice which wasn't motivated by breeding came to be an ubiquitous principle in dogmatic religions.





This doctrine emphasized same-sex couplings as particularly sinful, with good old sodomy as the ultimate free pass to hell. (See you there.) Some cultures allowed for the killing of sodomites without penalty.

Social control through restricting sexual expression extended world-wide via the dissemination of the three major monotheistic creeds, opportunely embedded within European and Arabic empires.

Two and half thousand years of brainwashing has had a powerful effect on humanconsciousness. It is a testament to the great strength of homosexuals throughout his period, that despite the enormous pressures and control exerted over thoughts, desires and emotions, so many were still determined to be true to their inner nature, and so many were resolute in expressing and celebrating their love in their art.

Ironically, much of this art was often encoded inside the context of myth, allegoryand orthodox religious symbolism.

In the last 150 years homosexuality in art ~from eroticism to socio-political themes~ has increasingly become more visible.

Several factors have played an important role in facilitating this restoration of a more civilised view of sexuality.

The printing press; the industrial revolution; the huge increase in availability and

popularity and of magazine and newspaper media; the recent communications developments ~ radio, telephone, television and internet; all have played a significant role in shaking paradigms. And not least of all influences, an art-form whose impact in the promulgation of celebrating homosexuality cannot be underestimated ~ photography.

### Photography in essence provides proof.

With the usage of cheap popular cameras in 1888 a range of necessary social revolutions gained momentum. With their candid nature; relative portability of equipment; the ability for photographs to be created privately and out of the control of censorship, and eventually the accessibility of easy and cheap mass-reproduction of photos, it was inevitable that amongst other just causes which had come of age, same-sex themes would increasingly clarify and assert a place in public consciousness.

The development of the camera and photographic technology opened the public's eyes to much that had been suppressed for centuries. Photographs capture and record moments in time, they open to scrutiny moments which previously had been transient and private. Thus photographs generate a dialogue between the observer and the world.

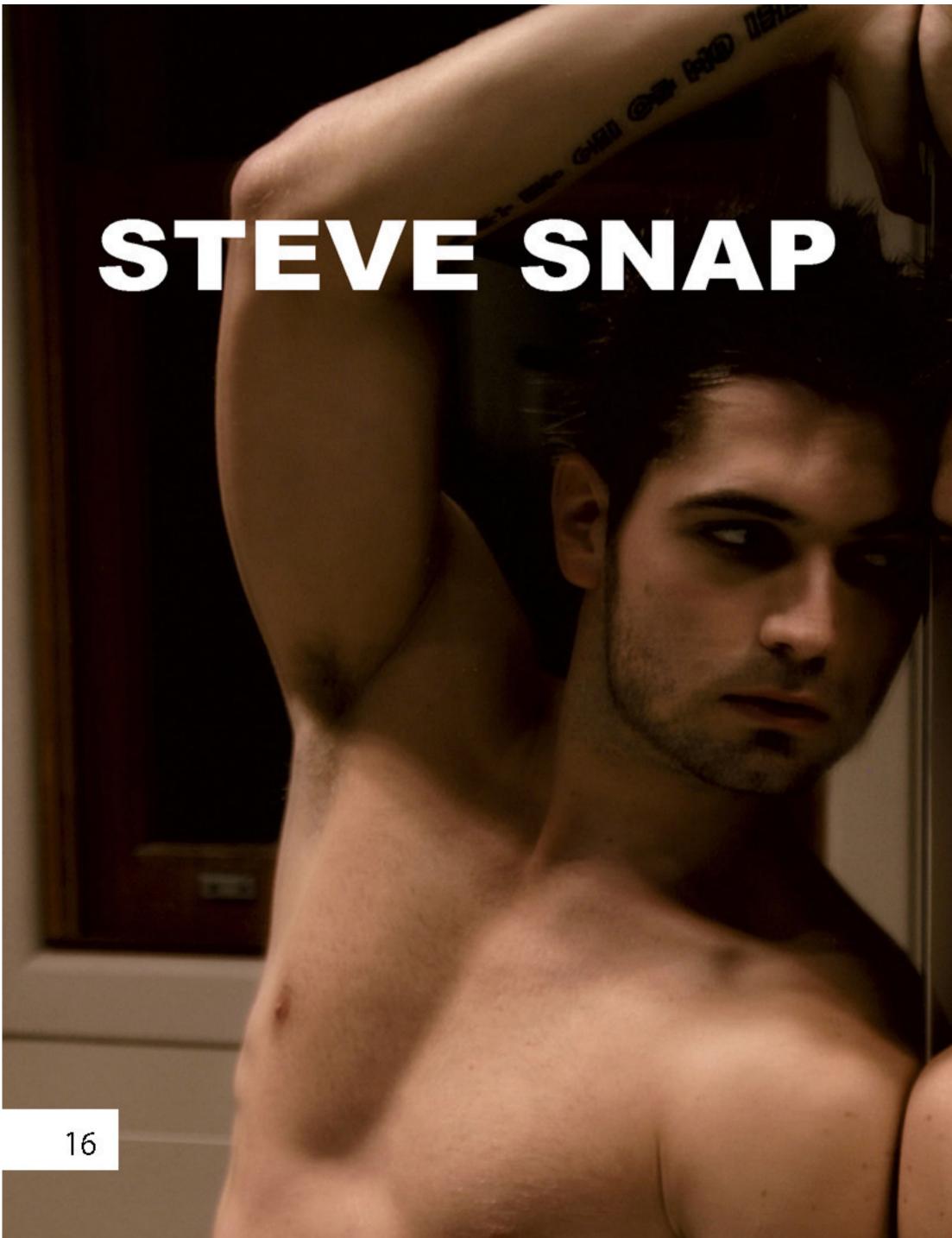
Photography has influenced every single art practice and irrevocably transformed the way humans view themselves.

Today there are still too many places where loving another of the same sex means death or, at best, a lifetime of persecution, fear, guilt, repression.

But the psychosocial expansion generated by photography, coupled with improvements in communications technology, continues to gain impetus. An ever increasingly larger number of people can access gay-themed plays, music, paintings, photographs, sculpture, movies, literature, poetry and more in some format.

The global restoration to an enlightened conception of humanity won't be without set-backs, but it is inevitable.







# Steve

has been working as a photographer in Melbourne, Australia,

for the past 15 years and has an interest in portraiture, particularly that which focuses on bodily forms.

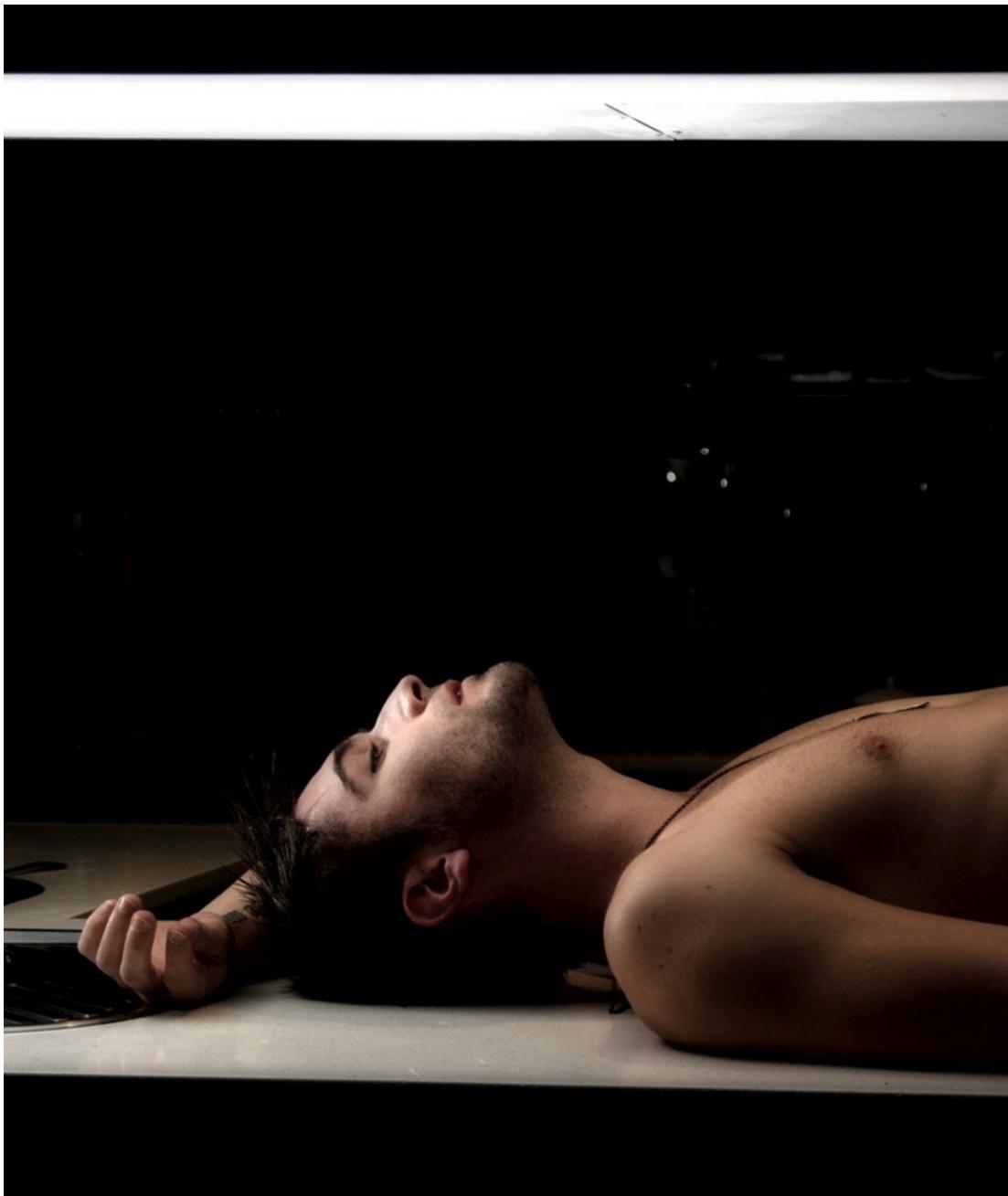
With a strong emphasis on natural light and using the shadows and contrasts provided by nature,

works with subjects on location to create artworks that seem at once familiar and a little disconnected from reality.

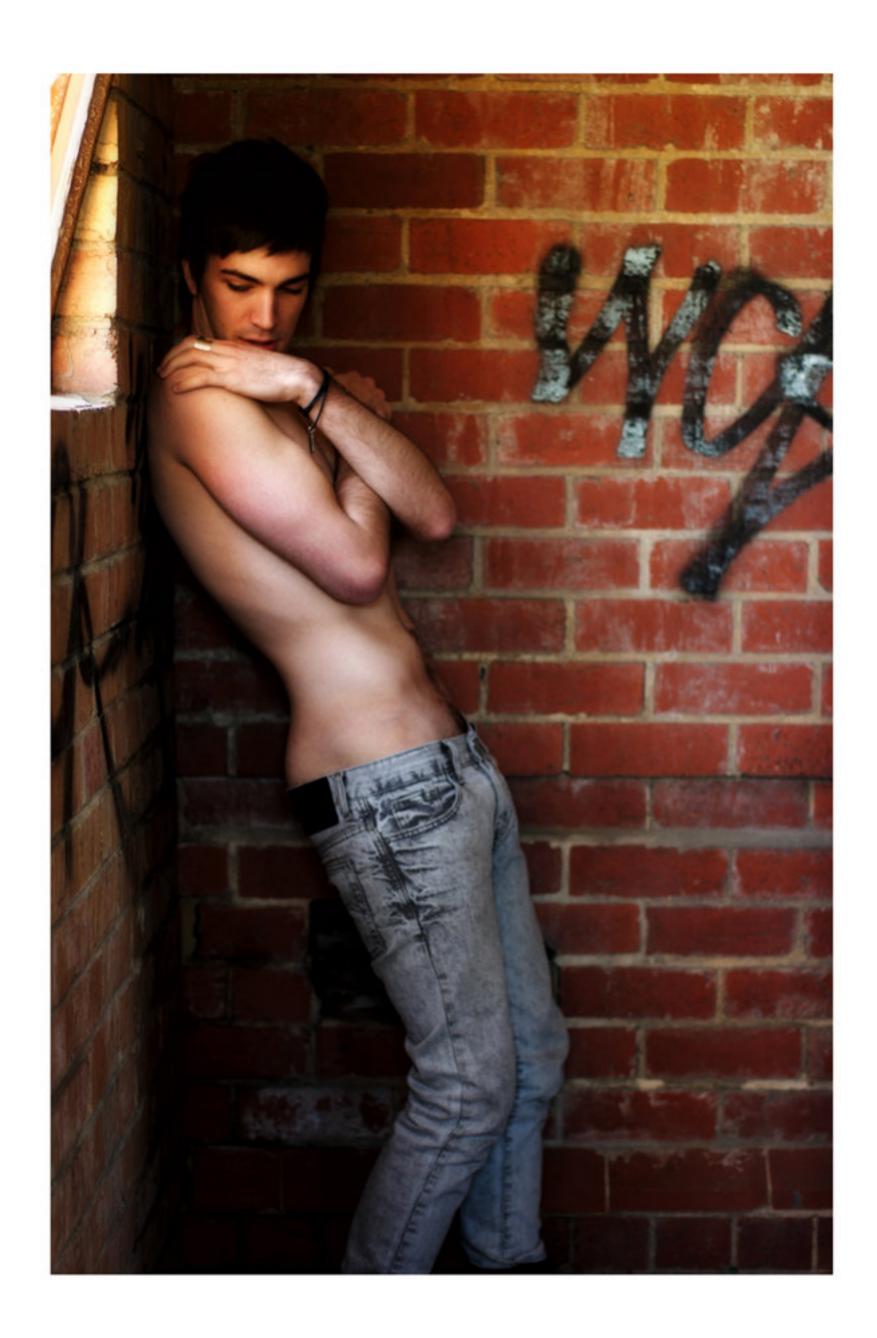
Some works
aim to highlight the eroticism inherent
in the gaze of the viewer,
usually in a voyeuristic fashion,
while others give themselves up
less readily, or focus purely on the subject as a
beautiful shape,

reflecting light and drawing the eye over nature's most appealing creations.







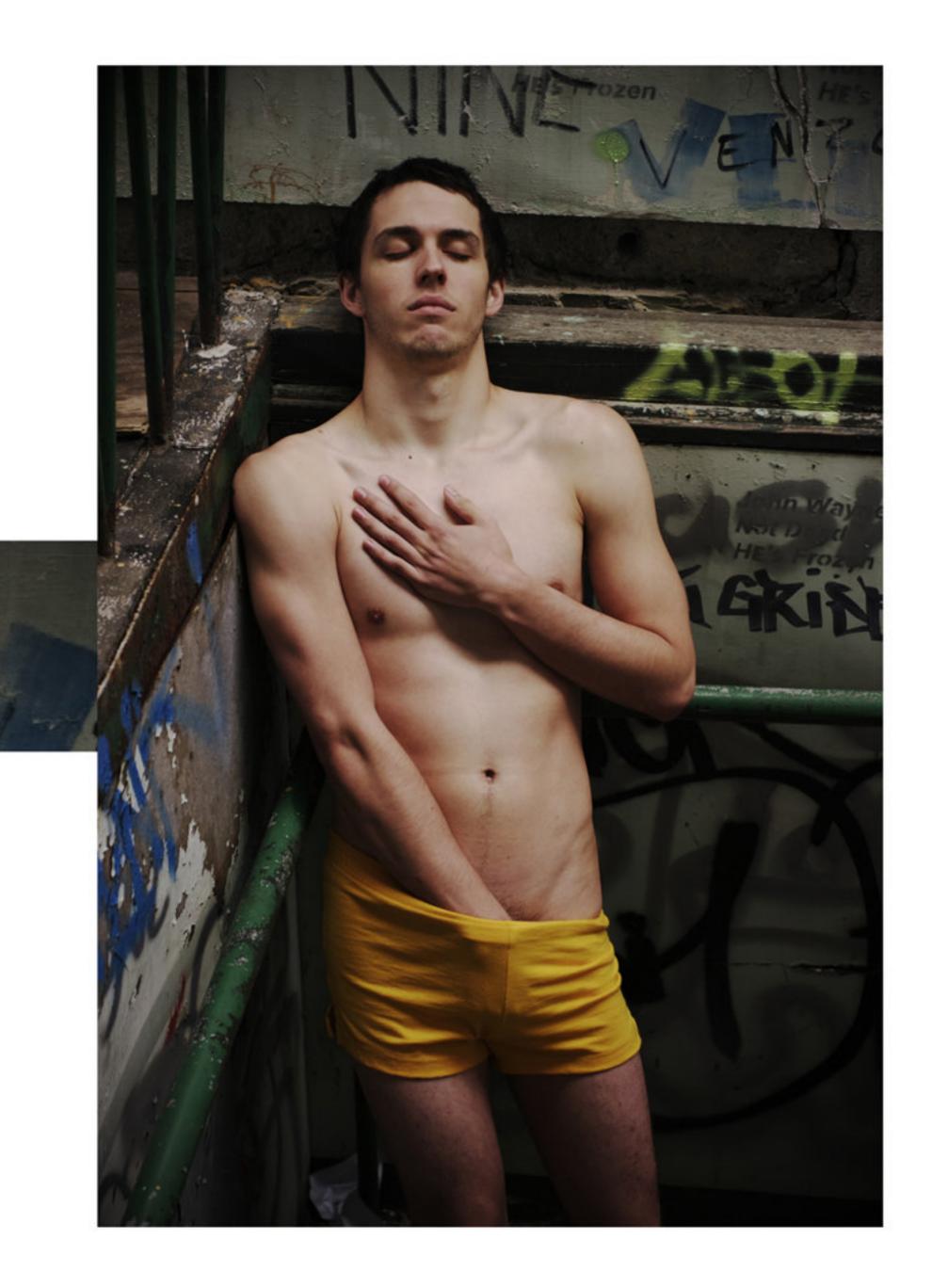


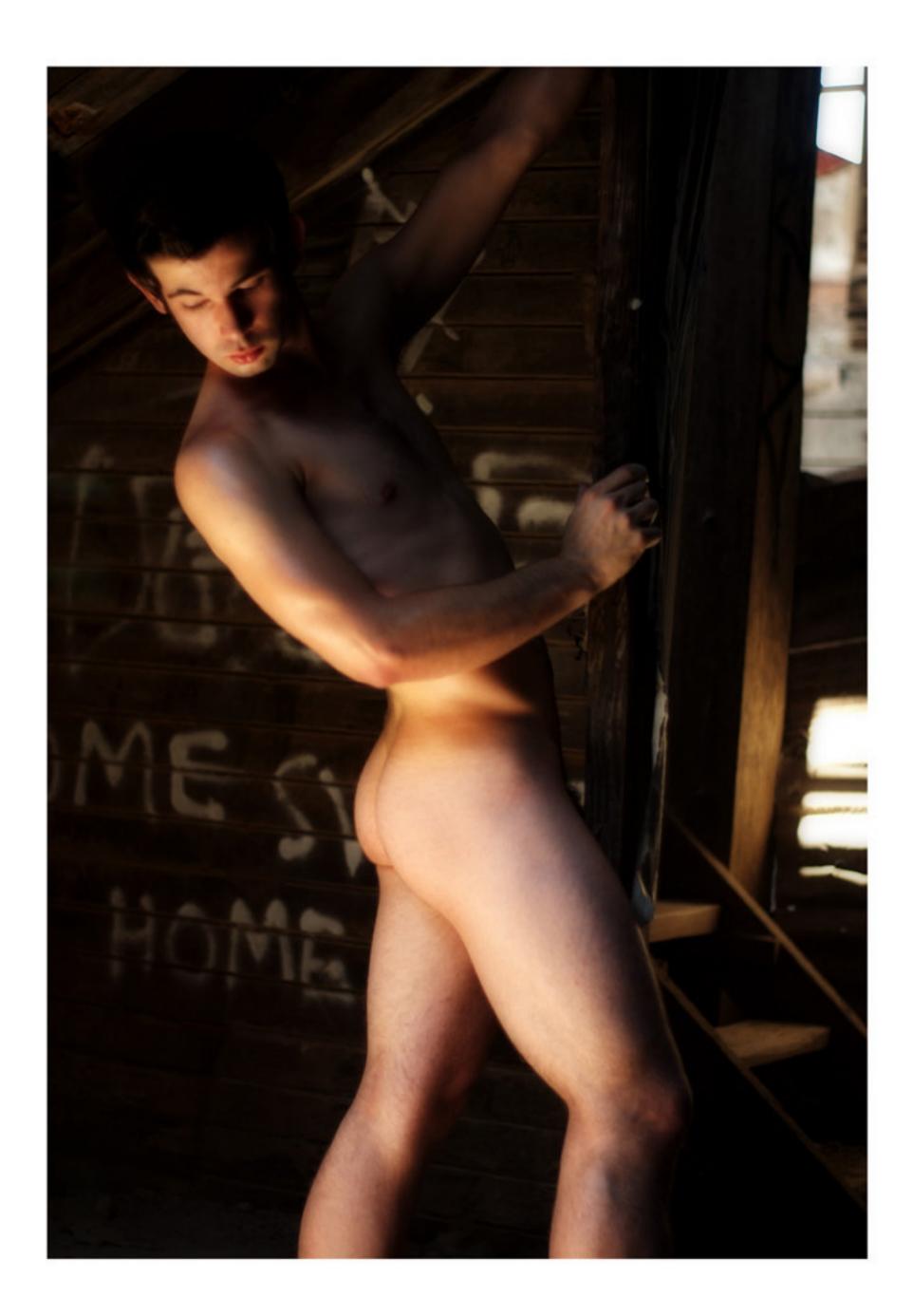










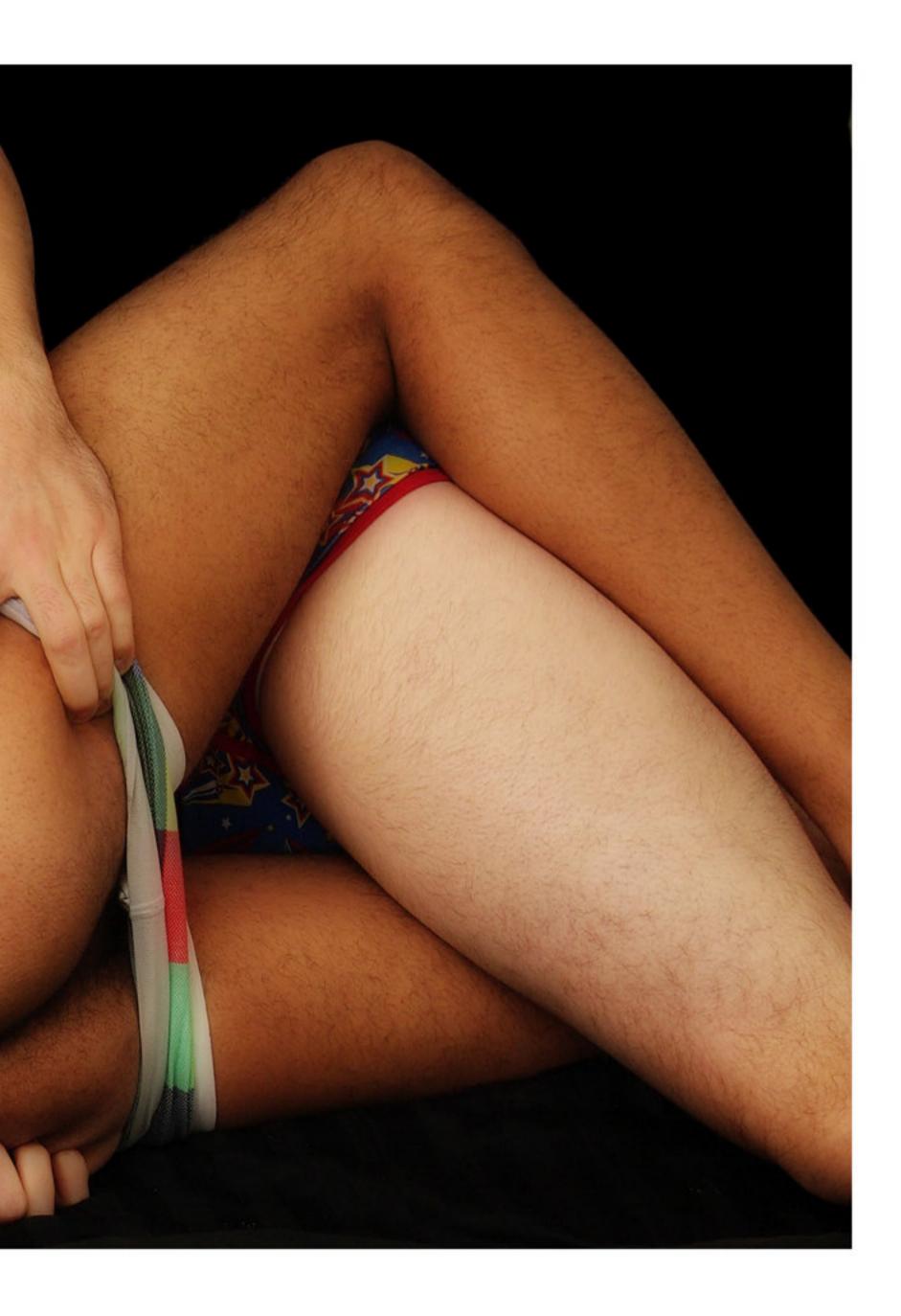












# More works by Steve Snap

can be viewed at

http://photosguy.carbonmade.com and

http://www.redbubble.com/people/photosguy

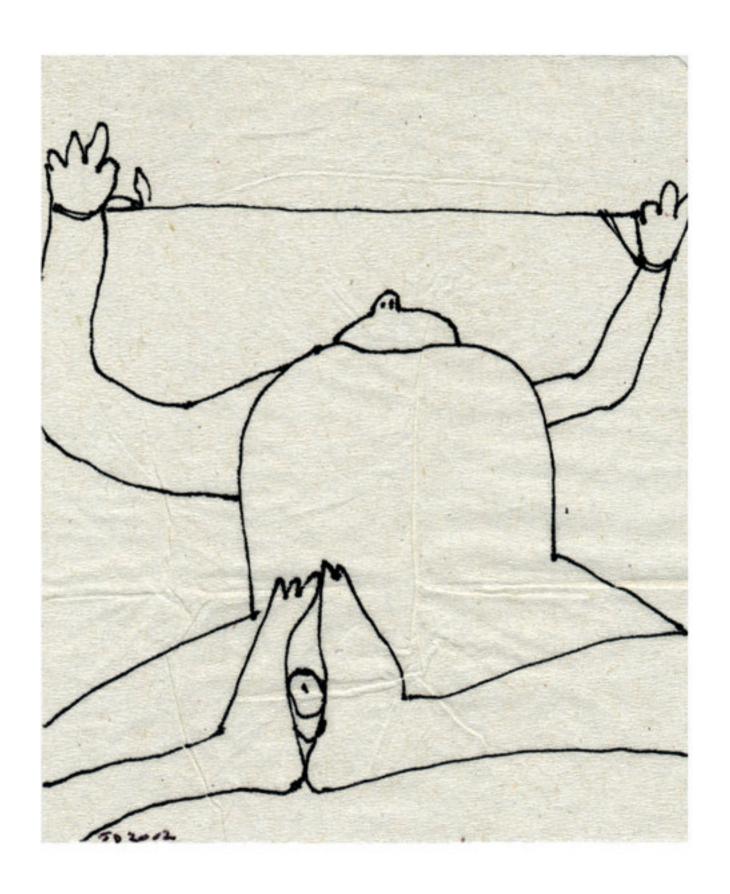
If you would like to contact about being in a shoot, using images for a project or buying works, email photosguy@hotmail.com



### JOHN DOGLAS



A CHILD WITH AL	L THE COLC	ORS IN NATURE





#### Caught In The Cottage.

Ink on toilet paper sourced from the Will Rogers Memorial Park toilet in L.A.

- Scene of George Michaelís infamous 1998 arrest for 'lewd behaviour'. Each scene is drawn from a real-life sex scene.

#### Going For Gold.





Acrylic on paper. Painted and exhibited in Sydney to celebrate Sydney's awarding of the 2000 Olympic Games.

Works from this series became the official merchandise for a watersports event in the USA, 1999.

## JOHN DOUGLAS

is an award-winning Australian multimedia artist whose exhibitions have received acclaim and caused controversy both in his home country and internationally.

He decided he wanted to be an artist and immediately began painting at the age of 8, and has never had any misgivings about his decision to follow the artistic path. He studied at the Queensland College of Art until his expulsion in 1984 for being a 'disruptive and disturbing influence', after which his career really took off.

He has had many exhibitions in Australia for the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras festival and an exhibition for Sydneyís cultural festival for the 2002 Gay Games. His international exhibitions include shows in France, USA, Thailand, Malaysia and China.

He is an internationally published writer of fiction and non-fiction. He has been/is a regular cartoonist and writer for several publications.

His photography encompasses a broad spectrum of styles and themes, including for newspapers and magazines around the world, and for corporate clients.

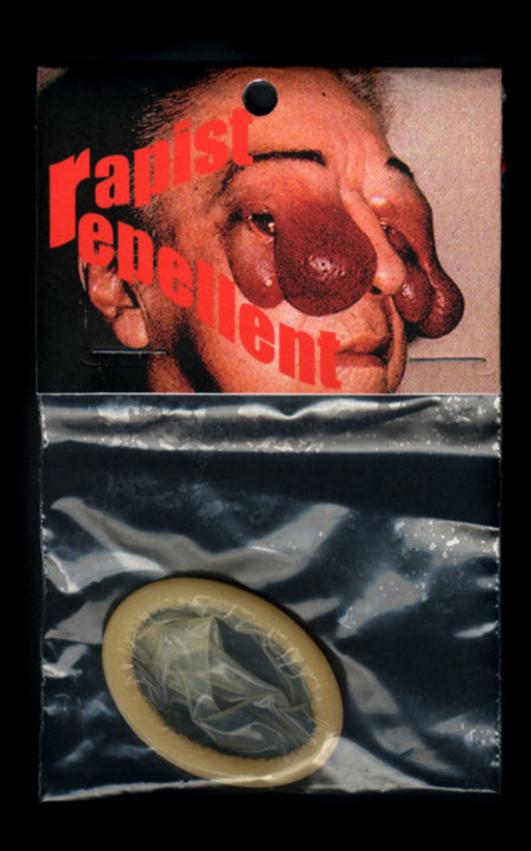
He has been a Teaching Consultant in Art Therapy at Glenside Psychiatric Hospital, Adelaide, Australia and now conducts specialty self-expression art workshops around the world.





Mixed media. Exhibited for the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras festival, 2005.

#### Packets



#### Ward 9. Film stills



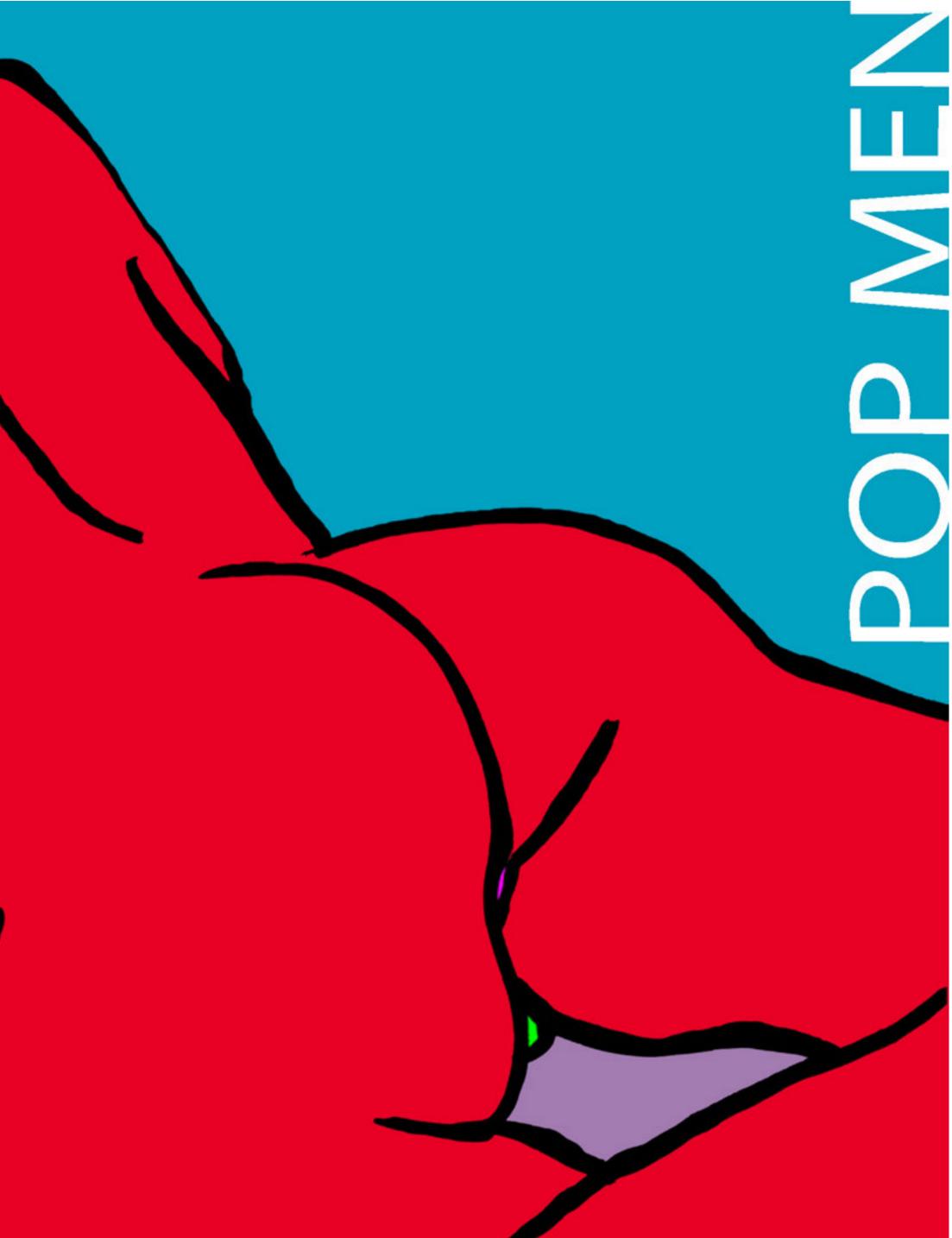
Winner of the 2010 Outrate International Short Film Festival. The film depicts an interior view of daily life in an HIV ward.



His films have featured in international film festivals. In 2010 Douglas won the International Outrate Short Film Festival for his film 'Ward 9', a film about life in an HIV ward, and was given an Inspiration Award for his photograph 'Imagine' for World Peace Day in the USA.

His art is represented in museums and private collections worldwide.







Hand-drawn ink brushwork with digitally added colors. A celebration of gay male sexuality. (Current seies.)

#### Pop Men slideshow

www.youtube.com/watch?v=8n5raDFD6YY

#### Pop Men drawing process and slide show

www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_RCAHF5NIrM

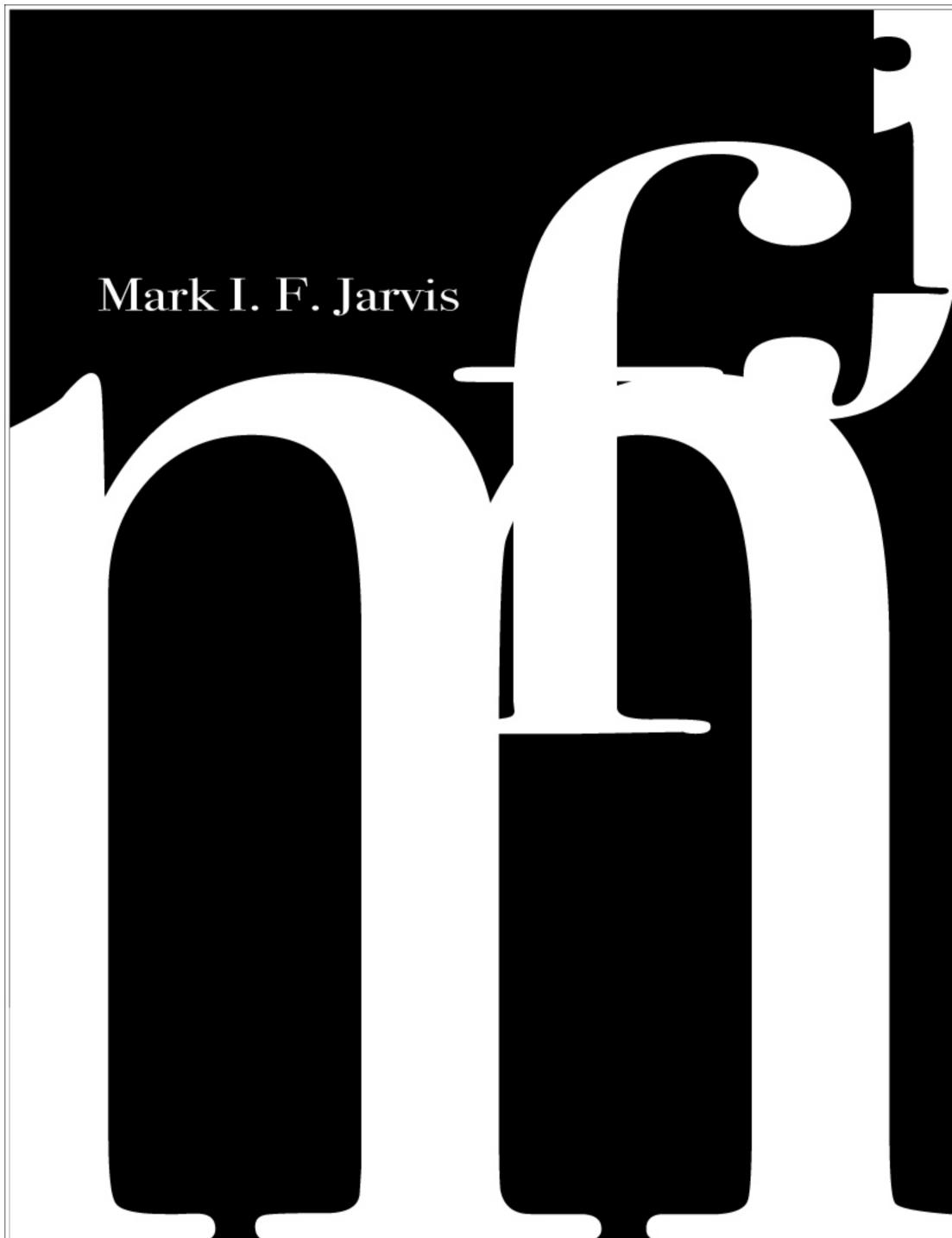
#### Pop Men Calendar

www.redbubble.com/people/johndouglas/calendars

#### John Douglas official website

www.JohnDouglasArt.com





I think the human body is a beautiful thing.



The world is stone

#### 37 years old artist. Gay guy and live with his long term partner.

I have always had an interest in  $\widehat{A}$ rt ever since I can remember.

It wasn't untill I got into my teenage years that I

It wasn't untill I got into my teenage years that I appreciated *nude art*, male and female.

I think the human body is a beautiful thing, most of my nude art work focuses on male form.

I was lucky enough to work with an artist called

#### Malcom Ashman,

this is where I did my first ever nude model shoot and started to create my own images.

"Just For today" comes from that photo shoot.

I am self taught and learn more with each image I create. I also write poems and my art page at Redbubble consists of all my different work.

Come along and take a look.
online profile and online store: redbubble.com/people/jarvism
Photography, poetry, digital art and clothing.



hidden love





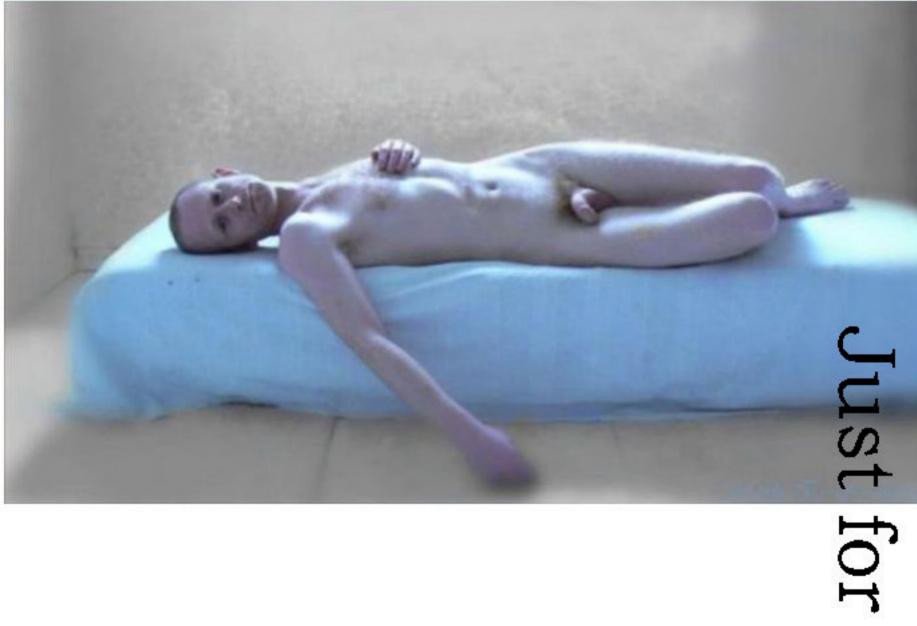
Falling deeper

Falling from darkness falling into love Falling into love Falling into love Falling from dark of the with you found from dark of the falling from

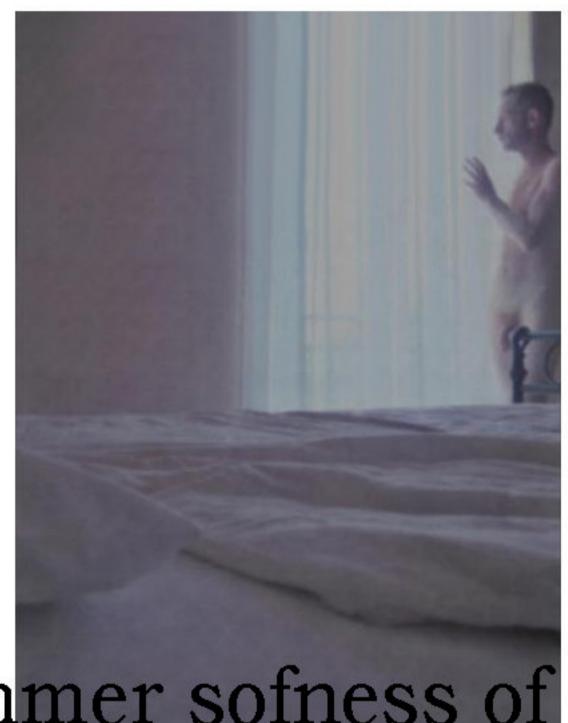




Just for today I am nobody's son,
Just for today I am nobody's Brother
Just for today I am nobody's Lover
Just for today I am away from the rat race
Just for today I am free of expectations
Just for today I am an artist's inspiration
Just for today I am nothing but me



## for today



Summer sofness of love

# Keep me safe



The warmth of Love
I feel the warmth of the sun on my skin
Your soft tender skin next to mine
Each sunrise feels my heart with love & desire
It shines like the love we have inside
Our love to me grows deeper with each new day
The summer sunrise, warm and forever growing
Just like the warmth of our love

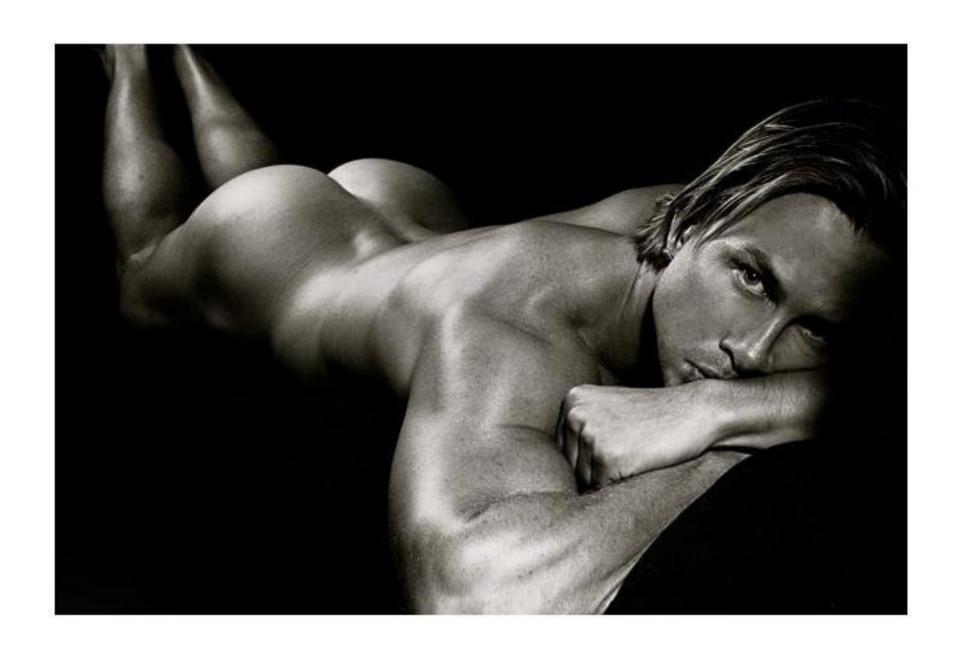


Here with me

#### By Thomas Synnamon



New York based artist Thomas Synnamon presents his first coffee- table book called "Sleepless" an intimate look at the warm atmosphere of a room. Through his lens we can see the beauty of everyday life, highlighting the fine shapes of the male figure. With clear influences of the great photographers create a unique style, stamping his signature on each of his photographs. Thomas Synnamon with this book offers a ticket to a exciting journey that no one can regret.



















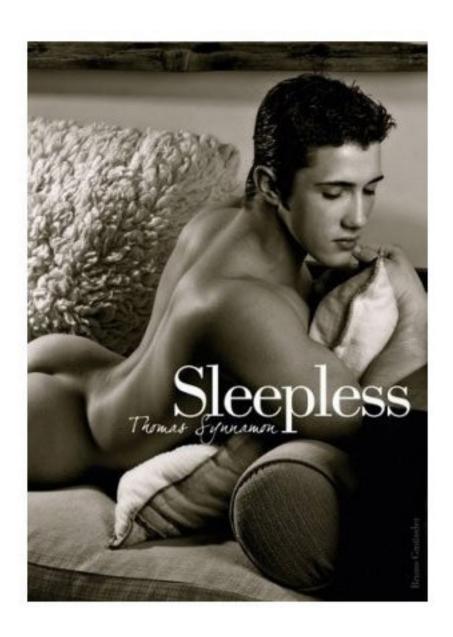












To buy this book amazon.com/Sleepless-Thomas-Synnamon/dp/3867870500

Hardcover with dust jacket.

Pages: 80.

Size: 21,5 x28,5cm /8.5 x 11,25 inches.

Callendar 2011, Canvas, Mounted and Framed prints,
Posters and more.
redbubble.com/people/synnamon

www.thomassynnamon.com

## Thanks to all the members who entered our first contest. "Male Eroticism"

For more information on new contests please visit redbubble.com/groups/noisy-rain-magazine-group

Kneeling... #2 By 1oldman



Winner of the second place in our first contest "Male Eroticism"

redbubble.com/people/1oldmen

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