

GINA MINIELLI

Photographer | Artist | Educator

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Photographer, artist, and college educator with an M.F.A. in Studio Art (Photography), ten years of undergraduate teaching experience, and more than three decades of professional photographic practice. Current Adjunct Assistant Professor at Queensborough Community College and Queens College, CUNY, with extensive teaching experience spanning digital photography, black-and-white film and darkroom processes, digital imaging, Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom, studio lighting, color theory, alternative photographic processes, and advanced photographic practice.

Experienced in curriculum development and assessment, interdisciplinary teaching, student advising and mentoring, portfolio development, learning-outcome and rubric development, photography laboratory and darkroom operation, and the selection of photographic equipment and instructional resources. Committed to inclusive, accessible, and equitable teaching for students with varied educational backgrounds, abilities, economic circumstances, and levels of preparation.

Active exhibiting photographer whose creative practice includes fine-art, documentary, editorial portraiture, social-practice, commercial, sports, and other lens-based work.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Digital Photography • Black-and-White Film Photography • Darkroom Processing & Printing • Digital Imaging • Adobe Photoshop • Adobe Lightroom • Color Theory & Color-Managed Workflows • Studio Lighting • Fine-Art Printing • Alternative Photographic Processes • Contemporary Photographic Practice • Curriculum Development & Revision • Program Assessment • Learning Outcomes & Rubrics • Interdisciplinary Art Education • Inclusive & Accessible Pedagogy • Student Advising & Mentoring • Portfolio Development & Review • Exhibition Curation • Photography Lab & Darkroom Management • Instructional Equipment Planning

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Assistant Professor | *Queensborough Community College, City University of New York* | Spring 2024–Present

- Teach Digital Imaging Arts 291, integrating hands-on Adobe Photoshop instruction, digital photography, image editing, and photographic field experiences.
- Create project-based learning experiences that connect technical digital-imaging skills with observation, creative inquiry, personal expression, and development of an individual artistic voice.
- Adapt demonstrations, presentations, assignments, critique, and individual instruction to support students with varied levels of preparation and a broad range of learning and accessibility needs.
- Advise and mentor students in the development of photographic and digital-imaging projects.

Adjunct Assistant Professor | *Queens College, City University of New York* | Fall 2016–Present

Courses taught: Digital Photography I & II (PHOTO 165 & 225); Advanced Digital Photography (PHOTO 335); Darkroom Photography I (PHOTO 176); Advanced Darkroom Photography; Studio Lighting; Advanced Studio Lighting; Special Projects in Design for MFA Candidates (ARTS 6203).

- Teach digital photography, black-and-white film photography, darkroom processing and printing, photographic retouching, Adobe Photoshop, studio lighting, color theory, and advanced photographic techniques.
- Integrate analog and digital processes to help students understand the distinctive technical, material, and conceptual characteristics of each and explore how traditional and contemporary photographic methods can inform one another.
- Developed and revised introductory and advanced analog photography, digital photography, and digital-imaging curricula.
- At the request of the department chair, developed a four-year photographic-skills scaffolding plan following the integration of the Photography and Digital Imaging areas, establishing a progressive sequence of technical, conceptual, and creative competencies from introductory through advanced study.
- Develop course and program learning outcomes, assessment methods, and rubrics to evaluate student progress and support consistency across levels of photographic instruction.
- Serve as a senior student advisor, guiding advanced and capstone projects, reviewing portfolios, and assisting students in identifying and securing internship opportunities.
- Mentor advanced students pursuing independent projects and specialized photographic techniques through Special Projects and individualized study.
- Curate student exhibitions at the Klapper Hall Gallery, guiding students through editing, sequencing, printing, presentation, and preparation of work for public exhibition. Selected exhibitions: *Light Leaves a Trace* (2026); *Flash Forward* (2025); *Beyond the Flash* (2024).

- Represented CUNY in the 2024 Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) initiative, collaborating with the photography program at University Mediterranean Podgorica in Montenegro.
- Apply extensive professional and teaching experience to photography laboratory and darkroom operation, workflow, instructional organization, and student safety; improved darkroom flow and instructional use to better support student learning.
- Evaluate and recommend cameras, lighting equipment, printers, darkroom accessories, and other instructional resources based on suitability for student learning and contemporary photographic practice.
- Secured grant support for photography equipment upgrades and student photographic supplies, expanding access to instructional resources while reducing financial burden on students.

Adjunct Assistant Professor | *Molloy University, Rockville Centre, New York* | Fall 2017–Present

Courses developed and/or taught: Digital Photography I (ART 1570); Photojournalism (ART 3020); Documentary Photography (ART 2520); Portrait Photography (ART 2540); History of Photography (ART 2360); History of Art and Healing (ART 2480); Art Historical Themes in Cinema (ART 2400); Medical Humanities: Art History & Human Condition (ART 2220); Independent Study (ART 4701).

- Develop and revise undergraduate photography and art curricula responsive to evolving photographic technologies, creative practices, and student needs.
- Created an interdisciplinary Medical Humanities course for nursing and pre-medical students using art history, visual expression, and interpretation to deepen understanding of patients and the human condition.
- Designed the course to encourage empathy and compassion while exposing students to differing cultural, religious, ethnic, social, and personal experiences relevant to patient care.
- Connect photography and visual art with journalism, cinema, history, medicine, humanities, social issues, and other forms of inquiry.
- Guide independent-study students through advanced creative projects, research, technical experimentation, critique, and portfolio development.

INCLUSIVE, ACCESSIBLE & EQUITABLE TEACHING

More than ten years of experience teaching college students with widely varied educational backgrounds, technical preparation, learning styles, abilities, life experiences, and access to resources.

- Design instruction to provide multiple pathways for understanding technical, visual, and conceptual material.
- Adapt presentations, demonstrations, course materials, assignments, and individual instruction to support students with visual, hearing, physical, learning, and other accessibility needs.
- Experienced in helping students facing physical or learning disabilities, mental-health challenges, military service-related challenges, economic barriers, and sociocultural adversity achieve successful academic and creative outcomes.
- Combine visual demonstration, verbal explanation, written support, hands-on practice, individualized feedback, critique, and experiential learning to make photographic concepts accessible through different modes of learning.
- Structure coursework to support both students entering with limited photographic experience and advanced students seeking sophisticated technical and conceptual development.
- Seek to reduce economic barriers to participation through thoughtful equipment planning, shared instructional resources, and grant-funded photographic equipment and supplies.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSES & INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICE

Digital Photography & Imaging

Digital camera operation • Adobe Photoshop • Adobe Lightroom • Digital image editing • Retouching • Color theory • Color-managed workflows • Digital printing • Studio lighting • Advanced digital photographic practice

Analog Photography & Darkroom Practice

35mm and black-and-white film photography • Film processing • Darkroom printing • Traditional photographic printing and retouching • Darkroom workflow • Student darkroom instruction • Equipment and materials selection

Alternative & Experimental Processes

Polaroid transfers • Photograms • Encaustic photography • Pinhole photography and handmade cameras • Photo weaving • Experimental printing and image-making processes

CREATIVE & PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Photographer | *Gina Minielli Photography* | 1995–Present

Maintain a sustained professional and creative photographic practice encompassing fine art, documentary work, editorial portraiture, social-practice photography, commercial studio photography, and sports.

Selected Projects

Incidental Heroes: Black-and-white portraits of inspirational people living with multiple sclerosis. More than 250,000 copies published. Project coverage included WNBC News, Lifetime Television, Self Magazine, WE Magazine, and the New York Daily News.

Beacon of Pluralism: Photographic series celebrating the religious diversity of Flushing, New York, birthplace of American religious freedom and one of the most diverse communities in the United States. Featured on PBS.

Sight Unseen: Visual interpretation of mental illnesses created to help demystify and reduce stigma surrounding commonly experienced but frequently hidden conditions. Client: National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Concerning AIDS: Portrait series documenting people who lived with AIDS before effective treatment became available, created to increase awareness and support efforts toward treatment and a cure. Client: Gay Men's Health Crisis.

Additional professional work includes an Emmy-nominated television public service announcement for the Harlem YMCA; annual-report photography for The Ad Council; and event and editorial photography for the Queens Courier, Theatre Arts Center, Museum of Modern Art, Easter Seals, SNY, and the New York Mets.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE

First Assistant | *David Arky Photography, New York, NY* | 1992–2002

- Assisted an established commercial and fine-art still-life photographer and early digital-imaging practitioner.
- Supervised daily operation of a professional photographic studio supporting two photographers and six staff members.
- Developed extensive practical experience with professional studio workflows, lighting, photographic equipment, imaging technologies, and production.

Photo Assistant | *Arnold Newman Studios, New York, NY* | 1990–1992

- Assisted internationally recognized photographer Arnold Newman on studio and location assignments.
- Printed and retouched fine-art photographic prints for museum and private collections; assisted with coordination and preparation of museum exhibitions.

Official Team Photographer | *New York Mets, Flushing, NY* | 1987–1989

Photographed players, games, and team activities during the New York Mets' 1987 and 1988 seasons.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Fellowship — Italian Diaspora Studies Summer Seminar | *John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, CUNY / Università degli Studi Roma Tre* | June 2026

Selected for an intensive summer seminar in Rome hosted by the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute in partnership with Roma Tre University.

Master of Fine Arts — Studio Art (Photography) | *Queens College, City University of New York* | May 2016

Bachelor of Fine Arts — Photography | *School of Visual Arts, New York, NY* | June 1990

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS, PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

2026 — *America the Beautiful, 250th Anniversary*, Manhasset Public Library, Manhasset, NY

2025 — *Light Handed — Darkroom & Alternative Prints*, Queens College Arts Center, Flushing, NY

2024 — *Italics: Television for the Italian American Experience*, CUNY TV

2024 — *Interwoven: Artistic Expressions of the Italian American Experience*, Queens College Arts Center, Flushing, NY

2021 — *Mindful Presence: Contemplative Art by Molloy College Faculty*, Kellenberg Gallery, Rockville Centre, NY

2021 — *Our Planet Exhibition*, Kupferberg Center for the Arts, Queens College, CUNY

2020 — *Mindfulness & Contemplative Pedagogy in the Classroom*, Co-Presenter, College Art Association Conference, Chicago, IL

2020 — *Religion: Church and State*, PBS, Reconnecting Roots, Season 2, Episode 2

2020 — *Artist Talk: Gina Minielli*, Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Queens, NY

2019 — *Lesson Plans* article, Professional Artist Magazine

2019 — *Action Art: Social Practice Queens*, Ruben Foundation grant supporting the Beacon of Pluralism Project

2019 — *Inside/Outside: Artwork of Mental Illness*, Plaxall Gallery, Long Island City, NY

2018 — *30 Years of the New York Mets*, Solo Exhibition, Manhasset Public Library, Manhasset, NY

2017 — *Namaste: A Celebration of Spiritual Iconography*, Manhasset Public Library, Manhasset, NY

2016 — *Sight Unseen: Explorations of Mental Health*, M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition, Klapper Gallery, Queens, NY

2016 — *Bound by Bowne: The Birth of American Religious Freedom in Flushing*, Queens College Arts Center, Flushing, NY

2016 — *Fall Fest: Images of the New York Mets*, Copeland Gallery, Queens College, Flushing, NY

2016 — *Dining with Vultures*, Group Exhibition, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2015 — *Icons and Religions*, Studio Program Exhibition, Queens Museum, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, NY

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Adobe Photoshop • Adobe Lightroom • Canvas • Brightspace • Google Classroom • Google Workspace • Microsoft Office • macOS • Windows • Chromebook environments

Certified hybrid instructor with experience developing and delivering instruction across in-person, hybrid, and digitally supported learning environments.