



PANOPTICON GALLERY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Kids Are People Too

A children-themed group exhibition

June 8 - July 12, 2011

Opening Reception: Wednesday, June 8, 2011 | 5:30-7:30pm

Panopticon Gallery is proud to present *Kids Are People Too*, an exhibition that celebrates children in photography, as explored through the vision of sixteen photographers, from the well known to the emerging contemporary artist.

When I was a boy, there was a TV show called, *Kids Are People Too*. It was like a talk show for kids: a Sunday morning variety show. My fondest memory of that show was the time that they had my favorite rock band on, KISS. Isn't it interesting that some childhood memories are quite vivid, while others are long forgotten?

Hiroshi Watanabe photographed young children in costume in his well-documented project *Kabuki Players*. These kabuki players are not part of the mainstream companies in Tokyo, Japan, rather a small theater company. Watanabe's goal was not to photograph the famous Kabuki players, because that was like photographing movie stars in the U.S. His goal was to photograph Japanese people in hopes that he could reveal the inner most part of themselves through their mask of makeup.

In her series *Halloween in Harlem*, Amy Stein shows us a glimpse of what it's like to trick or treat in New York City. Children donning masks and costumes and acting out their alter egos, heroes, or favorite villains. From the homemade costume to the store bought boxed outfit, this annual tradition is one that almost all can remember.

Photographer Harold Feinstein spent over 40 years documenting Coney Island and his native New York City, so much so that he has been famously quoted as saying, "I often felt like I fell out of my mother's womb onto the beach on Coney Island with a Nathan's hot dog in my hand with the sounds of kids screaming on The Cyclone."

And Suzanne Revy has spent the last few years documenting her children and their friends, capturing adolescence and child's play, attempting to bridge the connection of her childhood and theirs through her photographs.

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