

**ALIFE**®  
PRESENTS WITH **KINZ + TILLOU FINE ART**

## CLAYTON PATTERSON L.E.S. CAPTURED

SEPTEMBER 24 – NOVEMBER 8, 2009

ALIFE PRESENTS  
157 RIVINGTON STREET  
NEW YORK NY 10002  
T. 212 253 2180  
Tues – Sun 12noon – 7pm



ALIFE PRESENTS and KINZ + TILLOU FINE ART are proud to announce CLAYTON PATTERSON, L.E.S. CAPTURED, a co-produced exhibition that focuses on Patterson's 30-year documentation of the dramatically transitioned Lower East Side neighborhood of New York City. The exhibition features select photographs; a digital showcase of Patterson's Front Door portraits; "The Documentarian", a short from the widely acclaimed recent feature-length documentary, *Captured*, a film by Ben Solomon, Dan Levin, Jenner Furst.

A documentarian by choice and community activist by circumstance, Patterson's career spans 30 years of dedicated and compulsive photographic capture of the neighborhood and its community. From documenting the 1988 Tompkins Square Park Police Riot—which earned him both jail-time and Oprah airtime—to photographing individuals posed in front of his gallery door on Essex Street, Patterson is the eyes of the Lower East Side.

His massive body of work is akin to an anthropologic visual catalog of record. The pictures are strikingly honest depictions of Lower East Side kids, families, thugs, lovers, drug dealers and users, disenfranchised artists and others that would otherwise disappear from collective memory. They effectively preserve the rich culture that embodied the neighborhood during a socially and economically depressed period of New York City and as it experiences rapid gentrification. They show an unedited humanity upfront and close-up. Each picture represents a door to a fascinating story, one that he can annotate with a sharp recollection and sensitive perspective.

In his *Front Door* book Patterson states: "For me, taking the front door photos was magic. It was like touching someone's soul. We were sharing a moment in time together, in a very intimate and deep way. I always felt a union, a deep connection and respect for my subjects. We were one. We were exploring our inner selves to each other. I was saving a presence, a spirit, the image of a person from the moment, the here and now, for the future. All of us were the Lower East Side."

Born in 1948 in Calgary Canada, Patterson and his companion, Elsa Rensaa came to New York City in 1979. Since 1983, they have lived in the building they purchased on Essex Street, which by 1986 also served as the as the home of the Clayton Gallery and Outlaw Museum, showing artists outside the mainstream. An ardent community advocate, Patterson also co-founded the New York Tattoo Society of New York and helped win the fight to legalize tattooing in the City.

The CLAYTON PATTERSON: L.E.S. CAPTURED exhibit is one of a 3-part celebration of Patterson's work and legacy: A book signing and theatre-screening will soon be announced.

Aside from Patterson's striking photographs, also available during the exhibition are: *The Front Door Book*, published by O.H.W.O.W and featuring a wide collection of Patterson's Front Door portraits, and well as numerous essays written by Patterson narrating his experiences in the Lower East Side; the *Captured* DVD; and collectible T-shirts and buttons—all in the spirit of the neighborhood's grittier and tumultuous past.

The Artist's opening reception will take place on Thursday September 24, from 7 to 10PM at ALIFE PRESENTS at 157 Rivington Street; a private reception will be held concurrently in the ALIFE Courtyard at 158 Rivington Street.

For further Information or photographs, please e-mail [patterson@alifepresents.com](mailto:patterson@alifepresents.com)

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**ABOUT KINZ + TILLOU FINE ART**

Kinz + Tillou Fine Art represents emerging, mid-career and established artists. It evolved from a long gallery lineage, first in Chicago and then in New York City, where it was associated with a history of operating in Chelsea from 1997 - 2009.

**ABOUT ALIFE**

Alife is a Lower East Side, New York-based creative workshop and Downtown-lifestyle retailer founded in 1999. Recognized as a worldwide leader in design and promotion of innovative high quality, culturally relevant products and projects, Alife has produced numerous collaborative projects with artists and brand partners. Alife has flagship locations in New York, Los Angeles, Vancouver and Tokyo. ALIFE PRESENTS is a gallery space where chosen artists and select brands alike are invited to create and showcase ideas. Via Alife Presents, the ALIFECREATIVE team curates and produces art exhibits, product collaborations and conceptual retail installations.

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**ALL PHOTOGRAPHS:**

C-prints:

20-1/4 x 14-1/4 in. edition of 5 \$1,500

26-3/4 x 18-3/4 in. edition of 5 \$2,500

40-1/4 x 28 in. edition of 3 \$4,000

1. Untitled (Irak- Kunle) 2006/2007
2. Untitled (Triby with razor in mouth) 1996/2007
3. Untitled (grunge girl) 1992/2007
4. Untitled (Cochise) 1992/2007
5. Untitled (man in basement with cans) 2005/2007
6. Untitled (homeless man in box) 1995/2007
7. Untitled (1st Avenue and Houston Street) 1985/2007
8. Untitled (2 men lying down on street) 1998/2007
9. Untitled (John Sex) 1987/2007
10. Untitled (drag queen- Audrey) 1989/2007
11. Untitled (179 Essex Grocery arrest) 1995/2007
12. Untitled (Chris Henry) 1989/2007
13. Untitled (giving the finger) 1993/2007
14. Untitled (drag queen- Peter Kwaloff) 1986/2007
15. Untitled (David Chan with shopping cart) 2005/2007
16. Untitled (street man cooking in Tompkins Sq. Park) 1989/2007
17. Untitled (Daniel Rakowitz) 1989/2007
18. Untitled (Bowery Marlboro man) 1997/2007
19. Untitled (tent city- woman in box) 1990/2007
20. Untitled (Joe Coleman getting tattooed by Jonathan Shaw) 1989/2007
21. Untitled (drag queen with roses in hair) 1986/2007
22. Untitled (two girls with lipstick) 1987/2007
23. Untitled (Clark Render) 1987/2007
24. Untitled (homeless with newspaper) 1989/2007
25. Untitled (wounded) 1992/2007
26. Untitled (homeless man sleeping on bandshell) 1991/2007
27. Untitled (homeless woman with grey jacket) 1991/2007
28. Untitled (woman with red makeup) 1987/2007
29. Untitled (street peddlers) 1992/2007
30. Untitled (we know where you live) 1990/2007
31. Untitled (John Joseph) 2006/2007
32. Untitled (fire night riot, Avenue A) 1992/2007
33. Untitled (arrest by Suriel Restaurant) 1993/2007
34. Untitled (homeless behind trash container) 1991/2007
35. Untitled (DJ Free Simon) 2007
36. Untitled (drag queen- Mr. Fashion) 1987/2007
37. Untitled (front graffiti door- four girls) 1995/2007
38. Untitled (front graffiti door- man with red sweater and cross) 1993/2007
39. Untitled (front graffiti door- man with toothpick) 1995/2007
40. Untitled (front graffiti door- two young men kneeling) 1987/2007
41. Untitled (front graffiti door- Morris with hagler hat) 1987/2007
42. Untitled (front graffiti door- guy with boom box) 1995/2007
43. Untitled (graffiti door- Slug) 1993/2007
44. Untitled (graffiti door- Susan with pearls) 1989/2007
45. Untitled (graffiti door- three boys) 1995/2007
46. Untitled (graffiti door- dressed in black) 1998/2007