



THE QUEER FAMILY PORTRAIT PROJECT

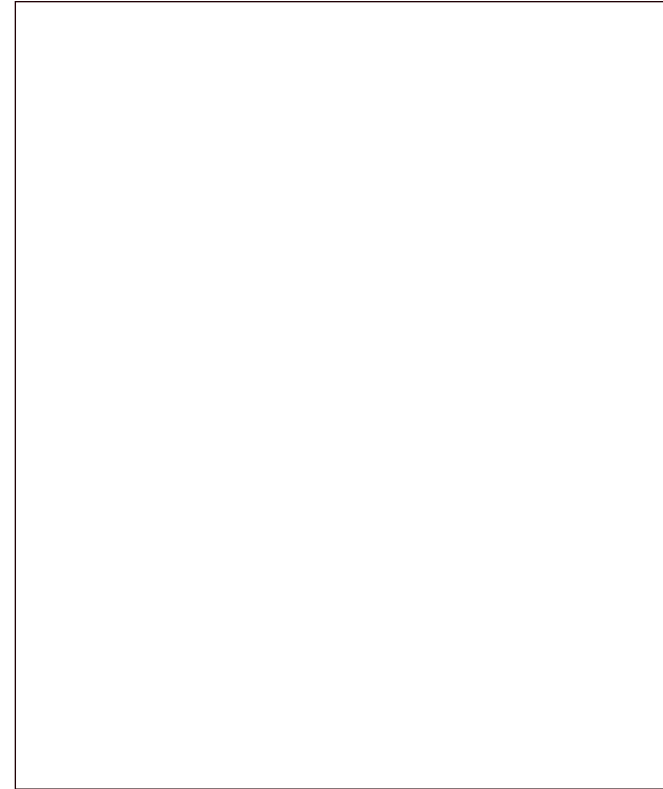
JESSE FINLEY REED

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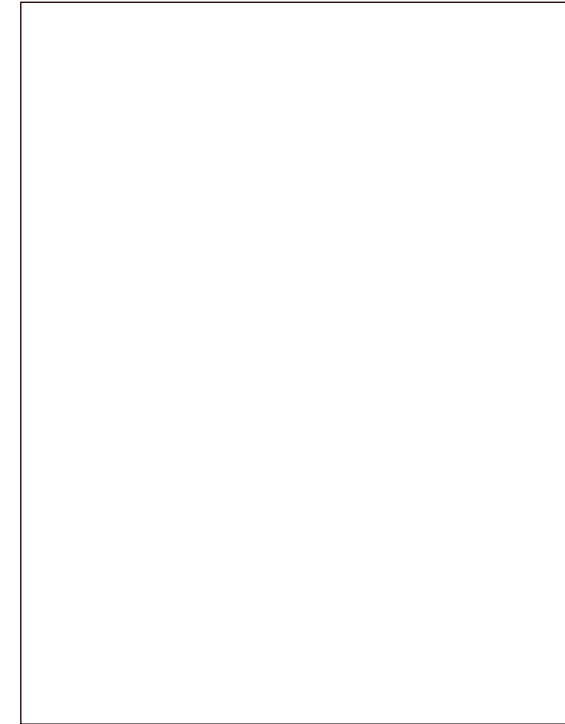
JESSE FINLEY REED

2005

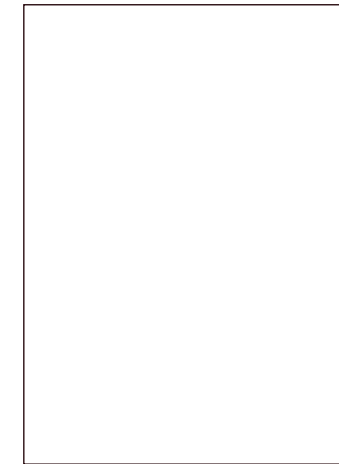
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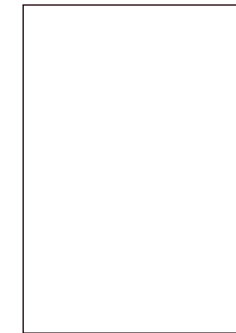
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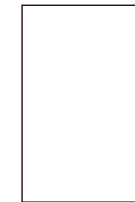
8X10



5X7



3.5X5



WALLET

The Queer Family Portrait Project is a collaborative photography project seeking to represent a broader, more diverse version of the American family. Seeking out gay/lesbian/bisexual/alternative/queer families and couples, we asked those who were interested to have their portraits taken at a local consumer photo studio. The QFPP covered all of the costs associated with the photo shoot in exchange for use of these images in this project.

In conceptualizing the Queer Family Portrait Project, I sought to create a socially and politically motivated project that would involve individuals and families across the US. With the help of the participants, I believe that this project will challenge the cultural conceptions of what constitutes a family. The documentation of “queer” families through an established format of family portraiture celebrates while critiquing the long history of nuclear family portraiture.

For me, this work is as much about the process as the end product. Since I was not be able to attend each shoot, the families and couples worked together with the studio photographers to create memorable portraits of their own. Regardless of approach, the project was and continues to be shaped and realized through each family’s participation. Although undeniably political in nature, this documentation process functions as an affirmation of love and togetherness between queer individuals and families.

Jesse F. Reed  
2005

# THE BORDELIN FAMILY

Los Angeles, CA, 2003





# THE FRANKS FAMILY

Los Angeles, CA, 2003



## WHAT CONSTITUTES A FAMILY TODAY?

Text to come...





# THE KUPERMAN FAMILY

Los Angeles, CA, 2003







# THE GREENSPAN FAMILY

Los Angeles, CA, 2003



# THE GAER-BERWITH FAMILY

Oakland, CA, 2003

# THE KRIEGER FAMILY

Oakland, California  
2004







# THE MANDL-MURPHY FAMILY

Brooklyn, New York  
2001

# THE HOWSE-WILLIARD FAMILY

Kalamazoo, Michigan  
2004







# THE MCWILLIAMS FAMILY

Meriden, Connecticut  
2004



THE LASPINA-WILLIAMS FAMILY

Meridin, Connecticut  
2004





# THE OCHS-PREBLE FAMILY

Jamacia Plain, Massachusetts

2001

# PORTLAND'S SMYRC FAMILY

Portland, Oregon  
2004







THE PORTWOOD FAMILY

Las Vegas, Nevada

2004

THE PEPPER FAMILY  
New Haven, Connecticut  
2003







THE SHERILL-PUETZ FAMILY

Portland, Maine

2001



## THANK YOU & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Foremost, to the families and couples who chose to participate, this is the result of all of your efforts. Thank you. Without your participation, there would be no Queer Family Portrait Project. I hope that this project will grow further, and continue to be shaped and realized through each families participation.

This project has been funded, in part, through the generosity of Yale University's Larry Kramer Initiative for Gay and Lesbian Studies.

In addition, I want to personally thank the following people for their assistance:

Jonathan D. Katz  
Rachel Pepper  
Forest Young  
Patrick Dundon  
Emily Ruth Reed

and Lee D. Savage, for his relentless encouragement and belief in seeing this project happen.

