

Jonah Calinawan

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Biography (b. 1969)

Jonah Calinawan (JO-nah ca-lee-NA-wan) is the photographic artist behind *A Million Suns*. In his work, Jonah creates surreal images that explore ideas relating to identity, free will, and destiny. Jonah prints his work using a hand applied and historical printing process called cyanotype—giving his images their deep blue color. Jonah is an accountant turned artist. He holds a Bachelor of Mathematics from the University of Waterloo, Canada, and a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. Jonah currently lives and works in Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Jonah did not plan to be an artist. He bought his first camera in 2002 on a whim. In 2008, he attended a workshop where the instructor suggested an MFA degree. He thought about it for two years before enrolling at the Academy of Art University in 2010.

Completing his MFA in 2014, Jonah is continually amazed at the unintended path that he embarked on. It has changed the trajectory of his life. He metaphorically explores this journey in *A Millions Suns*, an ongoing photographic series that tells the story of one man's search for his future.

Education

- 2014 Master of Fine Arts in Photography, Graduated Magna Cum Laude, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, USA
- 2003 CPA Certified Public Accountant (Illinois, USA)
- 1995 Chartered Professional Accountant (Canada)
- 1994 Bachelor of Mathematics, Graduated with Distinction, University of Waterloo, Canada

Juried Group Exhibitions & Awards

- 2018 Exhibiting Artist, Overlea ArtsFest, Baltimore, Maryland (06/2/2018)
- 2017 8th Annual National Arts Program Exhibition, Johns Hopkins Hospital, 1st PRIZE, Baltimore, Maryland (12/13/2017-02/17/2018)
- 2017 In Transit Exhibition, VETS Gallery, Providence, Rhode Island (09/08/2017- 11/26/2017)
- 2016 Featured Artist, Verve Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico (12/2/2016 – 1/28/2017)
- 2016 *A Cartography of Dreams*, Dimbola Museum & Galleries, Isle of Wight, United Kingdom (10/14/2016-1/1/2017)
- 2016 *Diffusion Annual Group Exhibition*, A Smith Gallery, Johnson City, Texas. (09/02/2015 – 10/23/2016)
- 2015 *(re)View: Explorations in Human Nature*, Art Intersection Gallery, Gilbert, Arizona. (12/12/2015 - 1/9/2016)
- 2015 *Photowork 2015*, 3rd PRIZE, Juror: Katherine Ware, Barrett Art Gallery, Poughkeepsie, New York (06/20-08/08)
- 2015 *Memory*, see+ Gallery, Beijing, China. (6/6-7/11)
- 2015 *Light Sensitive*, Juror: Robert Hirsch, Art Intersection, Gilbert, Arizona. (03/07-04/18)
- 2015 Alternative Process Invitational, Curator: Johnny Power, Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois. (01/20-02/26)
- 2014 *Atomic STEaM Photography Show*, HONORABLE MENTION, Curators: Thomas Barrow, Mary Anne Redding, & Steve Yates, National Museum of Nuclear Science & History, Albuquerque, New Mexico. (11/8-01/4/2015)
- 2014 Shenzhen International Photo Week, Curators: Yan Li & Sun Chengyi, Dawang Art Area, Guangdong, China. (10/22-10/30)

- 2014 *Approaching The Unreal*, 3rd PRIZE, Jurors: Bryan Yedinak & Danny Sanchez, American Photographic Artists SF, Modernbook Gallery, San Francisco, California. (9/4-10/27)
- 2014 *MD Art @ College Park*, Juror: Ann Shafer, The Art Gallery, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland. (6/25-8/2)
- 2014 *Of Memory, Bone and Myth*, HONORABLE MENTION, Juror: Maggie Taylor, Rourke Art Museum, Moorehead, Minnesota. (4/11-6/1)
- 2014 *Imagined Realities*, Jurors: Robert & Shana ParkeHarrison, Online Gallery & Exhibition Book, PhotoPlace Gallery, Middlebury, Vermont. (2/5-3/14)
- 2013 *This is Not Photography Exhibition*, Society for Photographic Education, Mid-Atlantic Conference, Asbury Park, New Jersey. (10/19-10/28)
- 2013 *Alternative Processes Competition*, Juror: Jill Enfield, Soho Photo Gallery, New York, New York. (11/6-11/30)
- 2013 Photolucida Critical Mass Finalist, Portland, Oregon
- 2011 *Transferred: Alternative Processes in Photography*, Juror: Regina Deluise, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, Virginia. (11/5-11/27)
- 2011 *Food Exhibition*, Juror: David Bram, The Center for Fine Art Photography, Fort Collins, Colorado. (9/2-10/15)
- 2010 Hasselblad Masters Worldwide Competition Semi-finalist, Up & Coming Category

Bibliography

- 2016 *Diffusion Magazine Volume VIII 2016 Interview*, page 56-60.
- 2016 *Jonah Calinawan: A Million Suns. Fotofest Discovery*. Allaboutphoto.com feature by Ann Jastrab. 4/4/2016.
- 2015 Wilks, Brady. *Alternative Photographic Processes: Crafting Handmade Images*. Focal Press, 2015. Print. (AMS images featured on p. 36, 118, 184, 186).
- 2014 Plates to Pixels, Featured Photographer, www.platestopixels.com (July 2014)

Artist Lectures/Community Initiatives

- 2016 *Improving Spreadsheets Using Art Principles*, Association of Chartered Accountants in the United States, Washington DC Metro Chapter. (10/27/2016)
- 2016 *Pop-up*, Baltimore Theater Project, Baltimore, Maryland. (04/01/2016- 04/03/2016)
- 2016 *Art of Science*, Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, Maryland. (05/15/2016- 05/16/2016)

Permanent Collections

Private Collections in China, Canada, and United States