

Irma Bohórquez-Geisler is a photographer, professor, biologist, and a cultural leader for Mexican-Americans on Staten Island. Irma immigrated to New York in 1991 from Mexico City. She holds a Ph.D. in Ecological Entomology from Oxford University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Autonomous University of México City (UNAM).

The photographs shown in this exhibit were taken at Franklin D. Roosevelt Boardwalk and South Beach in Staten Island, during the covid-19 pandemic, 2020. The pandemic has brought fear and anxiety to our lives and we were confined to our homes. Normal activities and routines changed during this time. These photos are a record of many people, including myself, seeking some relief from home and experiencing some sense of normality.

Before the pandemic, Irma had been photographing Mexican-Americans and Mexican immigrants in New York for her ongoing social-documentary series, "*Simple Moments of an Emerging Presence*," focusing especially on Staten Island. Starting in 2001, the selected photographs show simple moments in everyday life, traditions and occasions important to Mexican people. The men, women and children depicted share a common heritage and a homeland separated from their native land.

Her photographs were featured on the NY Times Lens Blog 6/15/2016, "*Mexicans in New York: Traditions and Turning points*"; the 12th Julia Annual Margaret Cameron Award in Barcelona and first and second Alice Austen Triennial in 2019. She was awarded the Gabriela Mistral, Julia de Burgos, Frida Kahlo Award, 2017, as a photographer and cultural leader who preserves and promotes Mexican values and cultural heritage for younger generations of Mexican-Americans in New York. In 2011, City Councilwoman Debi Rose conferred on Irma the "Staten Island Women Who Preserve History" award. Her photographs have been exhibited at numerous contemporary art galleries in New York, Berlin, Spain, Mexico and museums. She has been awarded many grants for her photography and for presenting Mexican traditions at museums, schools and in the community. Published credits include, The New York Times, Staten Island Advance, La Jornada, Excelsior, El Diario/La Prensa and others.

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1. *Fisherman and seagulls at rocky pier, 2020*

Archival inkjet print on Ilford Gallerie paper

Size: 11x17

Frame Size: 16x20

Price upon request

2. *Women walking on South Beach boardwalk, 2020*

Archival inkjet print on Ilford Gallerie paper

Size: 11x17

Frame Size: 16x20

Price upon request