

Since 1973, a gallery promoting the work of women artists and serving the community through public events

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NEFERTITI INGALLS *IDENTITY IS THE WAY I LOOK*

May 21—June 15, 2013
OPENING RECEPTION:
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 6-8 PM

SOHO20 CHELSEA GALLERY
547 West 27th Street, Suite 301
New York, NY 10001
Hours: Tues.-Sat. 12-6pm



SOHO20 Chelsea Gallery is pleased to present *Identity Is the Way I Look*, an exhibition of photographs by Nefertiti Ingalls from her ongoing photographic project documenting the current generation of teenagers in New York City. Ingalls was drawn to this topic because of her experiences as a child growing up in Costa Rica. “It was a time when Costa Rican high school students were required by law to wear uniforms. So for us, there was little chance to use style as a way to determine identity”. Moving to New York after graduation, her attention was drawn immediately to the complex role clothing styles play in the lives of New York’s teens.

Identity is the way I look probes the conditions that make self-discovery possible. Ingalls realized the importance of portraying not only the teens interest in clothing styles but also the nature of their interaction with the space of the home. She worked directly with their families to make this possible. Home is a place which serves as an often unrecognized theatrical stage or testing ground where one can imagine and try on different identities. She asked the students to prepare three outfits that best portray the way they want the world to see them and two or three locations in their home that have particular importance for them. “As I photographed, I asked the teens what kind of a person they would like to be when they grow up? The only direction I gave them in terms of posing was ‘pose as you want the world to see you!’” The result is a series of immensely informative and profoundly moving images that charge the bounded field of the photograph with the energy and life of each of these uniquely different young people.

Ingalls was born in San Jose, Costa Rica, and lives in New York City. In 2007 she graduated from the International Center of Photography, where she completed the One Year Fulltime Program. Her solo shows include: *Identity is the Way I Look*, US Embassy, Costa Rica, 2010; Galeria Sophia Wanamaker, Costa Rica 2010; Galeria Nacional, Costa Rica, 2009. Group shows include “Capture Brooklyn”, Powerhouse Arena, DUMBO, 2010; Chunches de Mar, Museo del Nino, Costa Rica, 2008/09; ICP “Lightproof” Full-time Student Exhibition, NYC, 2007; Lightproof, Rome, 2007; “Lantern Of the East Art Festival”, Pyongtaek City, South Korea 2006, Published in: Diario La Nación CR, Violaopro Brasil, Heat Beat Miami, La prensa Libre, La Republica, Shift Book 2006/07 ICP, Lantern of East Catalog 2006, and in the forthcoming book “Identities Now”.

For more information or visuals, contact info@soho20gallery.com or 212 367-8994; www.soho20gallery.com