

For Immediate Release, January 26, 2019

L.I. Centric - Neighborhood Portraits and Their Stories curated by Norma Homberg
Featuring Works by Orestes Gonzalez, Jonathan Lev, Manolo Salas, Tony Vaccaro and Jesse Winter



On view: February 7 - March 3, 2019

Opening Reception: Saturday February 9, 6-9pm with live music featuring renowned, Long Island City-based musicians.

Musical Performances:

6:30 PM, TrioLIC (Stu Gruskin, Alan Feldenkris & Ron Pierrot)

9pm, Ken Butler

9:30pm, Pat Irwin & J Walter Hawkes

The Plaxall Gallery (5-25 46th Avenue, Long Island City)

Exhibition Hours: Thursday, 6-10pm (Life Drawing);

Saturday & Sunday, 12-5pm

Long Island City Artists @ The Plaxall Gallery are pleased to present *L.I. Centric*, an exhibition highlighting local figures in Long Island City, Queens through vibrant, personalized portraits of the individuals comprising this dynamic community. Artists **Orestes Gonzalez, Jonathan Lev, Manolo Salas, Tony Vaccaro and Jesse Winter** present their incredible visions of the community through their photographs and drawn portraits of local residents and cultural leaders.

A tight-knit community of artists and musicians makes Long Island City their creative center, working and recording in studios located in the bustling Queens community. Sharing this dynamic space with a multitude of other residents in LIC: business owners, athletes, teachers, journalists, and more. Queens is New York's most diverse borough, and the locals of Long Island City only further cement Queens' well-earned title.

Viewing the personal relationships depicted between subject and artist, the network of shared space and community is made manifest in these poignant portraits. Through this expression of community solidarity, visitors to *L.I. Centric* become more aware not only of the bonds linking Long Island City locals; we are all invited to appreciate how we form communities and appreciate our neighbors in our own lives.

Long Island City Artists, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) arts advocacy organization with a mission to increase the development and visibility of professional and emerging artists in Long Island City, New York. We are based out of The Plaxall Gallery, a 12,000 square foot fine art community center in LIC.

LIC, The Arts Happen Here!

Media contact: info@licartists.org (select exhibition images attached)

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www.licartists.org | info@licartists.org



Photos: Orestes Gonzalez





Tony Vaccaro -Tony has been in LIC since 1980. He is a WW2 veteran. During the war Tony carry his Argus camera with him and took thousands of photos of the war. After the war Tony work for magazines like Look, Life and many others. During his career he got to photograph O'keeffe, Picasso and Duchamp to mention a few of the artist he photographed.



Jesse Winter Jesse is a native of Ithaca, New York. He moved to LIC in 2003. In 2010 he opened TEN10 Studio in LIC with Melissa Bieri. Jesse still lives in LIC with his wife and daughter.

Photos: Jesse Winter



Tony, The Stage at Ten10 Studios, 2016.

The most affable pro athlete in Long Island City, I met Tony Richardson in yoga class and learned later he is a three time Pro Bowl NFL player over 16 years with the Chiefs, Vikings and Jets. He came to the shoot wearing bicycling tights which added a nice sense of strangeness to the portrait.



Lindsay,
Neustadt Collection
2016

Curator (and self described philosopher) LIC resident Lindsay Parrott photographed at work where she directs the exhibiting and archiving of the worlds largest collection of Tiffany Glass since 2004.

