

2009 Berenice Abbott Prize
Honorable Mention

Marjorie Salvaterra
salvatterra@mac.com
<http://marjoriesalvatterra.com/>

Artist Statement: “Whole”

This project, WHOLE, began with a series of portraits called Chronic Pain. However, as I photographed the various people, I began to see similar emotions in their bodies. I decided to expand my project and photograph various parts of their bodies, each like a portrait. As I did this, I began to see that each body part felt as emotional as a face.

Then, came 9 months of bedrest, which I thought would put my project on hold for a while. For nine, months, I laid in bed, watching too much news about hatred in the world and spent the rest of the time daydreaming about what my child would look like. I started to think about the ways people come together and the ways people push each other apart.

As a person with too much time on her hands, I started to piece the various body parts together to create new human beings. Ones where black and whites came together. Men and women. Various cultures. Various income levels. Various IQ's. Various levels of attractiveness.

And in this, creating a new kind of beauty. A beauty of acceptance. One where we finally feel WHOLE.