

## LESLIE FRATKIN

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## SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

2025

Shortlisted for the Creative Capital Award

Current

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A DISEASE, a multimedia exhibition and book project combining photographs, writings, historical and medical research, and childhood memorabilia, exploring the prospect that her Multiple Sclerosis was triggered in adolescence by the pollution in her upstate New York hometown.

Current

LIVING WITH DISABILITY, a body of work documenting the stories of those living with disability, invisible and physical.

2000–2023

THE STREETS OF CHELSEA, a three-year street art intervention, combining photographs, posters, and social media, examining the effects of the COVID pandemic and the civic unrest in Chelsea, NYC.

2021

MY NEIGHBORHOOD IN COVID, a commission by The New York Foundation for the Arts to transform a block of COVID-proof outdoor dining booths into a large-scale solo public exhibition in Chelsea, NYC.

1995–2006

SARAJEVO SELF-PORTRAIT: THE VIEW FROM INSIDE, an eleven-year international exhibition and book project featuring the stories of nine photographers surviving the four-year civil war in the 1990s in their besieged hometown, Sarajevo, former Yugoslavia.

Fratkin wrote the book, provided additional photography, arranged the project's exhibition tour to several US and European cities, and organized panels and presentations with the project's photographers and with prize-winning journalists and authors who covered the war, in NYC, Sarajevo, and other cities in Europe.

To commemorate the 10th anniversary of the end of the war in 2005, a public panel discussion was held in NYC with Richard Holbrooke, U.S. Secretary of State and architect of the Dayton Peace Accords that ended the war in Bosnia, former Yugoslavia.

**NOTE:** A gap of several years, beginning in 2006, was due to illness.

## ARTIST-INITIATED EXHIBITIONS

2006

SARAJEVO SELF-PORTRAIT: THE VIEW FROM INSIDE, an exhibition in Sarajevo, Bosnia, of the works by nine photographers from Sarajevo, Bosnia, curated by Leslie Fratkin and Stuart Alexander, accompanied by public installations of the photographs in the city, and a range of panels and discussions with the project's artists and local dignitaries, held at the National Art Gallery of Bosnia, followed by the gift of the exhibition's prints to the National Gallery's permanent collection.

2005

SARAJEVO SELF-PORTRAIT: THE VIEW FROM INSIDE, an exhibition in NYC, of the works by nine photographers from Sarajevo, Bosnia, curated by Leslie Fratkin and Stuart Alexander, accompanied by a range of panels and discussions, held at Peer Gallery, Aperture Foundation, Bard College: NYC Campus, and the New School Tishman Auditorium, NYC.

2002

SARAJEVO SELF-PORTRAIT: THE VIEW FROM INSIDE, an exhibition in Berlin, Germany, of the works by nine photographers from Sarajevo, Bosnia, curated by Leslie Fratkin and Stuart Alexander, accompanied by a range of panels and discussions, a film series, and an international media coverage room, held at NGBK Gallery, Berlin, Germany

2001

SARAJEVO SELF-PORTRAIT: THE VIEW FROM INSIDE, an exhibition in Copenhagen, Denmark, of the works by nine photographers from Sarajevo, Bosnia, curated by Leslie Fratkin and Stuart Alexander, accompanied by a range of panels and discussions, held at the Museet for Fotokunst, Copenhagen, Denmark

2000

SARAJEVO SELF-PORTRAIT: THE VIEW FROM INSIDE, an exhibition in Dayton Ohio, of the works by nine photographers from Sarajevo, Bosnia, curated by Leslie Fratkin and Stuart Alexander, accompanied by a range of public programming marking the 5th Anniversary of the end of the War in Bosnia, held at the Dayton Art Institute in Dayton, Ohio, site of the Dayton Peace Accords that ended the 4-year Bosnian War.

## SELECTED SOLO AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2025

UNTITLED, public art photography installation, curated by Rodrigo Guzman-Serrano and Cee Cohen, The Macro Project, Ithaca, NY

2023

PHOTOVOGUE FESTIVAL, photography installation, curated by the PhotoVogue Foundation, Milan, Italy

2021

MY NEIGHBORHOOD IN COVID, photography exhibition, commissioned by The New York Foundation for the Arts, West 15th Street COVID-proof outdoor dining booths alongside the Chelsea Market, NYC

2003

WOMEN, WAR, AND THE MEDIA, photographs of Bosnia, curated by Anne Zill, Embassy of Finland, Washington, D.C.

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024

WOMEN STREET PHOTOGRAPHERS, curated by Gulnara Samoilovia, NYC

2022

INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL, curated by Royal Photographic Society, Bristol, UK

2021

THE FLAG PROJECT, curated by the Aperture Foundation, Rockefeller Center, NYC

2003

OTHER SIDE OF THE STREET, curated by Philip Brookman, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

2002

WITHOUT BORDERS, curated by Carol McCusker, Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, CA

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, COMMISSIONS, AWARDS

2025 Shortlisted for the Creative Capital Award, NYC

2023 Critics Choice Grant and Award; Chosen by Editors from the New Yorker and Time Magazines, NYC

2023 PhotoVogue Foundation; Forty Remarkable Photographers Grant, Milan, Italy

2022 LensCulture Foundation; Top Ten Photographers Award and Grant, London, UK

2021 New York State Foundation for the Arts; Outdoor Exhibition Commission, NYC

2003 The Trust for Mutual Understanding; Second Fellowship, NYC

2003 Soros Foundation / Open Society Institute; Book Publishing Grant, NYC

2001 Soros Foundation / Open Society Institute; Second Project Grant, NYC

2001 Human Rights Watch; Sponsorship and Support, NYC

2000 Anonymous Patron; Second Project Grant, NYC

1999 Steven Spielberg's Righteous Persons Foundation; Grant, Los Angeles, CA

1999 The Trust for Mutual Understanding; First Fellowship, NYC

1998 Anonymous Patron; First Project Grant, NYC

1998 Soros Foundation / Open Society Institute; First Project Grant, NYC

1997 Soros Foundation / Open Society Institute; Fellowship, NYC

## PRESENTATIONS

2015

Presentation of photography and studio visits with art students, at the University of Michigan Penny Stamps School of Art and Design, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

2011

Presentation of photography and talks with art students and faculty, at Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas.

2005

Book presentation and panel discussion: “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside, Images and Words by Nine Photographers from Bosnia”, at BuyBook Book Store and Café, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2001

Created a panel discussion featuring the five photographers from the “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside” project alongside five renowned American photojournalists, Aperture Foundation, NYC.

2001

Created a panel discussion featuring seven award-winning international journalists and authors who reported on the wars in the former Yugoslavia, at Bard College: NYC Campus, NYC.

2001

Created a lecture and Q & A featuring Richard Holbrooke, Secretary of State and Architect of the Dayton Peace Accords that ended the Bosnian War, at the New School Tishman Auditorium, NYC.

2001

Website and book presentation of “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside, Images and Words by Nine Photographers from Bosnia” at Red Square Design, the publication’s designers, NYC.

2001

“My Sarajevo Story”, a website of Fratkin’s photographs and writings about her experiences in Bosnia, created by National Geographic, Washington, D.C.

2000

Book presentation and discussion of the “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside” project, at the Barnes & Noble Book Store, West Village, NYC.

2000

Website about “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside” created by The Washington Post, Washington, D.C.

2000

Wrote and self-published the book “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside, Images and Words by Nine Photographers from Bosnia”. Interviewed and made portraits of the featured photographers; provided additional photography; invited Tom Gjelten, National Public Radio Correspondent, to write the book’s introduction, and Lesley A. Martin, former Creative Director of Aperture Foundation, to be editor.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

2022

Editors’ Pick, “World Travelers”, a feature article in Life Framer Magazine.

2022

Two articles: “My Favorite Photograph” and “Why I prefer Black and White Film”, written for and published by Life Framer Magazine.

2022

An on-camera Interview, aired on Channel 1 TV NYC, and various newspaper articles, regarding the transformation of a block of COVID-proof outdoor dining booths into a large-scale solo public exhibition, in Chelsea, NYC.

2021

“The Flag Project”, exhibition catalog, published by Aperture Foundation, public art installation at Rockefeller Center, NYC.

2005

Published the Bosnian language edition of “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside, Images and Words by Nine Photographers from Bosnia”, translation by Tamara Seric, Sarajevo, Bosnia.

2004

“Photographing Conflict Zones”, article and photographs for the Crimes of War publication.

2001

Book review in Publishers Weekly, “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside, Images and Words by Nine Photographers from Bosnia”.

2001

Book Review in Kirkus Reviews, “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside, Images and Words by Nine Photographers from Bosnia”.

2001

Article and in-depth cover story about the “Sarajevo Self-Portrait: The View from Inside” exhibition and events, in Katalog Magasin, Copenhagen Denmark.

1996

Wrote and photographed “A Wild Ride in Australia’s High Country” for The Washington Post, Washington, D.C.

1996

Wrote and photographed “Trotting Through Tuscany” for The Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, California.

## COLLECTIONS

The National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Museet for Fotokunst, Copenhagen, Denmark

Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, California

National Gallery of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Soros Foundation / Open Society Institute, NYC

Steven Spielberg, Los Angeles, CA

## EDUCATION

1980

B.A Rhetoric and Communications: The State University of New York, Albany, New York.

1980 – Present

Self-taught photographer, writer, photo editor, curator, fundraiser, multimedia project creator: New York City, Australia, the Netherlands and across Europe, former Yugoslavia, etc.