

30
YEARS

FOTOSEPTIEMBRE

2024 MONOGRAPH



REUBEN NJAA
SOJOURNS

CURATED BY MICHAEL MEHL

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Reuben Njaa is a distinguished artist and educator with over three decades of dedication to the craft of photography and the nurturing of creative minds. He established his own studio in Minneapolis after six years assisting various photographers in New York City. In Minneapolis, he worked with prestigious clients such as Dayton-Hudson, Levi's, Aveda, Northwest Airlines, and creating iconic album covers. He also set up shop for several months in Milan, Italy, photographing for various modeling agencies and magazines, which further solidified his international reputation.

He holds a BA from Texas A&M International University and an MFA from Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. He has taught at Texas A&M International and The Art Institute of Pittsburgh Online Division. He currently teaches at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, inspiring a new generation of artists to pursue their creative visions. Beyond the classroom and studio, Njaa's interests lie in photography and bookmaking, where he continues to explore and innovate, using his technical mastery to narrate life's subtleties through his lens.

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In the vast expanses of South Texas, small towns populate the landscape. Each one is a beacon of community and individuality. My photographs seek to capture the essence of these places, where every street corner, local diner, and empty storefront tells a story. Often overlooked, small towns are rich in history and culture. They are the birthplace of legends and the keepers of ancient traditions.

I find inspiration in places like Luling, Cuero, Mirando City, Bruni, Oilton, and many others, where past and future meet under the Texas sky. My images are a tribute to the quiet dignity of these towns, the resilience of their communities, and the unassuming beauty and unique narratives that flourish at their margins. With these photographs I strive to evoke the sense of wonder that these small towns instill in those who wander their streets—an admiration of the uncelebrated, a celebration of the everyday, and an invitation to pause and appreciate the artistry inherent in the simplicity of small-town life in South Texas.

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WESTHOFF



KARNES CITY



GONZALES



SABINAL



SAN DIEGO



BRUNI



REALITOS



CATARINA



LULING



PEARSAL



PEARSAL



CUERO



DEVINE



LULING



MIDANDO CITY



BENAVIDES



MIRANDO CITY



WESTHOFF



DILLY



VICTORIA



CUERO



GONZALES



VICTORIA



LAREDO



LAREDO



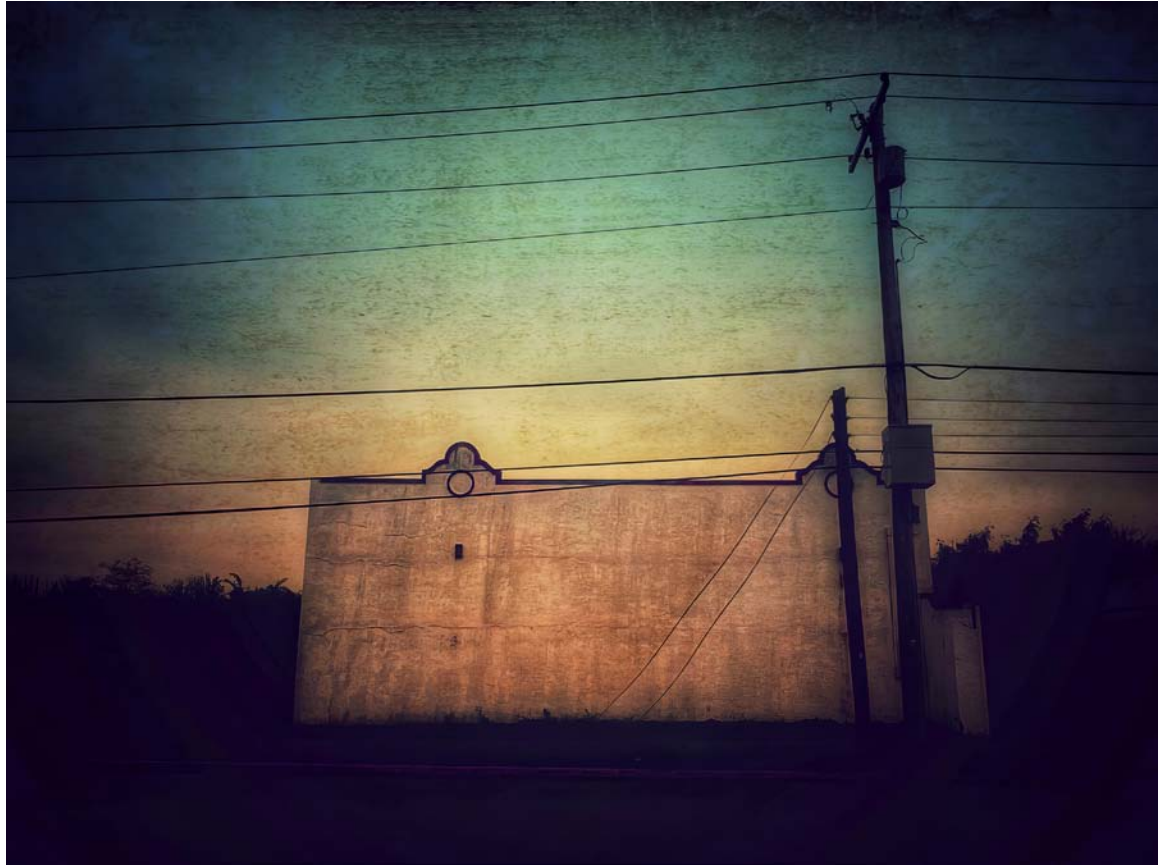
VICTORIA



FREER



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