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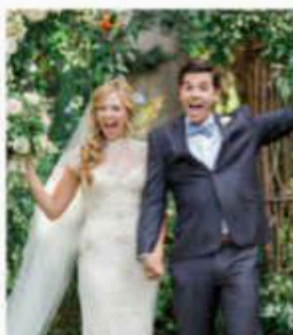


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Editor's Note

I grew up in a town outside of Manhattan, where many of the city's artists relocated in the 1970s when crime and rent increases made living in New York City untenable. As a child, I was surrounded by painters, sculptors, poets and photographers. While a good number of these creatives were men, most of them were women. My mother, now a painter, worked as a commercial and editorial photographer before I was born. The oldest of three sisters, she was part of a family

that's all creative. It just never occurred to me that an industry of any type of artists would be considered a "man's world," yet up until very recently, the photographic world has been primarily a male-centric one.

Sure, there always have been the breakout stars, the outlier women in the field of men. This is changing, thankfully, and changing rapidly. According to the National Endowment for the Arts, in 1970, only 15% of professional photographers were women. In 2010, an estimated 42.8% of working pro photographers

were women, and by 2015, 51% of working photographers were women.

When we decided to do a Women In Photography issue, we wanted to highlight some of the work of women photographers without trivializing them at the same time. You won't find a gear guide to the best photographic equipment for women, for example, because it's the same gear the men use.

What you will find is some amazing work from amazing photographers, who happen to be women.



Rania Matar, *Stephanie, Beirut, Lebanon*, from the series "A Girl and Her Room," 2010; Pigment print, 36 x 50 in.; Courtesy of the artist and Carroll and Sons, Boston; © Rania Matar

From "She Who Tells A Story," a joint exhibition curated by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the National Museum of Women in the Arts, we get a look inside the often-misunderstood Arab world from the vantage of women in that culture. The resulting images have a stark beauty the West rarely gets to see.

Born in Japan, photographer Nahoko Spiess now resides in Paris and travels the world working on editorial and commercial jobs, and has melded her training in graphic design

and a strong photographic sense to create a vibrant career.

Barbara Davidson is a multiple Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist who's as friendly as she is driven. Davidson has seen things that most of us can't imagine, yet she has an open and fresh view of the world that's astounding.

Sara France is a renowned wedding photographer who's often found teaching others how to be not only better photographers, but better businesspeople, and she recently has expanded her studio to include several other

women photographers who share her creativity and passion.

Someday I'd like to be done with making issues that celebrate women as if they were unique in the photographic world, and I think we're getting close to that. We're not quite there, though, so in this issue, and in all of our work, we'll continue to strive to bring the best photographers to you, period.

—David Schloss, Editor
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