AINT—BAD

An Independent Publisher of New Photography Art

JOHN SANDERSON

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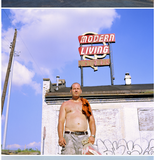
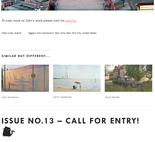
John Sanderson, born 1960 in New York City, is a self-taught photographer. Drawn to the topographically diverse landscape of the American West, he photographs its abandoned roadside attractions, ghost towns and ponds. Exploring the landscape in order to illustrate historic and contemporary myths, Sanderson reveals a condensed history of the rapidly substituted and demitualized secret geography unique to the American West. Sanderson's work is a contemplation of the ever-changing landscape and culture of distinctly American, his work is a synthesis of people and places, rich in their ability to evoke collective nature and shared history. In 2013, Sanderson was a recipient of the Center for Railroad Photography & Landscape Photography's Bruce Davidson Photography Fellowship. Sanderson's work has been shown at the New York Transit Museum through 2015. Today we share John's series American Traditions.

American Traditions

"Picturing America is to enter a tapestry of exceptionalism – not the defiling "City upon the Hill" Reagan mythologized, but the ever-changing, ever-challenging, ever-evolving ideal of the City upon the Hill, a reinvisioning of physical and social space began centuries ago and still now defined. What remains is an illustrative tapestry, rich in its ability to sense collective values and shared history. I set out to form a contemplation of the ever-changing landscape, of the ever-changing culture, of the ever-changing interpretation through weather and light. The second are environmental portraits, where a connection between subject and environment render an informal dialogue. I strive for a balance between my own emotional attachment to an image and its relation to America's story."