



The Friends of Harvey Milk Photo Center is pleased to present: **SF_retake**
Twenty-two photographers take on San Francisco. **Again.**

Opening reception: Saturday, May 4th, 2–5pm

Exhibition Dates: May 4–June 8, 2024

Location: Harvey Milk Photo Center, 50 Scott St. SF

Curated and designed by: Maren Levinson, David Peters, Rhonda Rubinstein

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For more information harveymilkphotocenter.org



It was 2004, when a small creative team invited 20 established photographers from the art and editorial world, as well as a handful of newly-emerging photographers, to document that post-internet megaboom-to-bust moment in time. Produced as a 152-page glossy magazine, under the imprint of the NYC-based *BIG* magazine, issue 54 has become a coveted time capsule.

Take two, twenty years later, our world is yet again in the midst of disruptive change. Setting aside the many larger societal issues, the impact of remote work on the character of downtown San Francisco is unmistakable. Virtual and artificial

technologies are transforming our words, pictures, and our perception of reality itself. The concerns of AI replacing the need for photographers and their work feels very real – or as real as anything is today.



Still, we believe there will always be a need for a creative force—for an original vision. What does that look like now? As 2024 rolled around, we reached back out to the original contributing photographers, and also to some newer talents. We asked them to show us their personal projects, images that capture an essence of the Bay Area, here and now.

The result we present, visually speaking, is not in magazine form but in the form of a month-long art exhibit. Instead of narrative editorial essays, we are putting forth small collections of artists' insights and projects.

What we learned during the curatorial process is that a majority of the important photographic voices from the original issue of *BIG_54* are still present and viable today and remain leading figures in photography. They are not only still relevant, they are more relevant. They are still guiding our gaze, telling the visual stories of our time.



Photographers in this exhibit:

Richard Barnes, Aya Brackett, Jeffrey Braverman, Dwight Eschliman, Beth Yarnelle Edwards, Jim Goldberg, Gabriela Hasbun, Dennis Hearne, Todd Hido, Ed Kashi, Olivier Laude, Laura Morton, Bill Owens, David Peters, Laura Plageman, Peter Prato, Robert Schlatter, Tabitha Soren, Brandon Tauszik, Winni Wintermeyer, Kamal X, Ryan Young

Photographs shown above were taken by (from top to bottom): *Olivier Laude: Portrait of Hal Close*
 Todd Hido: #12076-9421 Robert Schlatter: 40th Avenue, Sunset, San Francisco, 2023 Gabriela Hasbun: *Lilianna*

About Harvey Milk Photo Center

Serving the San Francisco community since 1940, the Harvey Milk Photo Center operates the oldest and largest community wet darkroom in the United States. Members also have access to large format printers, film scanning equipment and a full feature digital lab with Adobe software. The Center's educational program now exceeds 200 classes, workshops, and lectures annually, conducted by working professionals in both fine arts and commercial photography. Scholarships are available for anyone living in San Francisco wishing to take our classes. All exhibitions, lectures, special events and memberships are available to the public. The Harvey Milk Photo Center is a part of the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. Since 1954, the Center has resided at 50 Scott Street, in the lower level of the Harvey Milk Center for the Arts building at Duboce Park.

Exhibit photos printed by Hansen Digital.

