

3402 THE PENINSULA PORTRAITS

BANGKOK

2007



Arianna Carol



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ARIANNA CAROLI



โปรดรับไว้ซึ่งคำขอบคุณ ดนตรีสถิตย์อยู่ในจิตวิญญาณของฉัน

“Thanks to you I have the music in my soul”

For the Peninsula People
To show you Your Beauty
The Beauty I see through the eyes of my camera

This Book has been conceived as an artwork
printed not for commercial purpose in a limited edition of 44 copies
hand numbered from 01 to 44
This is Copy Number



AND LOVE BEGINS WITH LOVE



3402 is my room at the Peninsula Hotel in Bangkok

The project for this book starts here one recent morning, very early.

Many cards and watercolors brought back from Laos the night before, are spread on the carpet next to the window.

I'm taking photos for the RAJAPROJECT.

Room service is at the entrance.

I open the door holding the camera.

Joe is standing there with my breakfast and his enchanting smile.

It is automatic. I want to take a photo..two..three..but the camera is not following my directions.

Something is happening, something is in the air.

It's the magic of the 3402 Peninsula Portraits book.

I have no idea where I am going with this project, but "The miracle is to begin" Osho would remind me.

"When you start something and you do not know where it will end, you will grow on the way."

Khun Rudeewan, the house keeper, comes to bring white lotuses. She is already the second subject. I make her sit at the desk, so I can jump on the other chair and take images of her beautiful face with the background of Baan Chao Praya, the River, 34 floors down.

From this day on, I walk around the Hotel holding the capricious camera.

Through my viewfinder I capture waiters and waitresses, gardeners, pool boys, managers, secretaries, concierge and bell boys.

As soon as they look at me and say "Sawasdee", I show them the camera and when they smile back with a "yes", I shoot few images.

No time for thinking or planning or posing. These are the rules.

Spontaneity and basically serendipity. I also have to take the photos under natural light, any light, wherever I am, even in the ladies room. To tell the truth, I just let the camera do whatever she wants. For this project it seems that she knows more than I do the way to go and how close to get to each person. And she likes to get very close.

The past four months at The Peninsula Bangkok have changed my life.

I have been living surrounded by magic:

It seems that you know what I want even before I do.

This book is my way to thank all of you, Peninsula people.

Koop Khun Kah for taking care of me and making me feel so special.

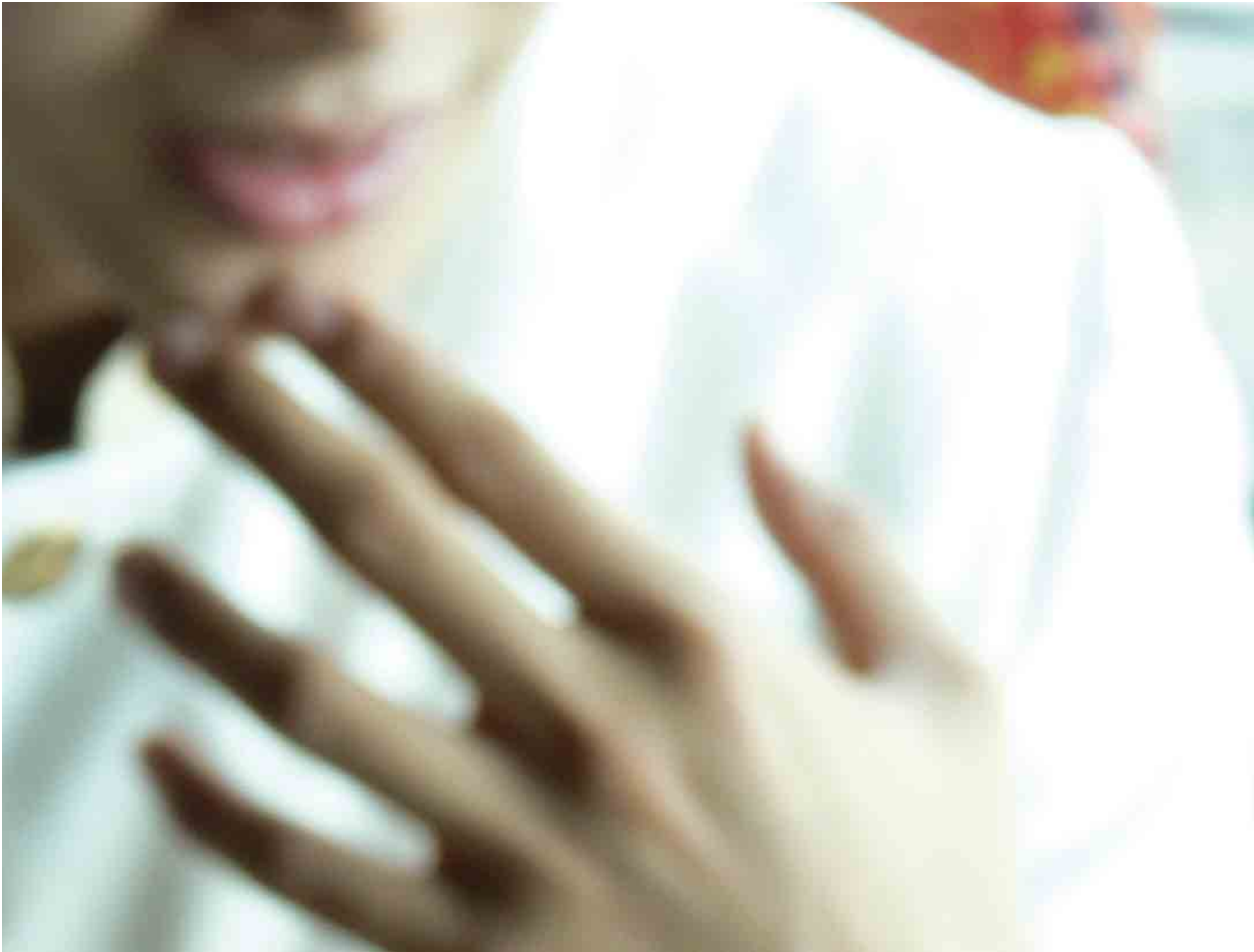
Grazie for the inspiration.

Thank you for your love:

I love you all.





























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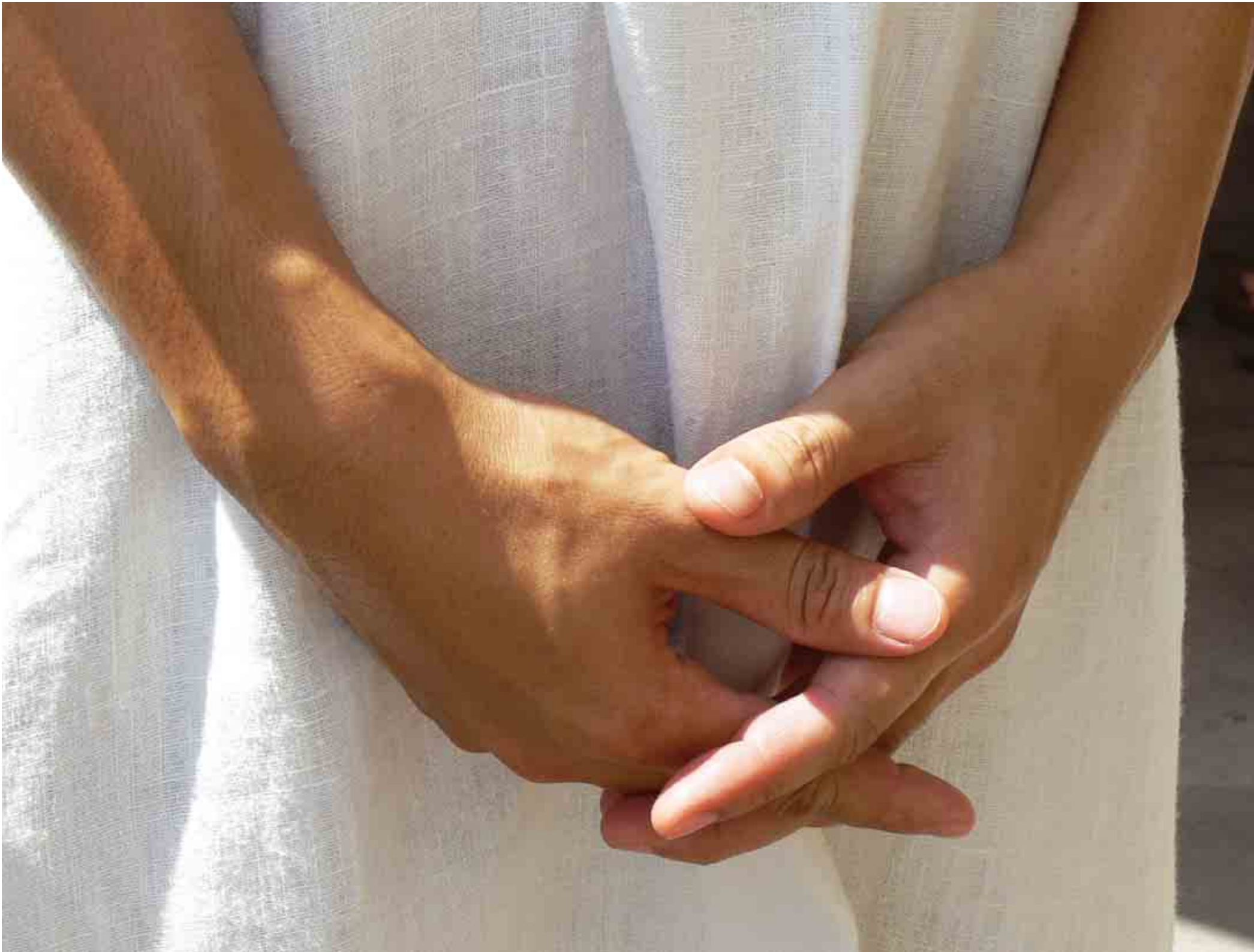






















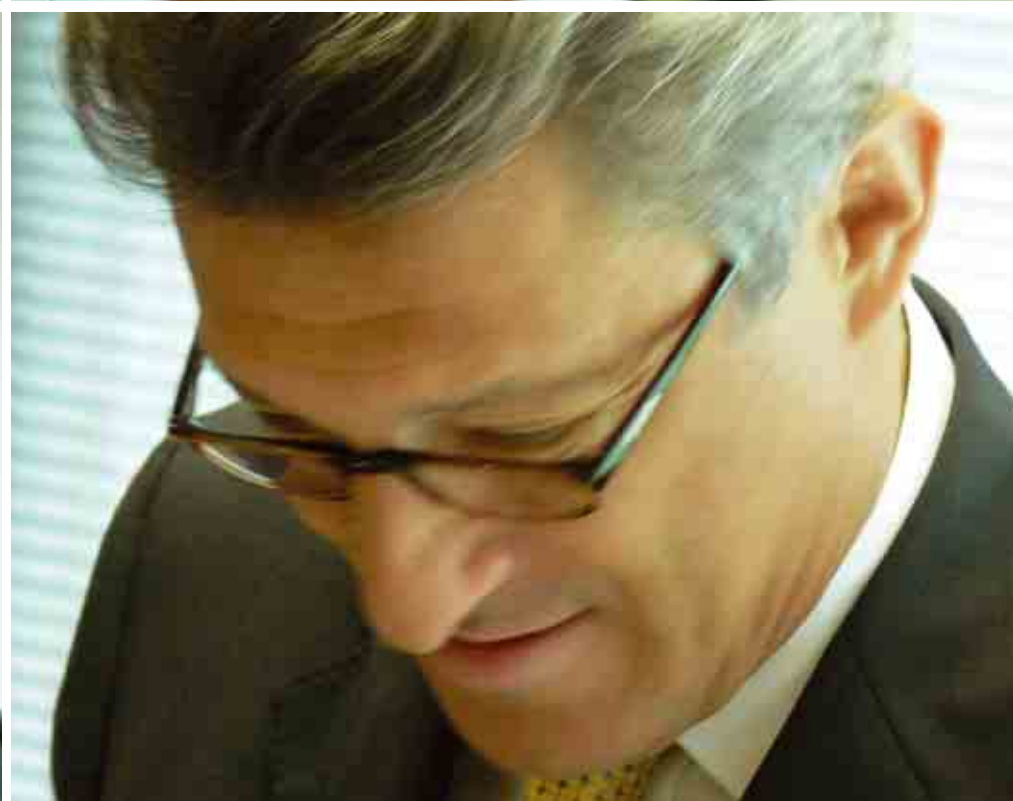


























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ศิลปะไม่ได้เป็นเครื่องชีวิต
พรสวรรค์หรือความสามารถ
พิเศษแต่อย่างใด หากแต่
ศิลปะนั้นทำให้น้ำชีวิตได้
หยุดและหันหน้าเข้าสู่
ความคิดและ ความเข้าใจ
ที่ลึกซึ้งต่อตนเองมากขึ้น

ART IS
ARRESTING LIFE
AND MAKE IT
AVAILABLE FOR
CONTEMPLATION

























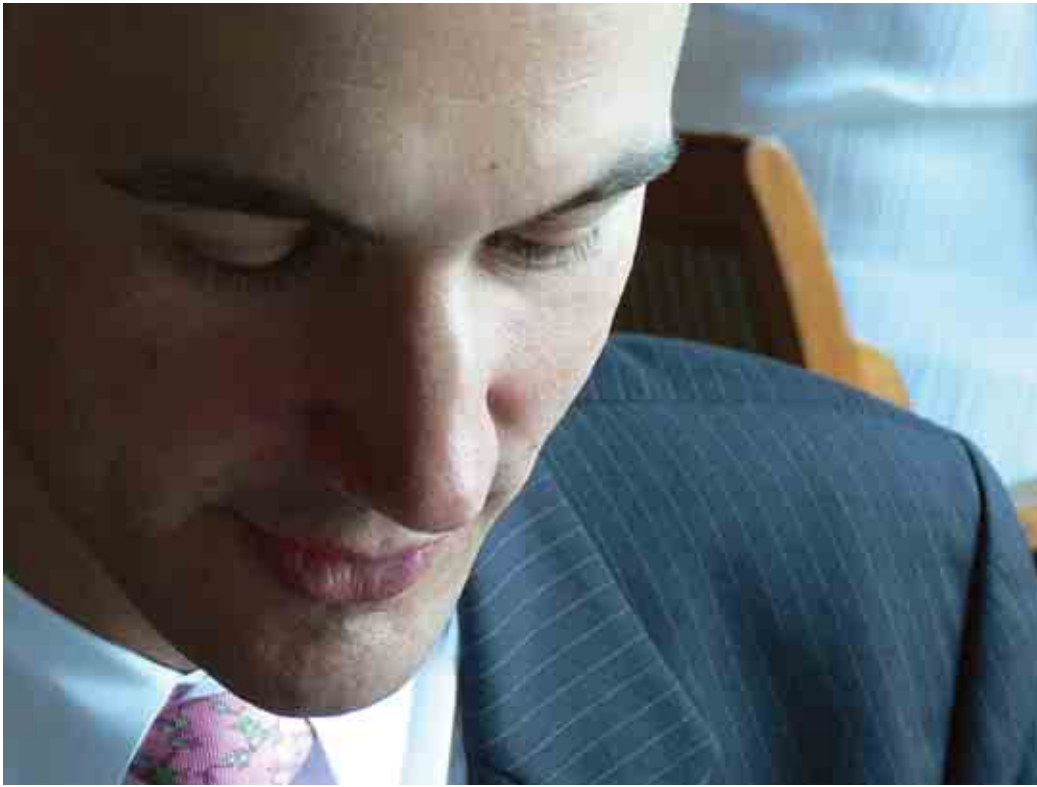














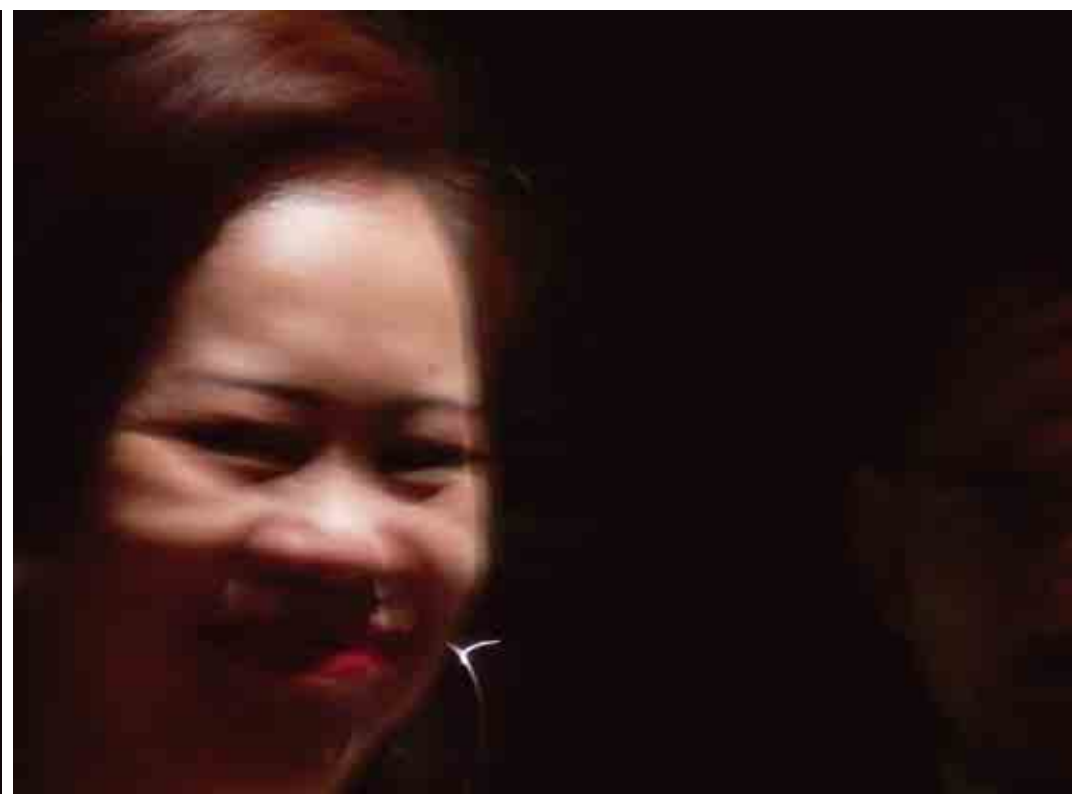
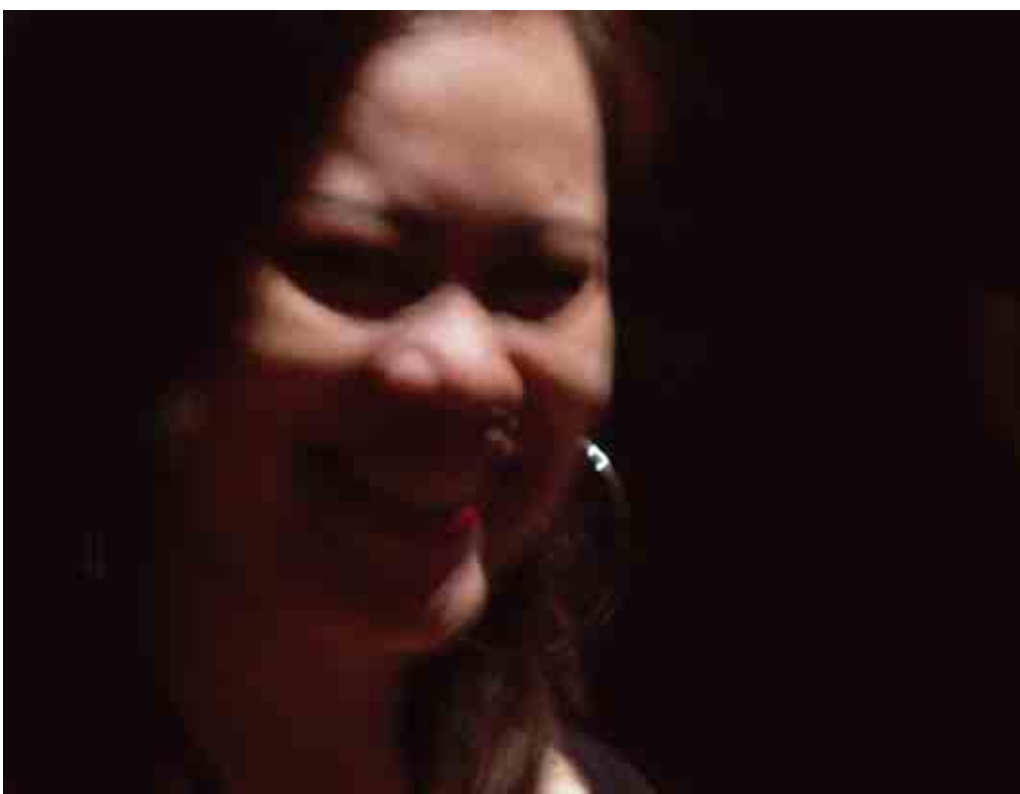








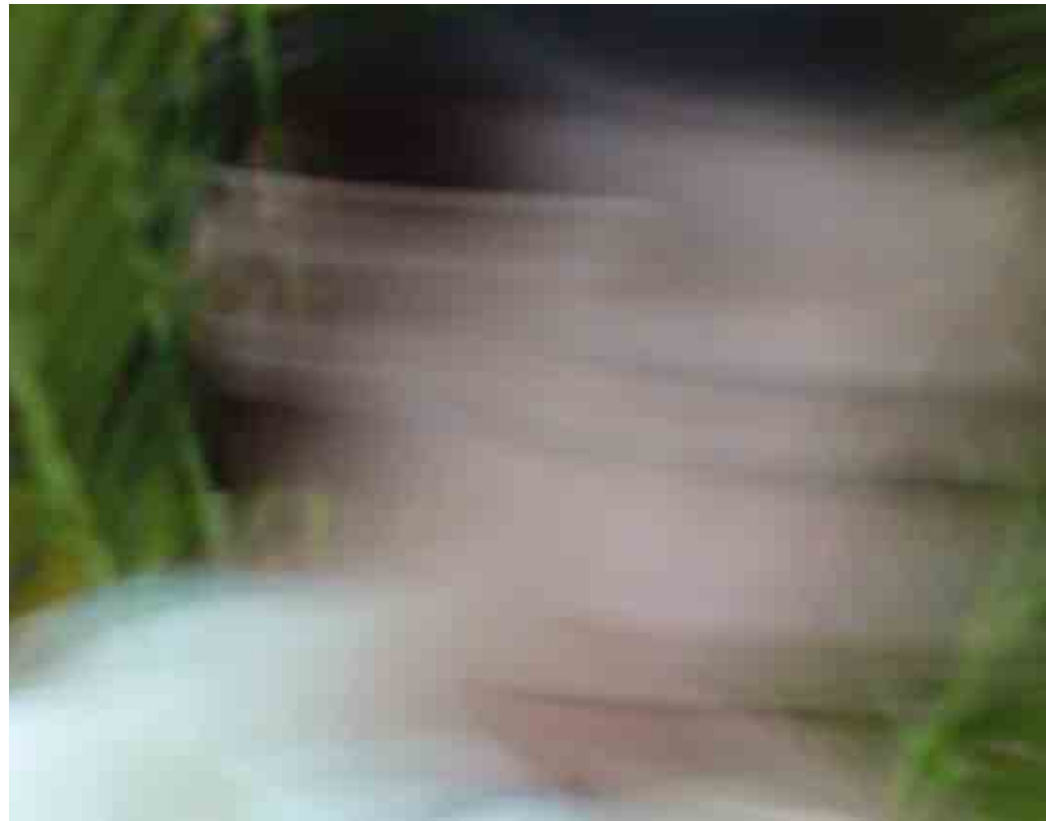












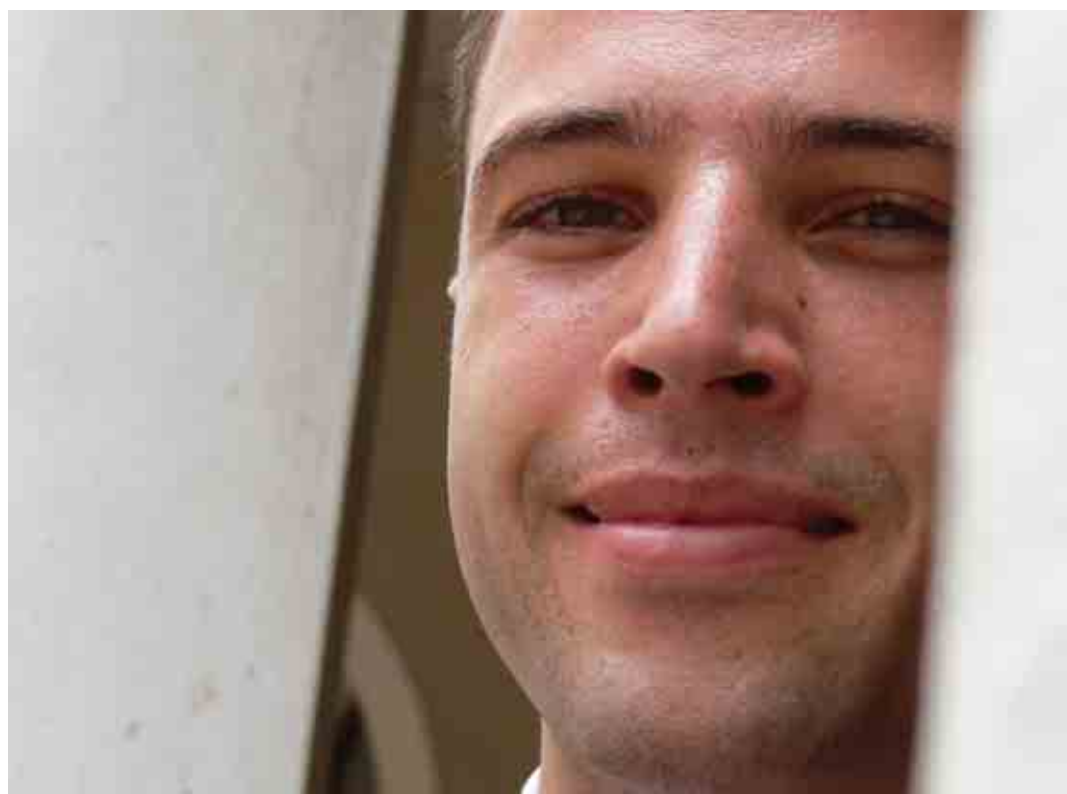




















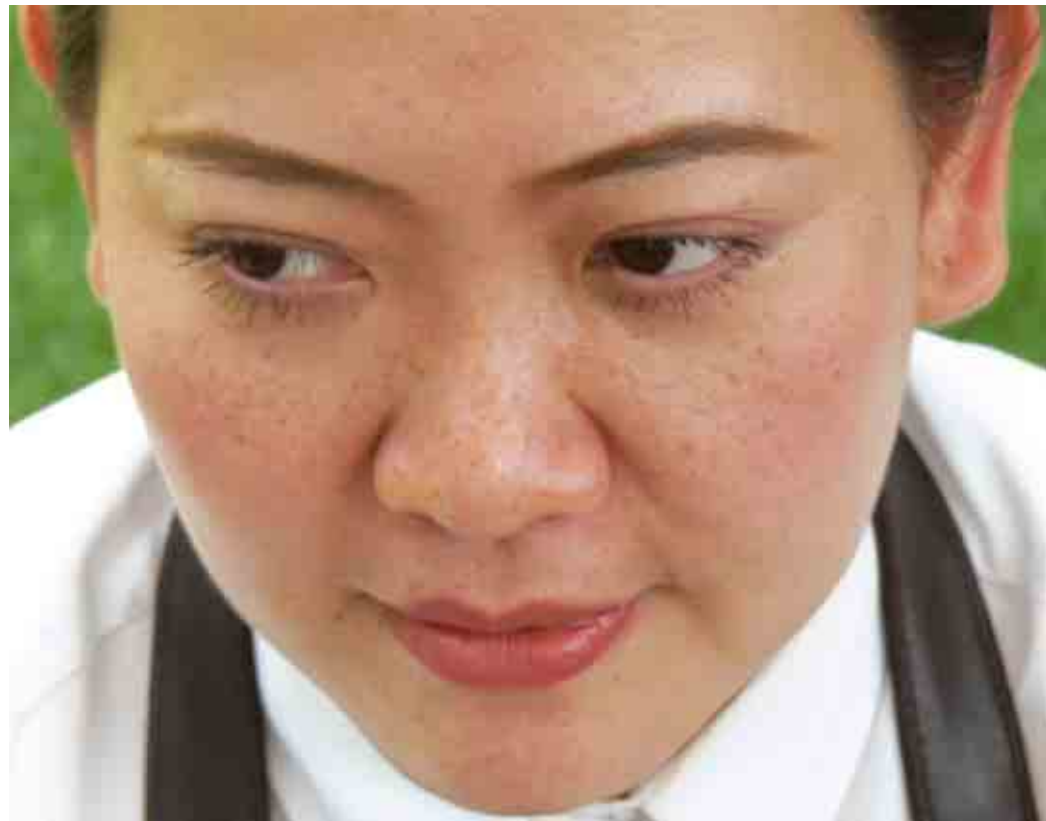
























Noi creatori di immagini curvati sull'acqua che sprizza
Inventeremo immagini tremanti come acqua di sorgente.
La nostra mente rapita nel sogno creerà' immagini.
Soffiamole, spruzziamole attorno
Queste immagini sognate.

We creators of images bent over the sparkling water
We will invent images trembling as spring water.
Our mind feeling rapture in the dream will create images.
Let's blow, let's spread them around
These dreamed images.

I am a creator of images.

To capture them is a pleasure both physical and intellectual. Your smile becomes intriguing, the sparkling of a deep emotion passes through your eyes, real love perspires in the gesture of your hand, your lips vibrate like petals of a lotus flower in the breeze, the sunset light defining your profile makes you look like a Greek God ...
I hold my breath, all my perceptive faculties converge in front of the fleeting reality. I am here and now.
The camera is my complice. I shoot, or she does. This magical moment becomes immortal.

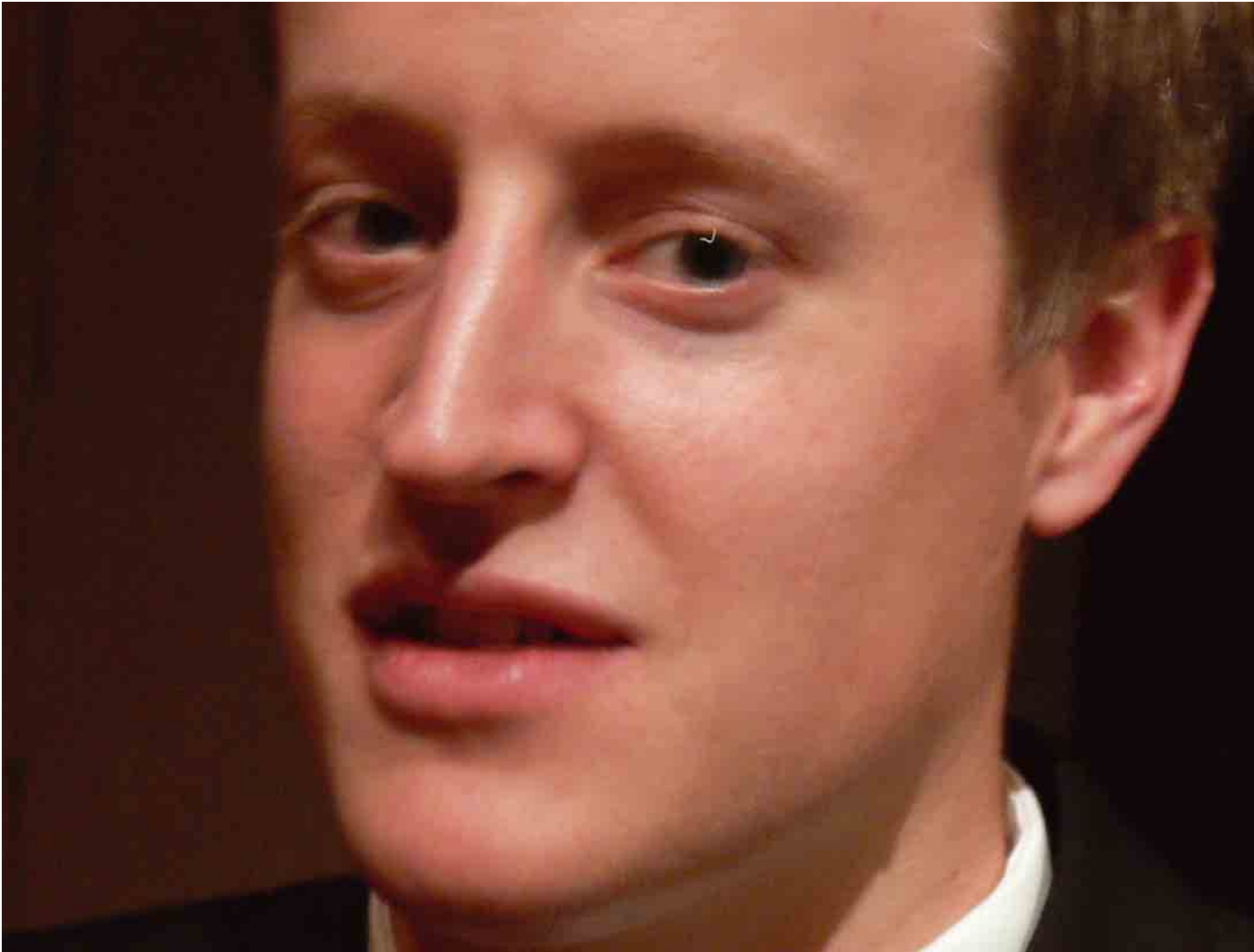
I am arresting life and make it available for contemplation.

"When do you work?" They ask me .
"All the time, because I am never tired of looking."
Every second of life can hold a masterpiece.

















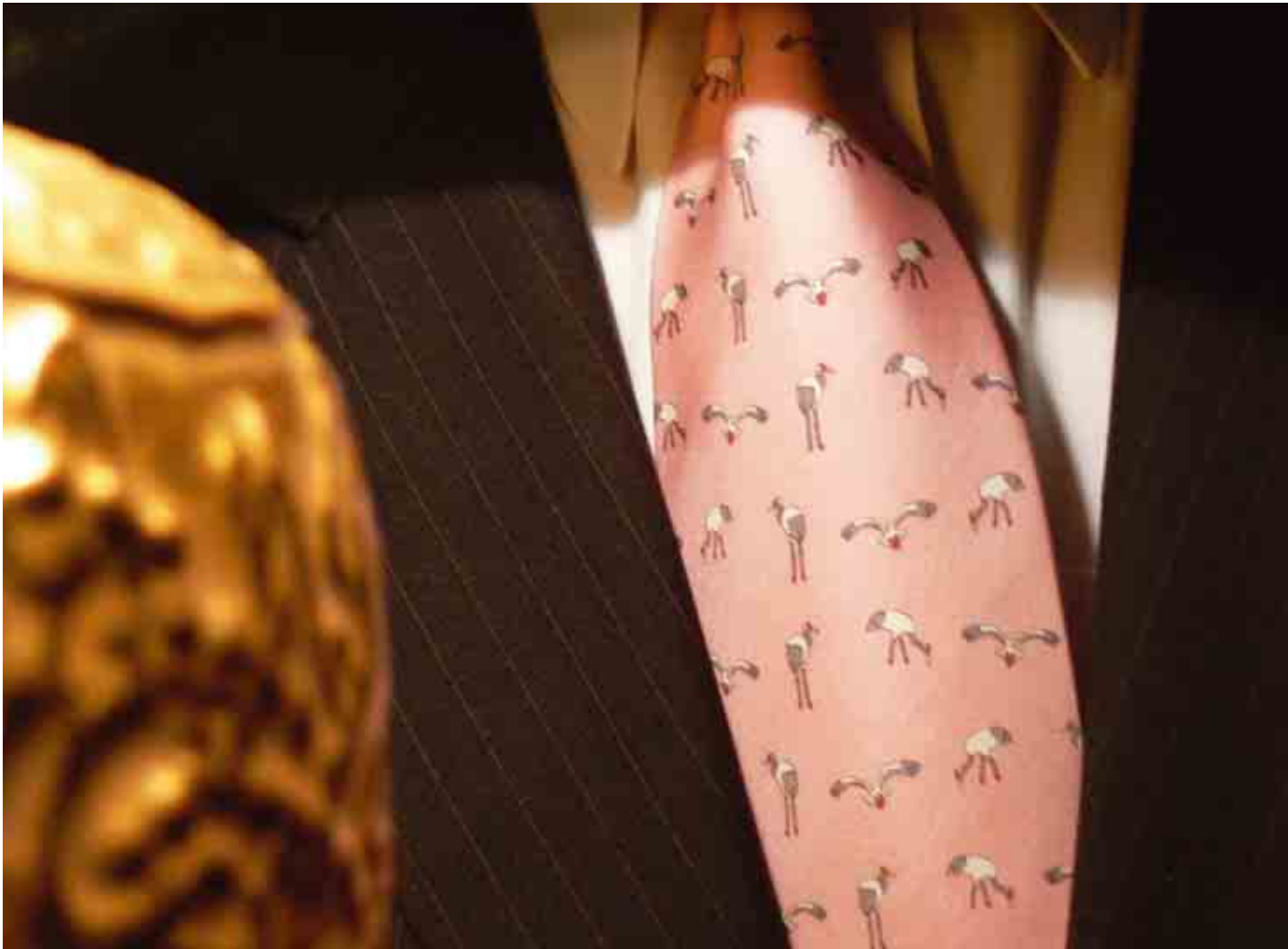








































SONGKRAN 2007

For the first time I celebrate the Thai New Year at The Peninsula BKK, April 12th 2007.
Songkran is time for new beginnings and positive renewal, while waiting for the Rainy Season.



Being a pilgrim always on the move, I deeply relate to this celebration!

The offering of flowers, the chanting, the pouring of the scented water, the touches of Thai talc on the faces and the colors of the traditional costumes create a movable feast for the eyes in the Peninsula lawn. The hotel staff performs, plays and enjoys magical moments with the guests. It is a fantastic Water Festival.

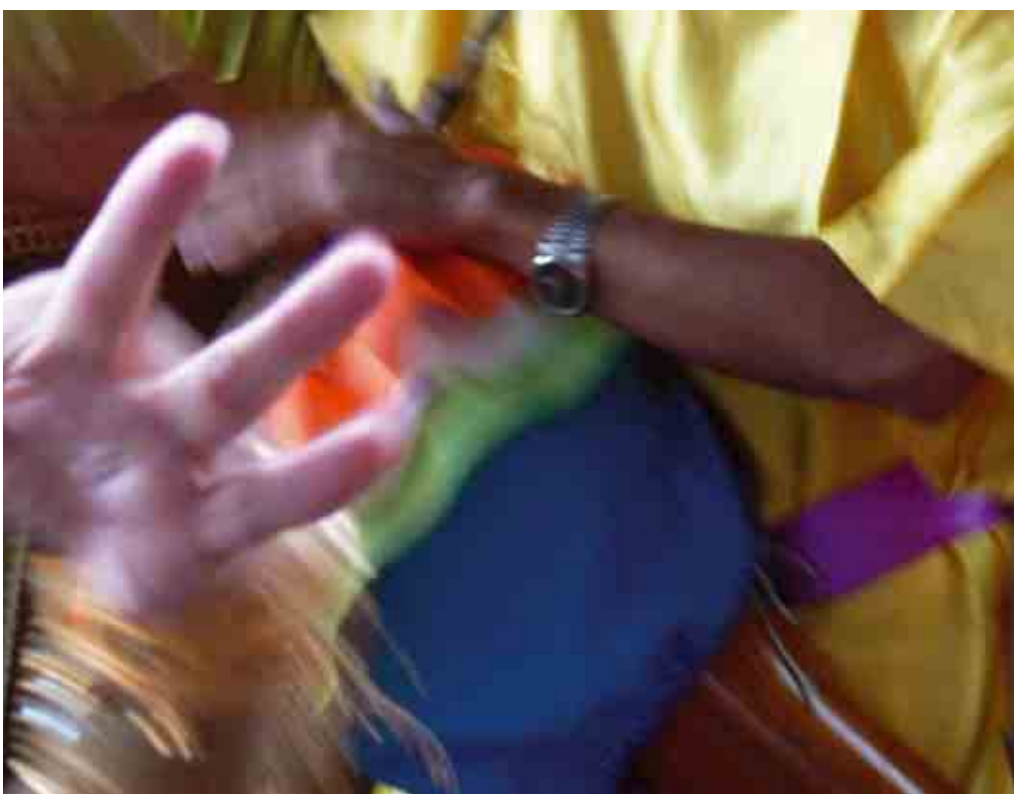


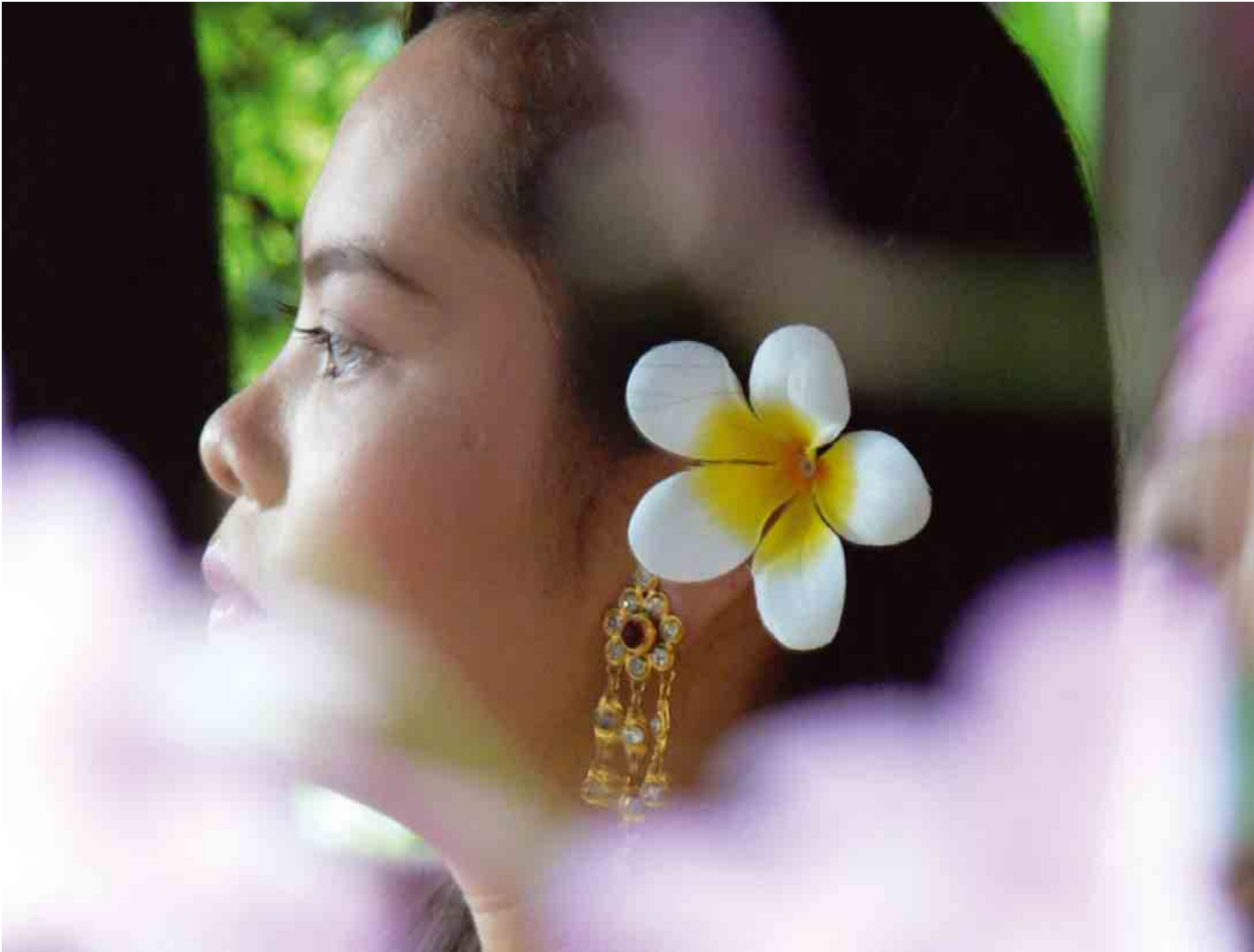








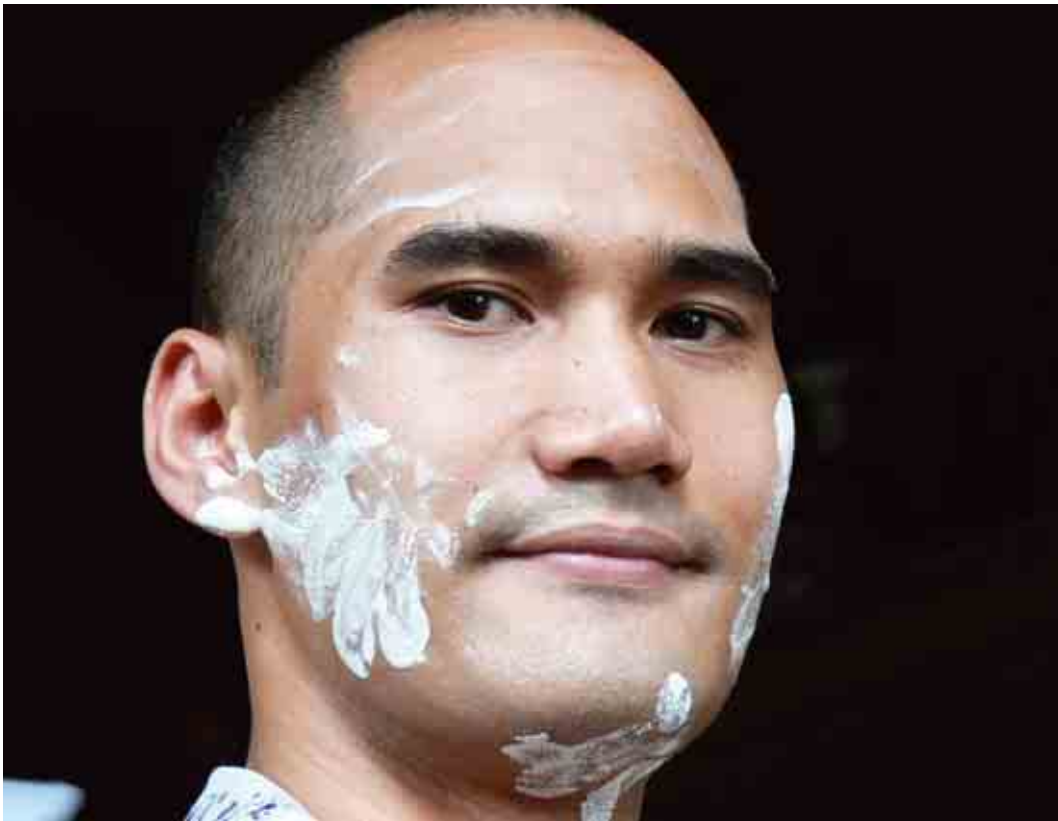














AND LOVE BEGINS WITH LOVE

THE PENINSULA

BANGKOK

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Arianna Caroli

Italian by birth (Orvieto), Arianna holds a doctorate in Ancient Literature and Archeology from the University of Rome. She has always been fascinated by the Spirit and the Art of the East, attracted by its elegance, exoticism, sensuality and mystical content. Long sojourns in Bali, Thailand, Laos, Burma, Cambodia and India, along with periods in Europe and in the United States, have made Arianna truly a citizen of the world. Her paintings combine eastern mysticism with western expressive power. Studying Russian icon writing, Arianna discovered how gold can make a painting at the same time sumptuous and transcendent, two qualities that characterize her work.

Richard Porter Ph.D.

www.ariannacaroli.com

Arianna's paintings are represented in the United States
by The Wally Findlay Galleries International
New York, Palm Beach, Los Angeles

www.wallyfindlay.com



Flagstaff, Arizona
June 14th 2007

Dear Arianna,

You write splendidly! Is your book like this? I ask because who you are comes through so well in these two pieces (all three really!). And of course it is bordering on madness, but so are you. Genius and madness!

And I laugh at the camera taking over you - I have seen this with my own eyes, you climbing up on something or laying on the ground..letting the camera, the moment, the light, the emotion take control and the 'you' becomes secondary, a part of the process only..a witness.

In my life it is rare to come across someone so sure of life that they can let go to this extent.

True fearlessness!

You are a wonder!

Love, Ken

Taipei, Taiwan
June 22nd, 2007

Dear Arianna,

The Peninsula hotel writing is wonderful and you have discovered in photography the most marvelous spiritual practice. I'm sure this work will have a big effect on many people and draw them away from the sterile kind of photography. ? [...] Just now I read your beautiful poem "I am a Creator of Images." I love it. Perfect.

The poem really expresses how we live. Most People, for them work is work and they need play or diversion, vacation to recover from their work. But for me, my work is my vacation, my work is my play.

I feel that same spirit in your poem.

Love, Bill



Ariane
THE PENINSULA
SINGAPORE
Carol



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ARIANNA CAROLI

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... to be continued

