

# Larry sULTan, CALIFORnia PHOTOGRAPHER, DIES at 63 ARTICLE

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# ARTICLE INFORMATION:

Title: Larry Sultan, California Photographer, Dies at 63

Author :Randy Kennedy

Date: Dec.14, 2009





# Main Ideas:

- ❖ Who is Larry Sultan?
- ❖ Process of his work with Mike Mandel, “Evidence”.
- ❖ Larry Sultan's main influences for his photography style.
- ❖ How his images were used as a way to examine society.
- ❖ Where his works were seen.(museums)
- ❖ His life during his infancy.



# Main Ideas:

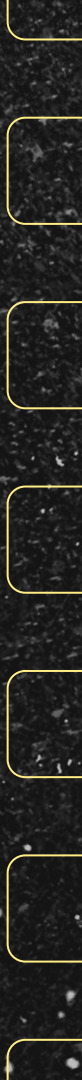


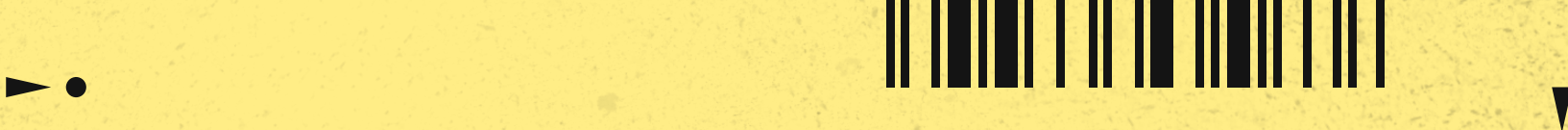
- ❖ How Larry wasn't into photography at first.
- ❖ What one of his works, "Pictures from home", was about.
- ❖ How Larry and his father worked together for his project.
- ❖ Larry's Father's thoughts on what Larry said over a specific portrait.
- ❖ Larry's family.
- ❖ When Mr. Sultan first began to photograph.
- ❖ Mr. Sultan talked about the set of a room from one of his works called "The Valley".



# ESSAY




Based off of the article...



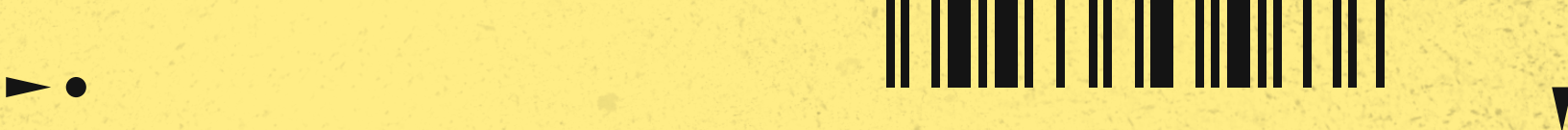


There are many influential people in the world who come and go. How do we know if they were influential? Because they are still revisited and inspiration for others, like Larry Sultan. Larry Sultan was a very famous photographer from California. An article by the New York Times from 2009 announces his death due to cancer. Some of his most famous works are “Evidence”, with Mike Mandel, which had many confused.

People were confused since they wondered how they, as students, were able to persuade the police and certain big companies to let them see through their photo files. This brought some controversy since there were arguments on ownership of the found photos. In their project, they showed a more obscure view of an industrial world and they were able to publish the photos they took. Places where his artworks were first seen was like at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.



Mr. Sultan was born in Brooklyn but grew up in Los Angeles. As a kid, his dad was working as a traveling salesman and a vice president for a razor company. Even though he was a known photographer when he was alive, he wasn't interested in photography in the beginning. He initially studied political science and later on, he achieved a master's degree in fine arts in the San Francisco Art Institute. Then before working on one of his previously mentioned projects "Evidence", he did dada-esque billboards, which was an artistic movement that rejected logic and capitalism. While he was a professor at the California College of the Arts in San Francisco, he spent more than a decade on another project called "Pictures from home". "Pictures from home" is a fiction photography project he did with his parents when they were forced into retirement.



Larry Sultan's father talked about how his son instructed him to pose for a picture and how it felt more about the photographer than who was being photographed. When that project was done, his parents passed away. Even with his parents passing, he had two sons with his wife and two brothers. Later in the 1990's, he worked on another project near a high school called "The Valley". For this project, he went to the sets of inappropriate films and took pictures of them. It was to show how much attention to detail went into portraying unrealistic standards and such.

Even Mr. Sultan himself mentioned the attention to detail that went into those empty sets. It seems that he was a good photographer when it came to telling stories, critics, and history. He set certain standards and is a well known photographer even today. Considering the article was from 2009, he is still talked about through his works today. He had a big influence in what photography is and his artistic impressions are still a big inspiration to many.

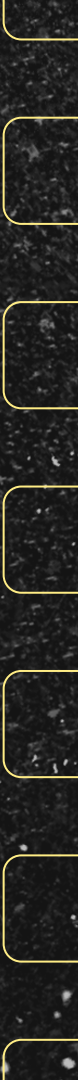




# 5 QUESTIONS



For the article...





# THE QUESTIONS:



- ❖ How do you think he coerced the police and big companies?
- ❖ Do you understand the argument about ownership with his works “Evidence”?
- ❖ What would drive someone to create “controversial” or “distasteful” pictures?
- ❖ What difficulties did this cause in his personal life?
- ❖ How did he end up being a photographer when studying political science?



# LINK:

Larry Sultan, California Photographer, Dies at 63 - The New York Times





HOPE you  
enjoyed!