

LYONS WIER GALLERY

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MARY HENDERSON

ARTIST STATEMENT

“This body of work features large numbers of people drawn from a variety of settings – exhibitions, concerts, sporting events, protests – exploring themes of social class, group identity and the public/private self. The subjects are shown isolated from their surroundings both as a means to raise questions about bias and cultural hierarchy, and as a way to explore the purely visual beauty that I find in images of seas of people. I am especially interested in the ways individuals and groups attempt to construct or live up to idealized personae or experiences, and in how those efforts may fall short of expectations. Inspired by my own personal and family history – as well as by broader social phenomena – the work depict their subjects at unguarded moments of vulnerability, reflection or preoccupation.”