

## CHLOE SHERMAN

### RENEGADES: SAN FRANCISCO, THE 1990S

**Exhibition Dates: September 2 - November 2, 2024**

**Artist Reception: Thursday, September 5, 2024, 5:00-8:00 PM**



Chloe Sherman  
*View From The Back Seat, 1997*

The Gallery at Leica Store San Francisco is thrilled to present ***Renegades: San Francisco, The 1990s***, a documentary project by artist **Chloe Sherman**. This exhibition captures a generation of young, self-identified queers in San Francisco, showcasing their collective creativity, pride, and bold defiance of cultural norms

*Renegades: San Francisco, The 1990s* is a photographic look into a pivotal moment in San Francisco history as a queer cultural renaissance unfolded. It's a glimpse of the freedom and flamboyance of a gender-bending community.

In the early 1990s, Sherman began documenting a generation of young, self-identified queers in San Francisco's Mission District. Rent was affordable, community was palpable, and gay youth, artists, and free spirits migrated to the city to find each other. Women-owned bars, clubs, tattoo shops, galleries, and cafés proliferated, and cultural norms were eschewed in favor of a vibrant and resilient lifestyle. Sherman was there as a new wave of feminism embraced gender bending, butch/femme culture flourished, and transgender pioneers forged a new path.

The Mission District was Sherman's home during this pivotal time as an intoxicating subculture emerged against the backdrop of mainstream society.

This exhibition is showing a small selection of the thousands of photographs this project comprises.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST



Chloe Sherman  
*Self-portrait, 2023*

**Chloe Sherman** (b. 1969, New York) is a San Francisco-based fine art photographer known for her vibrant portraits of queer life in San Francisco during the 1990s. As a vehement visual chronicler, Sherman captures an intimacy and vibrancy that brings a unique subculture to life, even decades later.

Sherman received her degree in fine art photography from the San Francisco Art Institute in 1999, during which time she began documenting a generation of young self-identified Queers. The community became family, and she reveled in their collective creativity, support, pride, and their strident defiance of cultural norms. This was the catalyst for an entire body of work that would go on to be recognized and shown internationally.

Sherman's photographs, all shot on 35mm film, offer a window into an era of defiance, freedom, resilience, and tenderness, shedding a light on the energy of San Francisco at a time when it was brimming with possibility. Her images are a throughline, anchoring viewers to a moment in Queer history and immortalizing moments of gender experimentation and joy.



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Her work has been exhibited internationally, including at F<sup>3</sup> Freiraum für Fotografie (Berlin), Schlomer Haus Gallery (San Francisco), Kunsthalle Nürnberg (Nuremberg), Leica San Francisco, and The Diego Rivera Gallery (San Francisco). She has been published extensively in *Nothing But the Girl* (ed. Susie Bright and Jill Posner; 1996), *RESEARCH: Angry Women in Rock* (Juno Books; 1996), *Out In America* (Viking Press; 1994), *Rolling Stone Magazine*, *Interview Magazine*, *Deneuve*, *the Advocate*, and the *New Yorker*. Sherman's work is a part of the permanent collections at The National Gallery of Art, SFMOMA, and those of private collectors. In 2023, Hatje Cantz Verlag published a monograph of her work, *Renegades: San Francisco, The 1990s*.

## **PRESS INQUIRIES**

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