STORE
SAN FRANCISCO

LIFE IN PLAIN SIGH
THE FIRST 25 YEARS OF HAMBURGER EYES

Exhibition on view: November 16, 2026 – January 16, 2027
Opening reception: Thursday, November 19, 2026, 5:00 – 8:00 PM



Dave Glass, Vietnam Vets, Santa Crus County, CA, 1999

The Gallery at Leica Store San Francisco is pleased to present Life in Plain Sight: The First 25 Years of Hamburger Eyes, an exhibition in collaboration with Hamburger Eyes, celebrating a quarter century of independent photography and its enduring contribution to the Bay Area's photographic community.

Founded in 2001 by Ray Potes, alongside David Potes and Stefan Simikich, Hamburger Eyes began as an independent photo zine and has grown into an influential platform for documentary and street photography. Through by Potes' vision and dedication, the

publication has cultivated a distinctive photographic voice, championing photographers who capture the world with curiosity, honesty, and unfiltered eyes

Life unfolds in the spaces between the extraordinary and the ordinary. A fleeting gesture, a passing stranger, a quiet corner, or a moment of unexpected beauty can reveal something profound about the world we inhabit. These fragments of everyday existence often go unnoticed, yet they hold the stories, contradictions, and poetry of being alive. To photograph life in plain sight is to pay attention, to recognize meaning in the seemingly insignificant, and to discover the extraordinary within the familiar.

Bringing together the spirit of Hamburger Eyes and the photographers who have shaped its journey, this exhibition reflects 25 years of looking closely at the world. It is a tribute to Ray Potes' vision, the independent voices behind the images, and the creative community that has grown alongside the publication. At its heart is a simple powerful idea: photography invites us to pause, look again, and find new meaning in the world right before our eyes.

PRESS INQUIRIES

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