

# THIS POETRY FILTERED THROUGH CAMERA'S LENS

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For The Dispatch

Some poets use a pen. Rene Glandorff has his camera.

"There's an interesting parallel between being a poet and being a photographer," said Glandorff, whose works are on display at Waldo's on High.

The media reward sex appeal, athletic prowess, money and power with celebrity status, Glandorff said, but ignore the subtlety, sensitivity and emotional depth of art. Believing that they aren't taken seriously, many photographers are frustrated.

The virtues in Glandorff's direct and unaffected color images are the very ones in short supply - seeing people with appreciation, warmth and understanding. His 35mm available-light photographs owe a debt to his acknowledged masters, Lee Friedlander and Robert Frank. Glandorff's eye is his own, however, and he applies it to collaborations with his self-possessed subjects, most of whom are looking at the camera.

His work exhibits a wonderful stillness and dignity that come from his rapport with his subjects, such as a man smoking a cigarette and wearing a purple hat cocked at a jaunty angle. The man looks seriously at the viewer while out-of-focus Christmas lights add a counterpoint (Photo 2).

The sober, meditative tone of Glandorff's subjects is reflected in a self-portrait in Verona, Italy. He sits at a long white table, which provides the horizontal on which his composition is built. He looks calm, but his expression is penetrating and intense. Behind him rises a plastered tan wall, against which two plants provide an accent of green to the dominant browns and whites. Present are consciousness, composition and context.

Other images include an elderly man reclining in his back yard, a couple with a baby, Glandorff's family, and several portraits of artists and poets - perhaps from the Milo

School artist's colony where Glandorff lives. Each of the 12 pictures has both spirit and design.

A portrait of Glandorff's parents (Photo 12) reminds me of his show dedicated to the memory of filmmaker David Lean, who was "a lover of beauty as he found it in the world."

Glandorff added, "We give to each other as we inspire each other with our art - an art ultimately made out of the strength of love (eros)."

Such sentiments are apparent in the eyes of his father and mother as they gaze sweetly at him, the feeling symbolized by the white of their clothes and the door behind them.

A number of other talented photographers in the area deserve attention, hoping to bring their form of poetry art to the public.