

JOHN PURLIA

John Purlia is a writer and photographer living in La Jolla, California. His photographs are a treasure box of richly saturated mischief and delight; still life narrative essays that take on social themes with the close detail and naive inspection of a child. Vintage record albums form the background context for each of his pieces, with vinyl 45s supporting the stage, and playful figures of innocent youth providing the players. His photographs tell stories, hide secrets, and invite speculation.

By his own admission, Purlia can't paint and he can't draw, but he is able to conceptualize broad ideas using the lens of his camera as a surrealist might canvas the whims of an overactive imagination. His photographs mix the sinister with the sublime, the cuddly with the curious. Like a writer develops the ability to tell complex and compelling stories, so too has Purlia evolved his visual style since he first began using records, robots, toys and other found objects to tell his enigmatic tales.

Each photo begins as a staged diorama using some printed material as a backdrop; usually an old record album, but sometimes other material with some striking visual context. The scene gains foreground dimension with vinyl 45s, and the careful placement of various objects—toys, religious symbols, wooden blocks—as if they were interacting with, or in some other way reflecting upon, the image in the background.

During 2007 Purlia was juried from 9,987 entries into the prestigious Art of Photography Show, and recently presented his first solo exhibit, *Vinyl Mysteries of the Caffeine Alphabet*, a collection of 14 new photographs and an installation of toys, records, and hundreds of wooden blocks. Fine art prints of John Purlia's photography are available on LightJet archival paper in editions limited to 10, priced from \$500 to \$2,500. A selection of John Purlia's work can be viewed at www.johnpurlia.com. You may contact John at 858.459.4966, or via email at jpurlia@mac.com.



Lorraine leaps upon the red carpet to get her first delicious taste of paparazzi fame at the 1959 Grammys



Arlene measures the value of her soul while listening to the insidious sounds of Musica de los Muertos

BLOOD is the Vital Fluid of our body. Thru the means of the Circulatory System, the Blood brings Nourishment and Glandular Secretions to the Cells and carries away the cellular waste. It regulates the Body Temperature and helps Fight on. In volume, it approximates six quarts and is about one-fifth of our weight.

POSITION: The blood consists of a yellowish fluid called PLASMA, in which are three kinds of blood cells: (a) the RED CORPUSCLES (ERYTHROCYTES); (b) the WHITE CELLS (LEUCOCYTES and LYMPHOCYTES); (c) the PLATELETS (THROMBOCYTES).

PLASMA, 80% of which is Water, embodies many dissolved substances, among which the Digested Nutrients, Glandular Secretions, and FIBROGEN. The Plasma also takes and transports the waste substances of the body to the Excretory Organs.

RED CORPUSCLES, are disc-like specks which contain the compound HEMOGLOBIN. They number about 5,000,000 to the cubic mm. in men and about 4,000,000 less in women. HEMOGLOBIN absorbs and carries OXYGEN FROM the LUNGS to the BODY CELLS, returning the oxygen to the cells, the hemoglobin assimilates their Waste as BILIRUBIN and carries it to the LIVER wherefrom it is eliminated. When carrying a (oxygenated or arterial blood) the Hemoglobin becomes bright scarlet; when giving off the waste (venous blood) it assumes a purplish hue. The red corpuscles adhere to jaggedness in the red marrow of the bones, while the dead corpuscles sought to be disintegrated by the Spleen and removed from the blood by the LIVER.

WHITE CORPUSCLES have the faculty of moving in and out of blood vessels, to kill and devour bacteria, and promote tissue repair. They are generally larger than the red and the colored white are really gray. These corpuscles, irregular in shape and numbering 5,000 per cu. mm. originate from the MYELOCYTES, the cells contained in bone marrow.

PLATELETS are believed to assist, together with FIBROGEN in the clotting of blood, which is the body's natural means to stop bleeding. These corpuscles are the smallest of blood cells, averaging 2/1000 mm. Their origin, fate, and function are obscure.

WOMAN, her creative Body so wisely patterned by God, is the Abode wherein the Seed is endowed with Life and imbued with a Soul. Her Maternal nurturing and inspirational influence are reflected in Mankind's aspirations; the fruits of which become Her Reward.

— K. H. —

THE DUCTLESS GLANDS FORM CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES pass directly into the blood. These substances, known as HORMONES or INTERNAL SECRETIONS are the INFLUENCE OUR ORGANIC ACTIVITY, as well as our General and Sexual character.

(A) THE PITUITARY, the size of a small pea, is located at the base of the Brain, hormone, PITUITIN; this gland is thought to influence the activity of the Kidneys, tends to raise Blood Pressure, slow the Heart Rate, and help maintain Muscular tone.

(B) THE PINEAL, about 1/4 inch long, is located near the base of the Brain. It is a maximum growth at about the seventh year, and after Puberty decreases in size thought to control Height and to Restrict the Reproductive Functions until 20.

(C) THE THYROID is located in front of and extends to the sides of the trachea below the larynx. It is thought to influence the general rate of Metabolism, hormone, THYROXIN. An abnormal enlargement of this gland is known as a Goiter.

(D) THE PARATHYROID are four tiny glands placed to the sides of the Thyroid are thought to regulate the accumulation of calcium necessary for Muscular tone as well as for the bones.

(E) THE THYMUS, whose function is obscure, lies in the Chest Cavity in front of the trachea. This gland reaches its greatest development at puberty and atrophies to a small size in old age.

(F) THE ADRENALS, (Suprarenal bodies) resting one on top of each Kidney, assist to life. Their secretion, ADRENIN (Epinephrin), stimulates and regulates the Heart to increase the Blood supply to the Muscles, the Nervous System, and the Brain.

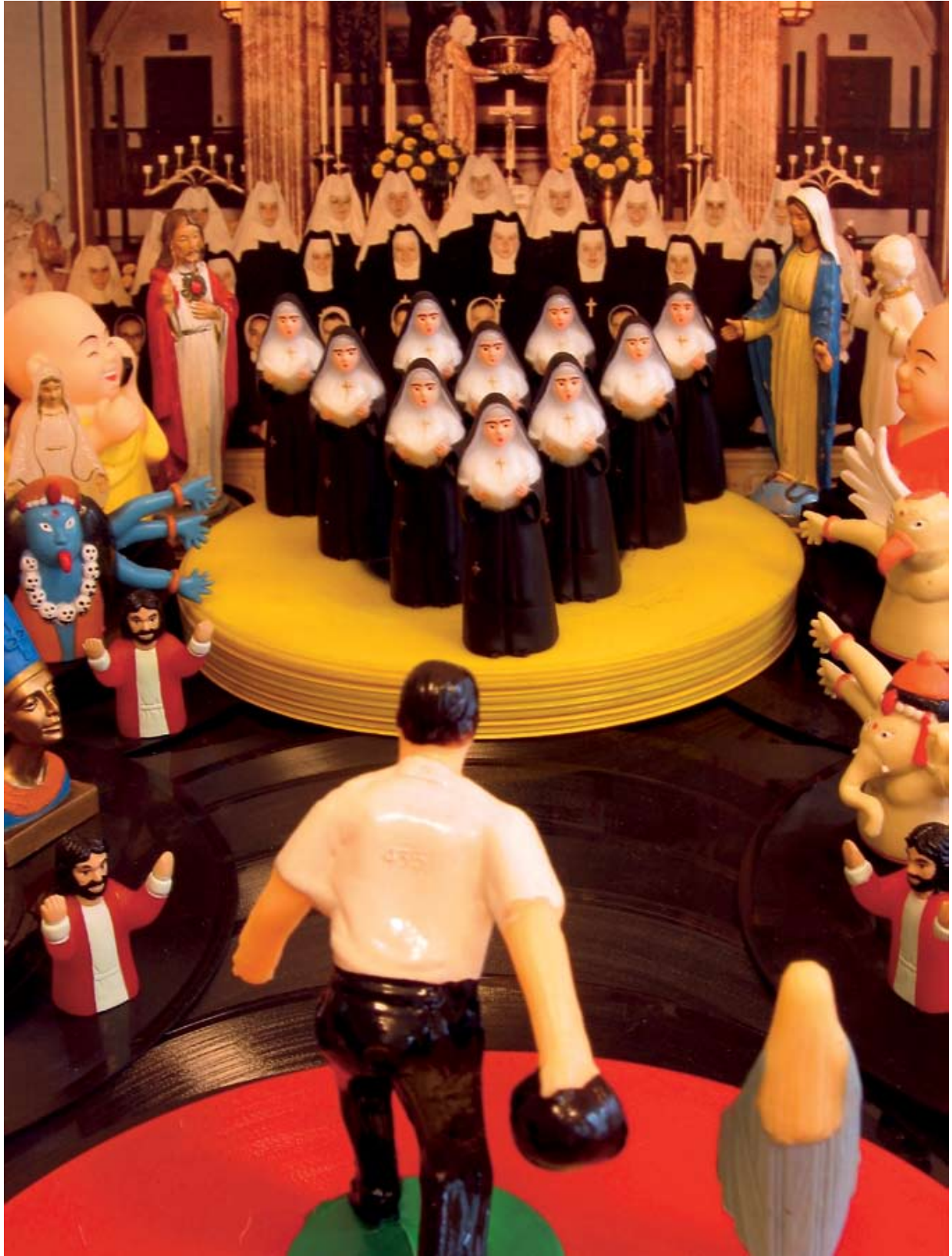
(G) THE PANCREAS, located behind the lower edge of the Stomach, supplies a fluid called INSULIN which modifies SUGAR in the blood, making it adaptable for the tissues.

(H) THE SPLEEN, which lies to the extreme left side at the end of the Pancreas is believed to disintegrate the worn out Red Blood Cells, otherwise its functions are all obscure.

(I) THE GONADS, known as the OVARIES (J) in the FEMALE, and the TESTES in the MALE, pass into the blood a hormone which controls Physical and Sexual character.



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Final Frame at the Cuius Deo Optimo Open