

# Jonathan Hyman

*Photographer*

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## Brief Bio

Jonathan Hyman is a New York City based documentary photographer. He received his undergraduate degree in fine art from Rutgers College, where he was a Henry Rutgers Honors Scholar. He earned his MFA in Fine Art, with a specialty in painting from Hunter college in new York City.

Hyman, whose area of interest is American popular culture, memory and public expression, is Associate Director for Visual Culture and Conflict at the Solomon Asch Center for Study of Ethnopolitical Conflict at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Hyman is well known for his seven year documentary project which, begun on September 11, documents thousands and thousands of artworks and memorials that Americans left on or near the side-of-the-road in response to the 9/11 attacks. His is a large and comprehensive collection composed of a variety of different genres ranging from small handmade flags and candles to large-scale tattoos, memorials and murals. Realizing right away that the expressions of heartfelt sorrow, anger, unity and patriotism that he was seeing were, by their very nature, ephemeral, Hyman set out to document the enormous outpouring of vernacular art and public expressions that Americans were making. He has documented the creation and evolution of a vernacular memorial culture and vocabulary around the September 11th attacks.

Hyman's work has been featured in Time Magazine and other magazines, newspapers, and textbooks, and online in America and Europe. To mark the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks, his work was featured in two distinctly different solo exhibitions. The first, at Ground Zero in New York City titled, **9/11 and the American Landscape: Photographs by Jonathan Hyman** was the first public programming by the National September 11 Memorial Museum. The exhibit was accompanied by a full color catalogue with an introduction by the author and columnist, Pete Hamill. The other exhibit, **9/11: A Nation Remembers** featured 100 color photographs and panel text by renowned public memory scholar and Editor of the Journal of American History, Ed Linenthal, was hosted by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia.

Hyman has been lecturing widely at universities in the United States and Europe and in the fall

of 2008 completed a three week Cultural Envoy lecture tour in Europe sponsored jointly by the American embassy in Vienna and the University of Graz, Austria. Lectures were presented at six different Universities in Vienna, Austria, Brno, Czech Republic, Graz, Austria, Berlin, Germany, Tuebingen, Germany, and Zagreb Croatia.