

PROFILE

Alex Morel



Newsday Photo / Alan Raia

JOB

Photographer; a January graduate of St. John's University whose work is included in a show titled "Three Latin American Photographers," at SJU's University Gallery through Feb. 28; it's the first time that a St. John's alumnus has been selected for a juried exhibit at the gallery.

BIOGRAPHY

Born in New York City; reared in the Dominican Republic; moved back to New York to go to St. John's; 23; single.

RESIDENCE

Jackson Heights.

FOCUS

'My work focuses on my family, relatives and close friends, and the way I look at them. It's about relationships, distance and intimacy, and being aware of where and who you are. When the world around you is just rushing by, it's important to slow down.'

ACCOMPLISHMENT

'I'm proud that my work was picked by the judges to be included in the University Gallery show because, unless it's the annual students' exhibit, our work isn't usually shown there. But I'm also proud to be doing something that I love and having that as a career. I still would like to go for my master's degree and eventually go into cinematography or fine-arts photography.'

BEST THING ABOUT QUEENS

'For me Queens is a place that I always like to come back to at the end of the day. I spend a lot of time in Manhattan, and I always like the ride back on the Number Seven train. It's good to be able to wind down by looking out the window at the skyline, the neighborhoods below and the houses. It's really beautiful.'

By Sheila McKenna