

**OBSERVE DALLAS ANNOUNCES 2016 PROGRAMMING WITH MASTER CLASS WORKSHOP THIS SUMMER AIMED AT FOSTERING A DOCUMENTARY-STYLE STREET PHOTOGRAPHY COMMUNITY**

*Photojournalist/street photographer Richard Andrew Sharum, the creative mind behind the annual downtown photography project, invites local photographers to attend master class downtown Aug. 2 through 6*

**(DALLAS, June 2016; source: CultureHype) –** Dallas photographers are invited to attend a special **Master Class Workshop** this August, sponsored and hosted by **#ObserveDallas2015** participant 211 **Ervay St.** downtown, as an extension of the annual Observe Dallas downtown photography project, now in its third year. Taught by photojournalist/street photographer **Richard Andrew Sharum**, the creative mind behind **#ObserveDallas2015**, the workshop will take place this August in efforts to foster a robust documentary-style street photography community here in Dallas-Fort Worth and encourage the community to create more public art that the general public can engage with on a regular basis. Photographers ages 18 and up are encouraged to apply and the class is limited to 12 students. To reserve your space as a student for the **Observe Dallas** **Master Class Workshop** this August, you must apply by **July 20**. Interested parties can find more information about applying [here](https://www.facebook.com/events/994804560627199/) online and the cost is **$150** per student. The **Observe Dallas** **Master Class Workshop** will begin at **10 a.m.** on **Tuesday, Aug. 2** and end at **3 p.m.** on **Saturday, Aug. 6**, followed by a free and open to the public after party and student exhibition at **500x Gallery** from **7** to **9 p.m.** that evening.

“My intention with this workshop is to continue the idea of Observe Dallas and help foster the idea of critical thinking and awareness with a camera,” said Sharum. “With #ObserveDallas2015 I was attempting to express empathy not just for my subjects but the space they inhibit, the same space we all walk in every day. By bringing in a collection of local documentary/street photographers to work with, it gives them an opportunity to share their observations and found stories with the public under the Observe Dallas experiment.”

Aiming to assist students in developing their personal projects through individual tutorials, mini assignments, experimentation, and group reviews, the **Observe Dallas** **Master Class Workshop** is aimed at photographers with an ongoing body of work. By challenging, guiding and pushing students to explore new responses to their ideas and seek out visual stories in Dallas, Sharum hopes to foster a robust documentary-style street photography community here in Dallas-Fort Worth and further define each participant’s visual language and unique photographic approach. Students will be encouraged to approach image-making and storytelling in new and exciting ways in a collaborative classroom environment.

“To photograph is to learn and to share it is to show the world what you learned,” said Sharum. “This is the responsibility of documentary-style street photography. There are wonderful and intriguing stories that happen in this city every day. It is time to see what other local photographers can do to contribute to the bigger discussion, and how they in turn Observe Dallas.”

**About #ObserveDallas2015**

Last spring, Dallas residents and visitors were invited to interact with and embrace public art as photographer Sharum teamed up with five downtown building owners to launch the largest street photography exhibit in Dallas history from April 10 to May 31. This groundbreaking series documented and celebrated the citizens and structures of downtown Dallas as it depicted everyday life in the area. The photographs, the largest print spanning 40 feet long by 60 feet wide, were installed at five prominent downtown buildings in a free and open to the public photography exhibition. By draping eight large-scale photographs in common areas downtown,

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*Observe Dallas Master Class Workshop / Page Two*

Observe Dallas 2015 sought to bring light to a spectrum of all walks of life, without discrimination. The exhibition was funded by Sharum and a grant from the Office of Cultural Affairs in Dallas. For more information on Observe Dallas, please visit the photographer’s Facebook at [www.facebook.com/alldaylightisolderthanyou](http://www.facebook.com/alldaylightisolderthanyou), Instagram at [www.instagram.com/richard\_andrew\_sharum](http://www.instagram.com/richard_andrew_sharum), or Twitter at @rasphotographer.

**About Photojournalist/Street Photographer Richard Andrew Sharum**

Richard Andrew Sharum is a Dallas-based photographer whose range varies from documentary photojournalism to abstract minimalism. In recognition of Sharum's work on his downtown street photography, he was selected among international applicants by Magnum Photos (Paris) for the coveted Masterclass Grant with Jonas Bendiksen during HOST at FOTOGRAFIA EUROPEA 2014 in Reggio Emilia, Italy, and for the Magnum Photos (New York) Masterclass with Moises Saman and Abbas in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Both resulted in public exhibitions of his work in each respective city.

Sharum's work has been included in several private and public collections across the country, including commissions by The Meadows Foundation, Harvard Law School, Children’s Medical Center (Oncology), Children’s Cancer Fund, Angel Flight, Notre Dame School for the Mentally Ill, and Austin Street Homeless Shelter. His work has been seen in various national publications, such as D Magazine, International Business Times Weekly and The Wall Street Journal. For more information about Richard Andrew Sharum, please visit [www.richardandrewsharum.com](http://www.richardandrewsharum.com/).

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