



**Alejandro C Rubí**  
Interview with Khris Parker-Ryan





Alejandro Cleofe Rubí was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He completed an undergraduate degree in Fine Art Photography from Massachusetts College of Art and Design in 2020. He's a photogrpaher who's fine art practice extends through videography, architecture, interior design, concept design and book-making. Alejandro challenges himself by experimenting with different methods, formats, and materials that can push is photographic boundaries. He aspires to challenge the art world through his combinations of interior design, sculptures, and photography. "My methods of revolutionizing the concept of photography are what motivate me to continue researching and finding new ways to create art."

**KP:Yerppp how's it going Alejandro?**

**ACR:**Better than ever!

**KP: Fan of the work man, tell me how you got into photography?**

**ACR:** I first got into photography when my mother got a DSLR for her birthday when I was in middle school. I decided to learn how the camera works to teach my mother, but at the end of the day, I was the one always taking the pictures. From that point on, I started experimenting with cameras. I even got into videography before actually taking photography seriously. Back then, I used to skateboard with my cousin every day after school; I used to document those moments. Eventually, I started photographing local skates in Old San Juan and surfers since I used to go to surfing contests around the island every other weekend since another cousin of mine used to compete. At that point, I was continually thinking with a photographic mentality.



**KP: How was it at your other school? SCAD? Right?**

**ACR:** My first two years in college were at SCAD. It was a completely different experience from what I had at MassArt. The SCAD program was a commercial based program. I used to have dedicated courses to just work in a studio environment. I do miss those days, but at the same time, changing the atmosphere helped me understand what I wanted to do with photography. I've been able to experiment with my work and try new things. In SCAD, I was only focused on the technicality of photo making, and at MassArt, I've been able to have more creative freedom but still making sure I get everything perfect.





**KP: Can you speak on how being at an institution like MassArt has impacted your current work?**

**ACR:** Being at MassArt has helped me understand the different possibilities that can be achieved with photography. I've been able to think of new ways where I can integrate photography with other passions. I don't see my photographic work as photographs but more as a thinking process to other more complex ideas. I've been thinking about how my photography can be interpreted in sculptures and interior design.



**KP:** Some of my favorite images came from your 4X5, do you see yourself working more in digital or film after graduation?

**ACR:** I am going to be working with both mediums. I believe that my 4x5 are also some of my favorite images, and I believe it has to do with the fact that I had to slow down and understand what I was photographing. I used to shoot less but made sure that all my shots are worthy enough for printing. I definitely would focus only on film on specific projects and use digital for experimentation.





**KP: What's your go to camera and or preference?**

**ACR:** Digital- **Sonya7riii**; but I want to shift to a mirrorless medium format. Film- **35mm Contax G2**, Medium format **Mamiya 7**, but my go-to would have to be The Mamiya 7



**KP: What Artist, books, and or insporation are you looking at that influences your most recent work?**

**ACR:** Daniel Shea photobook 43-35 10th Street it has inspired me to think differently when looking at my work as a collective. I'm also continually looking at interior designers, furniture designers, and architects for inspiration.



**KP: Do the places you photograph have a specific connection to you?**

**ACR:** Lately, I've been thinking about photographing in places that have meaning to me. But in the past, it hasn't been so. For my last project, it doesn't have a special connection to me, but to my family, it does.







**KP:** When you're out taking photos, what are some things you're thinking about? Is it important for you to have a concept, or does it make more sense after you've made it?

**ACR:** For the majority, I'm not thinking of anything. I just focus on what grabs my attention. After seeing my work after a while, I can see repetition and understand the concepts that I was unconsciously thinking of when I was photographing. Sometimes if I have a concept in terms of how I plan to present it, I plan what to shoot.



**KP: If you had to describe the biggest influences to you as an artist what would that be?**

**ACR:** My childhood memories and my family's history; Difficult moments in my life have helped me see things differently and take a different approach to life and to what I aspire to be.

**KP: What do you want people to get from your work?**

**ACR:** Creative freedom. Explore different things and create something out of it. Currently, I'm at a point in my life that I just daydream many ideas/projects and think about how I am going to execute them throughout my life journey.





**KP: What are your goals as an artist and with photography?**

**ACR:** Never work for someone and have the freedom to create all my daydream ideas. I want to share my ideas with others and influence how they see life, work, and the world.





**KP: It was great talking with you Alejandro, I appreciate you taking the time out!**

**ACR: Of course thanks for having me.**

