

# Alex Leblanc

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Born in Montreal, Alex Leblanc lived his childhood in the Ottawa region of the Petite-Nation. Very early on, his attraction to photography is manifested through the influence of his mother who takes countless pictures of his son. Following her encouragement, young Alex begins handling a 35 mm camera, which propels him into the world of creativity.

During his teenage years, his growing interest is demonstrated by his participation in various school projects. Constant use of his camera turns him into an unconditional fan of photography.

A few years later, he earned a college diploma in photography at La Cité Collégiale in Ottawa. This leads him to accept the position of Director of photography at University of Ottawa's student-run newspaper La Rotonde. Studying Visual Arts at the same institution introduces him to multidisciplinary and multimedia practices.

For five years, Alex Leblanc has been teaching photography and media art at the high-school level. Alongside his teaching, he ceaselessly pursues his artist statement, which mainly focuses on theatricality in photography.

## Artist statement

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Mankind has a tendency to document its surroundings. From palimpsests to monuments, family pictures to personal diaries, these "documents" bear witnesses to our own personal journey on Earth and can even contain secrets to our existence. Space-time holds an enormous amount of information that mankind simply cannot appropriate itself.

Since humans are unable to fully control their sensory surroundings, they try to recreate some of the relative aspects. Through photographic documents which are in fact a pale reflection of reality, they will want to rebuild this sensory world, but in vain. They cannot succeed because the very nature of documentation is completely subjective; its first demonstration is the perceiver's intention. It thus becomes a form of art touched by the personal view of the documenter.

Travelling uninhabited places in the midst of a consumer society Leblanc attempts to obtain truthful slices of life with the help of his photographic camera. Following the steps of artists such as Jeff Wall and Evergon, he takes snapshots of everyday life seeking to grab an intangible reality... inexistent.

**Alex Leblanc**  
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## Studies

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**UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA** 2002 - 2003  
Bachelor Degree in Education (B. Ed.)  
Ottawa, Ontario

**UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA** 1999 - 2002  
B.A. in Visual Arts  
Ottawa, Ontario

**LA CITÉ COLLÉGIALE** 1997-1999  
Photography Degree  
Ottawa, Ontario

## Teaching and related experience

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**Photography and Media Arts Teacher** September 2004 to present  
Collège catholique Franco-Ouest  
Nepean, Ontario

**Digital Photography Teacher** September 2002 to June 2008  
City of Gatineau  
Gatineau, Québec

**Visuals Arts Teacher** February to June 2004  
École secondaire catholique Béatrice-Desloges  
Ottawa, Ontario

**Director-General** May 2002 to August 2003  
La Rotonde Newspaper  
Ottawa, Ontario

**Director of Photography** May 2000 to May 2002  
La Rotonde Newspaper  
Ottawa, Ontario

**Coordinator of Photography Cultural Contest** May to August 2001  
Organization Committee of the 4th Francophone Games  
Ottawa, Ontario

**Teacher Assistant (Medias Arts)** January to April 2000  
University of Ottawa (Visual Arts Department)  
Ottawa, Ontario

## Solo Exhibitions

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- 2009      *Le temps qui passe... (Time goes by)*  
Studio Huit Dalpé, Gatineau, Québec
- 2006      *Antichambre ou purgatoire (Anti-chamber or purgatory)*  
Galerie du Casino du Lac-Leamy, Gatineau, Québec
- 2005      *Lieux inhabités (Uninhabited spaces)*  
Théâtre de l'Île, Gatineau, Québec
- 2002      *Derrière les miroirs (Behind the mirrors)*  
Café Le Solstice, Ottawa, Ontario
- Derrière les miroirs 2 (Behind the mirrors)*  
Gallery 115, Ottawa, Ontario

## Group Exhibitions

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- 2009      *Art au Pluriel 2009*  
C.C.T., Gatineau, Québec
- 2008      *Third Annual International Digital Miniprint Exhibition*  
La Voix Visuelle, Ottawa, Ontario
- To Build A Vibrant Centre*  
Crichton Cultural Community Centre, Ottawa, Ontario
- La chambre (The bedroom)*  
Heritage Canada Office, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2002      *Who's Next ?*  
Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- R.TCHO*  
Graduating Students in Visual Arts Exhibition  
Visual Arts Department, University of Ottawa, Ottawa Ontario
- CTRL ALT DEL*  
Media Arts Group Exhibition  
Visual Arts Department, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario
- Poo*  
Gallery 115, Ottawa, Ontario
- Group Exhibition « R.Tcho »  
Gallery 101, Ottawa, Ontario

## Artistic interests

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Artistic statement focusing on documentation and theatrical values.  
Photography and new media expertise.  
Participation in group projects.