



Mullowney Printing  
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## **WENDY EWALD**

### ***THE CHIAPAS PORTFOLIO***

Forthcoming publication, February 2023

Mullowney Printing, Portland, Oregon

Mullowney Printing is pleased to announce the forthcoming publication by photographer Wendy Ewald, *The Chiapas Portfolio*, a collection of photogravure images from her 1991 project *Retratos y Suenos* which came from her work with children living in Chiapas, Mexico.

In 1991, Wendy Ewald was invited to conduct photography classes for Maya, Ladino, and Tzotzil speaking children living in Chiapas, the southernmost province of Mexico, by the writer's cooperative *Sna Jtz'ibajom* (the House of the Writer). While cameras and camcorders were hardly novelties in Chiapas at the time, they were generally used by tourists whose picture taking tended to reinforce their own cultural biases. Ewald did not take pictures. Instead, she guided her students to take their own photographs, which depicted their daily lives, dreams, desires, and fantasies. The photographs resonated with the significance of dreams in Maya culture, which considers them as real as waking life. The resulting project offers a unique insight into the everyday realities of the life in Maya communities just before the Zapatista uprising.

With *The Chiapas Portfolio* Ewald strives to create a contemporary conversation between her 1991 project and that of the American photographer Paul Strand and his seminal work, *Photographs of Mexico* portfolio of photogravures made from photographs he took in Mexico in the 1930s. The collection of gravures was originally published as *Photographs of Mexico* in 1940, and later re-published as *The Mexican Portfolio*, in 1967.

## **THE CHIAPAS PORTFOLIO**

(Publication scheduled for late January 2023)

A portfolio of twenty copperplate photogravure images with accompanying letterpress printed signature sheets, with introduction, essay, and colophon in English and Spanish.

Gravure plates and printing by Mullowney Printing, Portland, Oregon.

The prints are published in a slipcase portfolio housing, with chemise folio, designed and created by John DeMerritt Bookbinding, Emeryville, California.

Edition of 15 plus 4 artists proofs

Portfolio housing

17 ½ x 13 ½ inches

(44.45 cm x 34.29 cm)

Sheet size 15 ¾ x 12 3/8

(40 cm x 31.43 cm)

### **About Wendy Ewald**

Working as a photographer and teacher, Ewald's projects emphasize a method of collaboration that challenges the distinctions between photographer and subject. Adopting a variety of approaches, she creates projects based on a reciprocal vs. hierarchical approach. Her goal is to provide the vision of her subjects rather than merely make images of them. Through her documentary investigations of places and communities, Ewald probes questions of identity and cultural differences. In her work with children and women, she encourages them to use cameras to record themselves, their families, and their communities, and to articulate their fantasies and dreams.



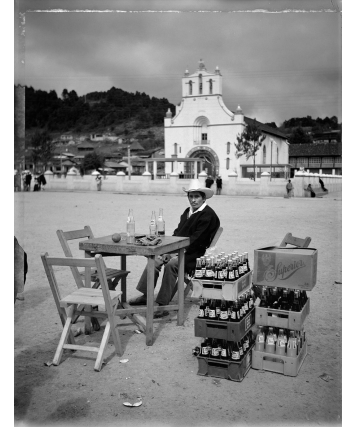
Teresa López, *The Phantom*



Javier Bautista, *Wolfman and his enemy*



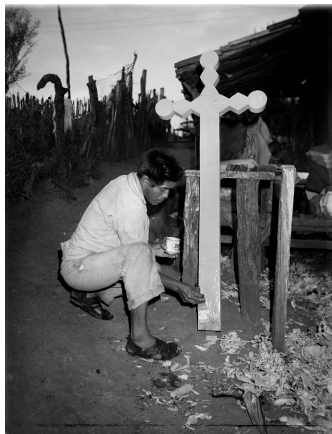
Reymundo Gómez Hernández, *The devil is leaving his cave*



Marcos Xilón Gómez, *A man is in the plaza having a drink*



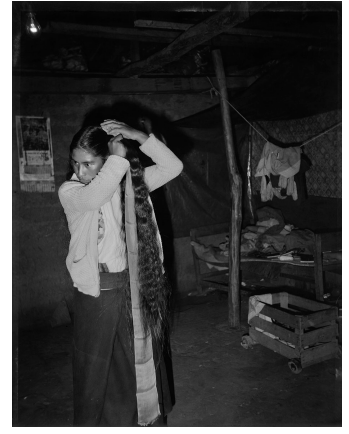
Gregorio de la Cruz Sánchez, *My mom is washing*



Doleres Gómez Hernández, *Painting the cross*



Luis Hernández Gómez, *My sister carrying water*



Nicasio Pérez de la Cruz, *My sister braiding her hair*



Nicasio Pérez de la Cruz, *My sister weaves*



Christian Alberto López Medina, *My aunt selling sweets to the children*



Teresa López, *My dog walking in the patio*



Javier Bautista. *The river monsters*



Juan Ricardo Hernández López, *My uncle Miriano is working in the field*



Anonymous, *Calvario San Pedro de San Juan, Chamula, Chiapas*



Vladimir Stálin Becerril Vargas, *The hens going into the kitchen*



Salvador Gómez Jiménez, *My friends are picking flowers*



Cesar de Jesús López Gutiérrez, *My dad reads his newspaper*



Juan Jesús Murillio, *Here is my cousin, Miry, with the skulls and fruit for the Day of the Dead`*



Sebastián Gómez Hernández, *The devil is spying on the girls*