

## **ARTIST: TODD SUTTLES**

**Todd Suttles Bio:** Growing up as the son of two professional artists in the conservative mid-twentieth century South influenced Todd's perception of contemporary culture. Often being that artistic kid on the fringe of normal, his position as an outlier made him a vigilant observer of people, places, and situations.

A successful career as a salon owner, and stylist, Todd worked closely with people to express their sense of identity. Much of his photographic work seeks to find, document, and tell these unique stories.

For decades, Todd photographed commercially to support his business and in 2010 restructured his life to focus on artistic work. Since then, his work has been exhibited in both group and solo exhibitions in the Southeast region.

### **Todd Suttles Artist Statement: I make pictures of Invisible Ink.**

I expose reality and perception with a camera. With the first cry and breath, we begin to use Visual Thinking. We live by observing everything, deciding upon its purpose, and how best to join with it. We name everything: me, you, momma, family, other, home, world, school, job, people, places, and things. On, and on, it goes until the last breath; scripting it all with The Invisible Ink of this process. Every name or word we decide becomes the symbol of This Ink.

My photographs are symbols, invisible inkblots, using more symbols.

When I can See myself observing, the Invisible Ink becomes visible to me; I then get to decide if I am happy with my decision. If not, an opportunity to write afresh, another story, learning that both reality and perception are fluid. My photography is my practice with life; and my photography projects, the curriculum