

# Work statement

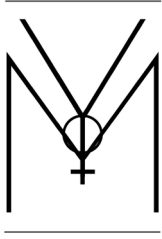
## *///Through Their Eyes - Freetheme*

Venezuela is at a juncture. The fate of the country is being played out in the midst of an ever-deepening crisis. There's an urgency to document the problems that are causing this suffering. In an attempt to sensitize and awaken consciousness of what is happening in Venezuela, I have reconstructed the loose narratives of the stories that young Venezuelans conveyed me to give an image of the country 'Through Their Eyes'.

The images were captured on an analog camera which added fragility; an approach that seemed appropriate given Venezuela's current socio-economic predicament. The young participants came from different cities across Venezuela and from different educational and socio-economic backgrounds.

This work is influenced by nature's symbiotic relationship to human beings which elucidates that, what we see and experience in the physical world is like a mirror and can become a manifestation of our emotional wounds. These images are like a web of thoughts and feelings that reveal the contradictions young Venezuelans are trying to reconcile. By alternating between portraits and the places they feel connected to, I aim to offer an insight into the challenges they face - as well as their choices, hopes, dreams and the inner energy that guides them.

The series can be read together as a message or experienced separately as each image has its own story. By combining real people and places - but not necessarily people and places that naturally go together encourages a different way to perceive and engage with the world. We are the cause and the outside the effect. Through resilience people can empower themselves and visualize their internal potential. The project is an open call for the audience to bring these sentiments into their lives, to feel more, sense more and, above all, to do it together.



# Yorli Mendoza

*///Biography*

I am a Venezuelan born London based photographer. I have created a broad body of work that includes photography, installations, video, text, and sound. My work tends to be long-term projects focused on specific themes. The themes vary from project to project, I like exploring all sorts of subjects; however, my projects are similar in approach and form and my work comes from three particularly important interests; 1. My investigations into how we shape, perceive, and feel about the world around us; 2. My rooted long-time interest in the systems that support power structures; the contours of power and authority hid within and 3. Those things that are intangible and elusive, that cannot be perceived easily to the eye, but they are there and can be felt, evoked and transformed into something visible and palpable through tangible, physical attributes using photography in combination with other methods.

Having been trained in methods of qualitative research, but naturally using the camera to visualize this, a passion for merging methods of social research with photography and videography was born, and through an MA in Photojournalism & Documentary Photography at the London College of Communication I was able to approach work from a more creative and conceptual, but also ethical stance.

I put experience at the centre of my installations. I hope that as you encounter it, you add meaning to the works as you bring your associations, memories, and reflections into it. I am open to working with different methods and techniques to represent and express my vision. My projects range from straight documentary to conceptual and artist documenting. My three latest works set the palette for my style as they span different approaches. I am driven by research led self-initiated projects that combine my interest in sociology, psychology, and photography.