



Haidi Contant



Aurelie Bellacicco



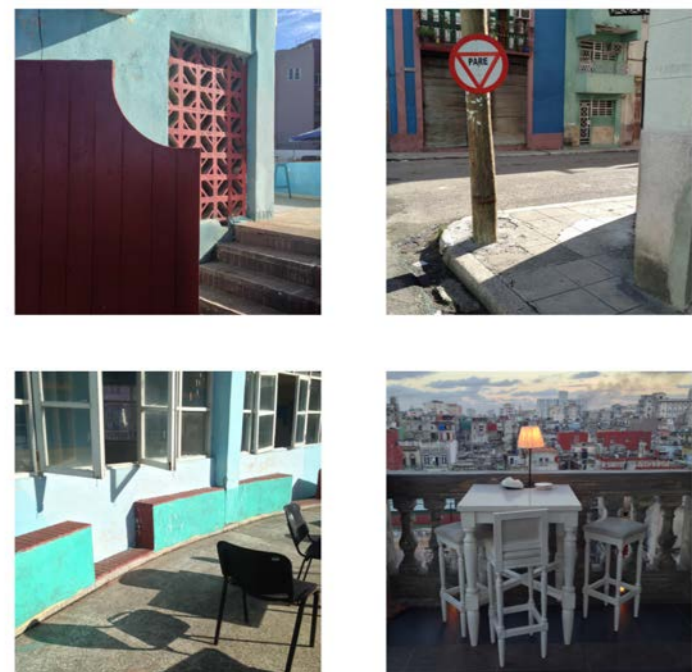
Linxi Jiang



Julia Nishizawa

# 7 Days in Havana

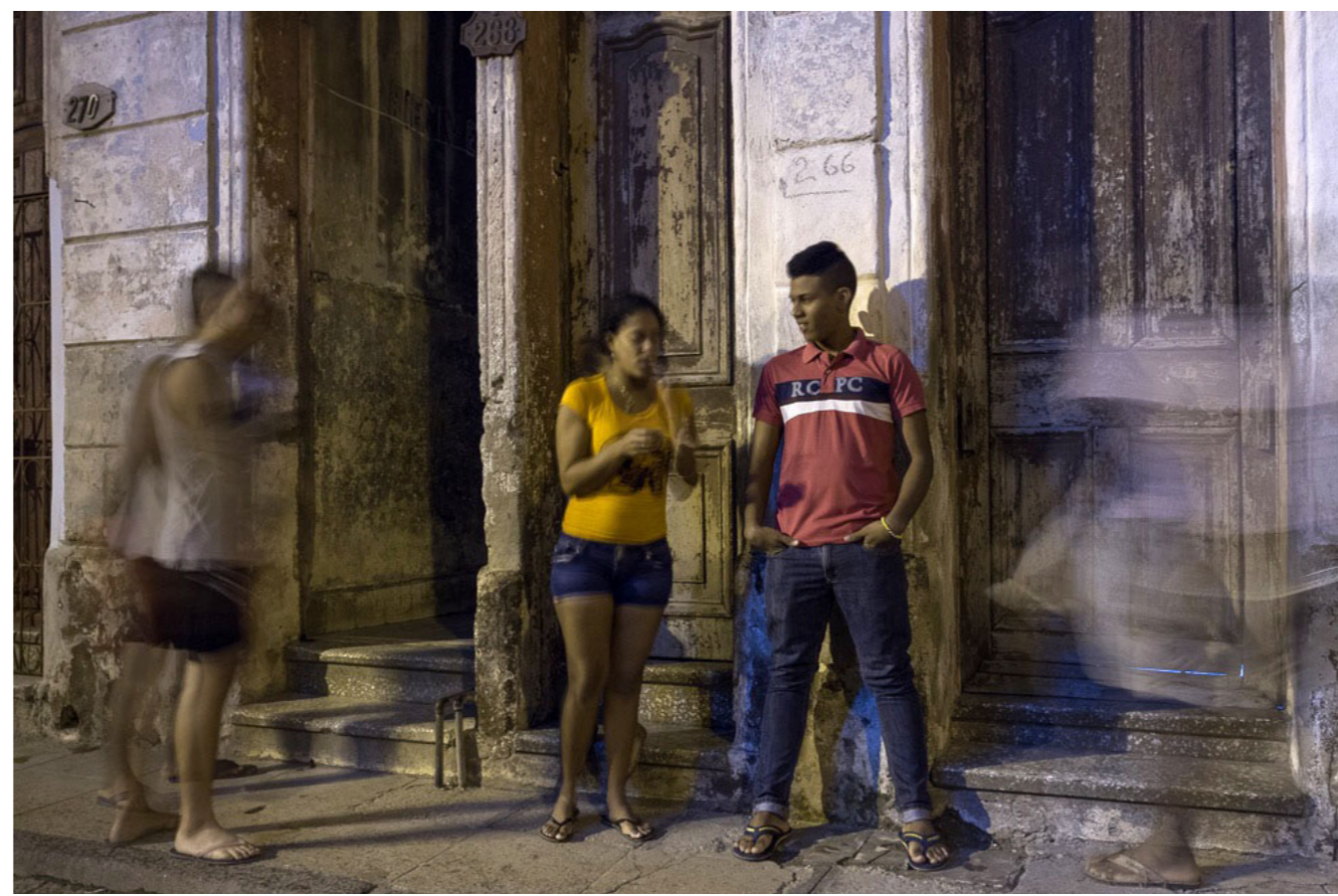
*Calles de la Habana*



David Hopkins



Katherine Dickins



Lina Samoukava

## 7 Days in Havana

This was our third Dawson College photography visit to Havana and we noted that the speed of change seems accelerated. Young people cluster around smart phone hot spots, there are tour ships in port, double decker buses as well as horse and carriages on the Malecon.

Yet, behind the tourism, the spruced up facades and new restaurants, the real streets of Havana remain relatively unchanged. This is the fascinating Havana. These are the people and the street life that we wanted to explore. These are the parts of Havana that were exciting for us.

Our goal was to 'document Havana', but we knew we couldn't presume to fully document this complex city and its vibrant people in a 7 day visit.

So the strategy was simple: roam the city with an open mind, attuned to possibilities and open to serendipity.

Our goals: to discover, to play freely with photographic ideas, to experiment, to engage people, to make mindful photographs, to push aesthetic, personal and photographic boundaries and finally, to be creative.

This exhibition is a taste of that experience, a sampling of our eclectic response to a great city and its people - Havana.

Thanks to the Office of Academic Development, in particular Dean Barbara Freedman and Tina Romeo, Dean Andrea Cole, as well as Academic Dean Diane Gauvin and Brenda Lee. We can't forget the travel committee. And finally, thanks to Don Corman and Olivier Forgues from the Flowers Gallery. This project couldn't have happened without the support we received from across the college.

I'm grateful to the faculty of the Professional Photography Program at Dawson College. The fact that we had this incredible opportunity to see a different part of the world is priceless. There is no way to replicate this project aside from actually going and doing it. There is no substitute for the actual experience. During the trip, each day I felt myself grow as a photographer. I never felt that before, and to such an intense degree. It was like my own eyes were so quickly adjusting how to properly focus and frame before even looking through the viewfinder. In a way, the trip was a gateway to develop the courage and curiosity to pursue a documentary trip on my own one day. I was so inspired by my time there that I have booked tickets to return one year after our visit: I fell in love with the city and I will continue my documentation of its charm, change and charisma. I would have never gotten this experience have it not been for the teachers and the generous support of Dawson College. Having this catalogue immortalize our memories, it reminds us of the journey and adventure with all the beautiful people we met, places we explored and friends we made an eternal connection with.

Lina Samoukova  
Student, graduated 2016

Sept. 16 - Oct. 1, 2016

Warren G. Flowers Art Gallery Dawson College



Group photo



Antonio Perez-Cummings



Kat Mergaert



Katinka Michaud



Roy Hartling



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