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Melissa Alcena

b. 1988, Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

Alcena is a Bahamian portrait and documentary photographer based in Nassau, The Bahamas. In 2012, she completed an Applied Photography course at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario, Canada. Melissa moved back to The Bahamas in 2016, where she became inspired to take portraits of working class and marginalised Bahamians in their environments. Her work focuses on shifting the paradise narrative of the Caribbean, by directly engaging with the people of The Bahamas in the everyday and tapping into the humanity of its citizens.

Education

2012 **Applied Photography Course**, Sheridan College, Oakville, Ontario, Canada

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2019 **See Me Here**, Central Bank of The Bahamas Art Gallery, New Providence, The Bahamas

2017 **Some (Re)assembly Required**, National Art Gallery of The Bahamas, New Providence, The Bahamas

Selected Group Exhibitions

2020 **photoSCHWEIZ**, Zurich, Switzerland

2019 NE9, **The Fruit and The Seed**, juried exhibition, The National Art Gallery of The Bahamas,

Terngallery.com Nassau, The Bahamas

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New Providence, The Bahamas

In Conversation: Visual Meditations on Black Masculinity, curated by Laylah Amatullah
Barrayn and Adama Delphine Fawundu, The African American Museum Philadelphia

2017 **Diversions**, D'Aguilar Art Foundation, New Providence, The Bahamas