

retrospective

PABLO Bartholomew

THE Outsider



A stoner throw away from the platform office, when I entered Pablo Bartholomew's apartment I was enraptured by his world of cameras, negatives, rolls, contact sheets and his spotless mind. Each photograph that I saw served as a medium of expression and communication. Be it the series on the Morphine Addicts, his Visual Anthropology of the Nagas or even his earlier documentation of his friends and family, the visual journey through each series offered an infinite variety of perception, execution and interpretation.



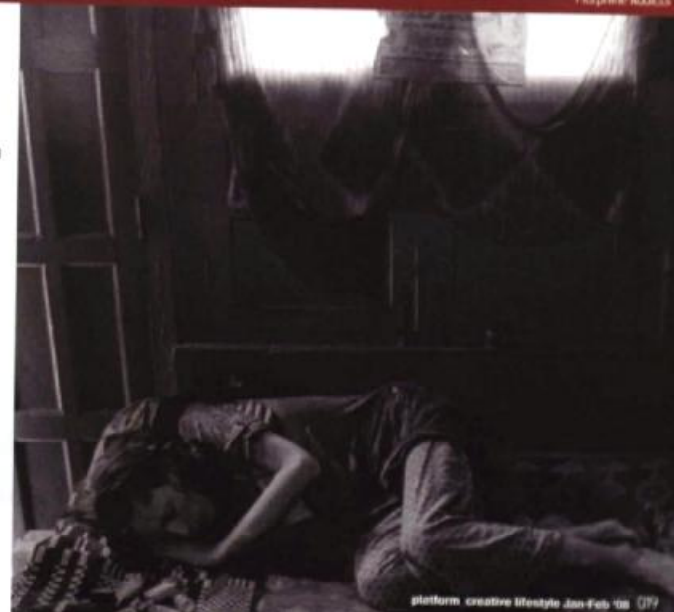
Images from Recortes d'Artes



Morphine Addicts

For a guy who failed his photography class in school, who found himself expelled from school at the age of fifteen, who did the rounds of the FTL and NIDs and got rejected on the basis of no formal education, instead of feeling dejected, Pablo embraced the spare time and camera in hand, transformed his 'bumming around' into a realisation that photography was his calling.

Terming himself the 'outsider' he aimlessly set out to Mumbai with a dream that he made real. The truth and honesty in his works, the piercing reality of his images, the visual stories that each 'outsider' in his photographs communicated soon spread and he became a recognised figure in a short span of time. As we sat looking out of his window at *The Lotus Temple*, a great inspiration for him, I re-lived three decades with the imaginative and futuristic photographer whose pictures and anecdotes have proven to be works of art and moments in history.



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