



The Josephine Herrick Project

## AFTERMATH

Images from Gettysburg

2018







*Photo by Jon Pierre Kelani*

The Josephine Herrick Project

## **AFTERMATH**

Images from Gettysburg  
2018

*Front cover photo by Jon Pierre Kelani*

*Back cover photo by Levi L. Jeffers*



# JHP | Josephine Herrick PROJECT<sup>®</sup> | TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY

Through its free photography programs, the Josephine Herrick Project (JHP) works to transform the lives of individuals facing social, physical, and economic barriers in life. We partner with schools, human service agencies, health care facilities, libraries, and community organizations to deliver customized and hands-on digital photography courses taught by professional photographers.

For JHP participants, the camera is a transformative tool, helping individuals build self-confidence and visual literacy, think creatively and critically, engage actively with their communities, tell their own stories, and advocate for themselves, effecting change in their own lives and the world around them.

JHP is an award winning 501(c)3 non profit set up in 1941 by pioneer photographer Josephine Herrick (pictured left) to teach photography to wounded service personnel returned from World War II. Though our programming has expanded to include other disadvantaged groups, our work with veterans still remains a core strand. There can be no more fitting than our Gettysburg program.



## THANK YOU

The Josephine Herrick Project would like to thank the extraordinary people who have donated their time and skills to the project, most notably the photographers Adriana Echavarria, Ashley Gilbertson, Robert Stevens, Alberto Vasari; our exhibition designer John Custodio and graphic designer, Miriam Hendel; and our partners, the Gettysburg Foundation - their staff and volunteers and those of the National Parks Service.

## OUR FUNDERS

We are indebted to our major funders for this project, the National Endowment for the Arts and to our very generous individual donors and supporters.

We also want to take the opportunity to thank all our other major funders and supporters, including:

The Disabled Veterans Charitable Service Trust

The Hyde and Watson Foundation

The Pinkerton Foundation

The Rudolf J. and Daphne A. Foundation

The New York Council on the Arts

The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs

Canon U.S.A., Inc.



## AFTERMATH

The Josephine Herrick Project is humbled to be presenting the exhibition, *Aftermath*, at the Gettysburg Museum, and at sites in New York City. *Aftermath* - refers to the aftermath of the battle and the civil war in the town and the country, or the aftermath of violence and war for the ordinary combatant, the civilians and their families, or for us today as ordinary people who see it from a distance, but are often nevertheless affected by it in so many ways.

The exhibition draws from the images of five veterans who visited Gettysburg over Memorial Day weekend in 2018. They came for a residential photography workshop put on in a partnership between the Josephine Herrick Project and the Gettysburg Foundation. The veterans are alumni of the Josephine Herrick Project's free photography programs, and most suffer from PTSD, from violence they saw and experienced while in the military.

In Gettysburg, the veterans worked with leading professional photographers to develop their skills and use cameras to explore a place that was both very familiar and deeply personal to each. Over the weekend the veterans visited the museum, toured the battlefields and the evocative Spangler Farm. They stayed in historic houses on the fields, and had the opportunity to explore the fields at the crack of dawn and into the dusk of the evening.



## THE PHOTOGRAPH

For many veterans, irrespective of which part of the country they come from, Gettysburg holds enormous spiritual meaning for each on a very personal basis - a communion with each other and with those who went before. We present here just a “snapshot” of the thoughts and perspectives of the veterans with whom we are proud to work.

In our age, the photograph informs how we think about things in our world, from the way we are affected by war, famine and crisis, to how and what we do in our daily lives. Though the battle of Gettysburg has been dubbed the world’s “original instant-news war” thanks to advances in telegraphy which had taken place over the 19th century, photography was only just coming into more widespread use. News publications still did not have the capacity to print photographs. They could only offer their readers little more than a sketch or drawing as an illustration.

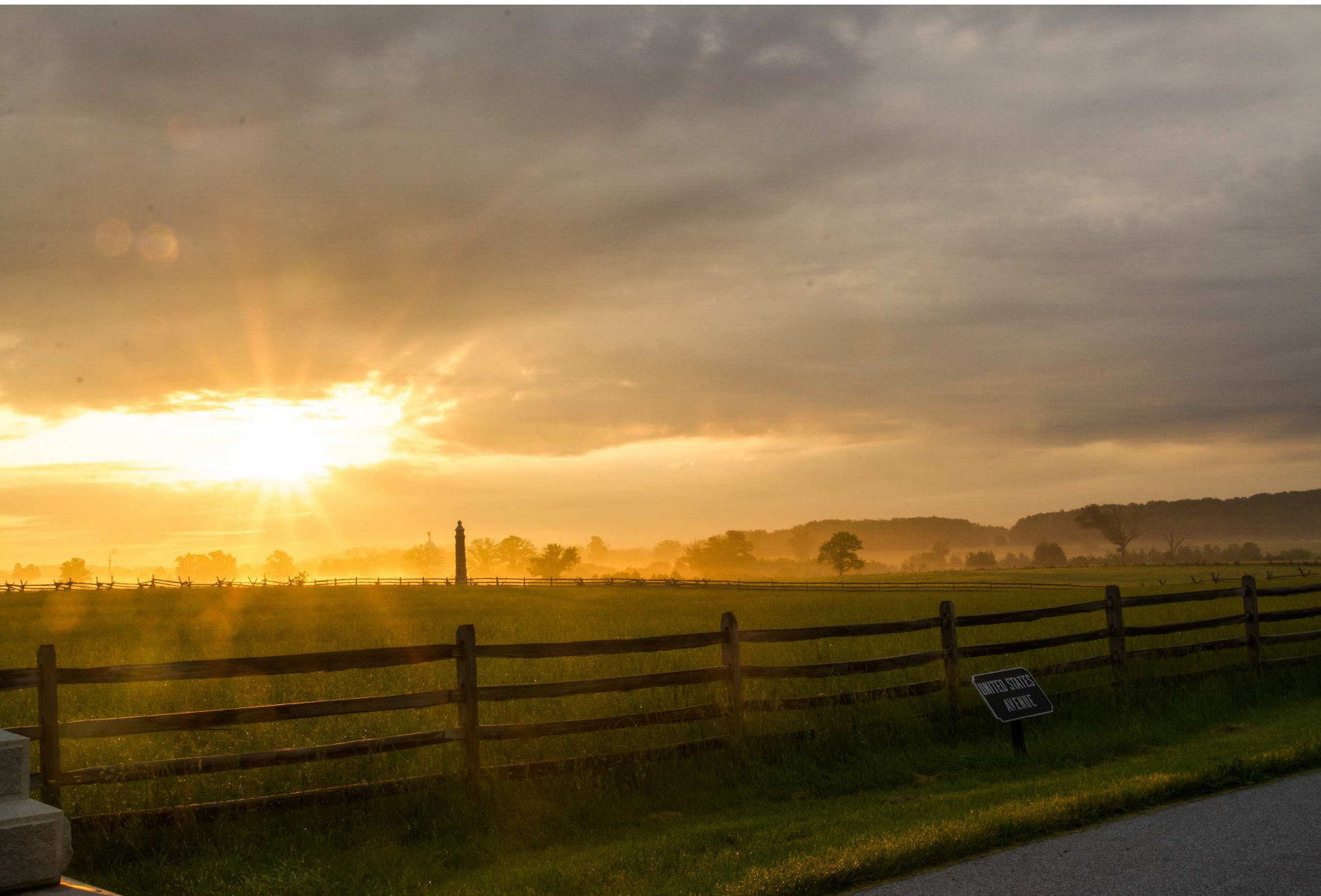
Photography is today the most universal, democratic, and accessible art form and means of communication. It allows any photographer to frame their own narrative and to share it with others.





## LEVI L. JEFFERS

I am a Vietnam era veteran, and during the war I was an Aviation Electronics mechanic, and later a Combat military police officer. Photography has now become my therapy, has also helped me make new friends, and gives me something I can share. The weekend at Gettysburg was an exhilarating, dramatic, and deeply moving experience and it felt so good to interact with fellow veterans. Gettysburg is a grim and somber reminder that without dialogue and compromise, lives can be lost so needlessly. As one drives by or stands on the hallowed grounds of Gettysburg there is a swirl of emotions that seems reflected in the landscape and weather: the early morning mist, the late night fog and gloomy rain provides an opportunity to tell its story.



Levi L. Jeffers





Levi L. Jeffers



## STEPHEN STEWART

I was born in Hanover, PA, not far from Gettysburg, so in a way, coming to Gettysburg felt like coming home. I served in Operation Desert Storm in 1991, Kosovo in 2003 and Iraq in 2004. I am new to photography, but when I first heard of the opportunity to spend Memorial Day weekend at a photography workshop on the battlefields with other veterans, I knew I had to be included. As I took photos of those hallowed grounds and listened to details of the battles fought there, I imagined what it must have been like for both the armies and civilians tangled up in the battle, over those three days in July, 1863.







Stephen Stewart (above and left)

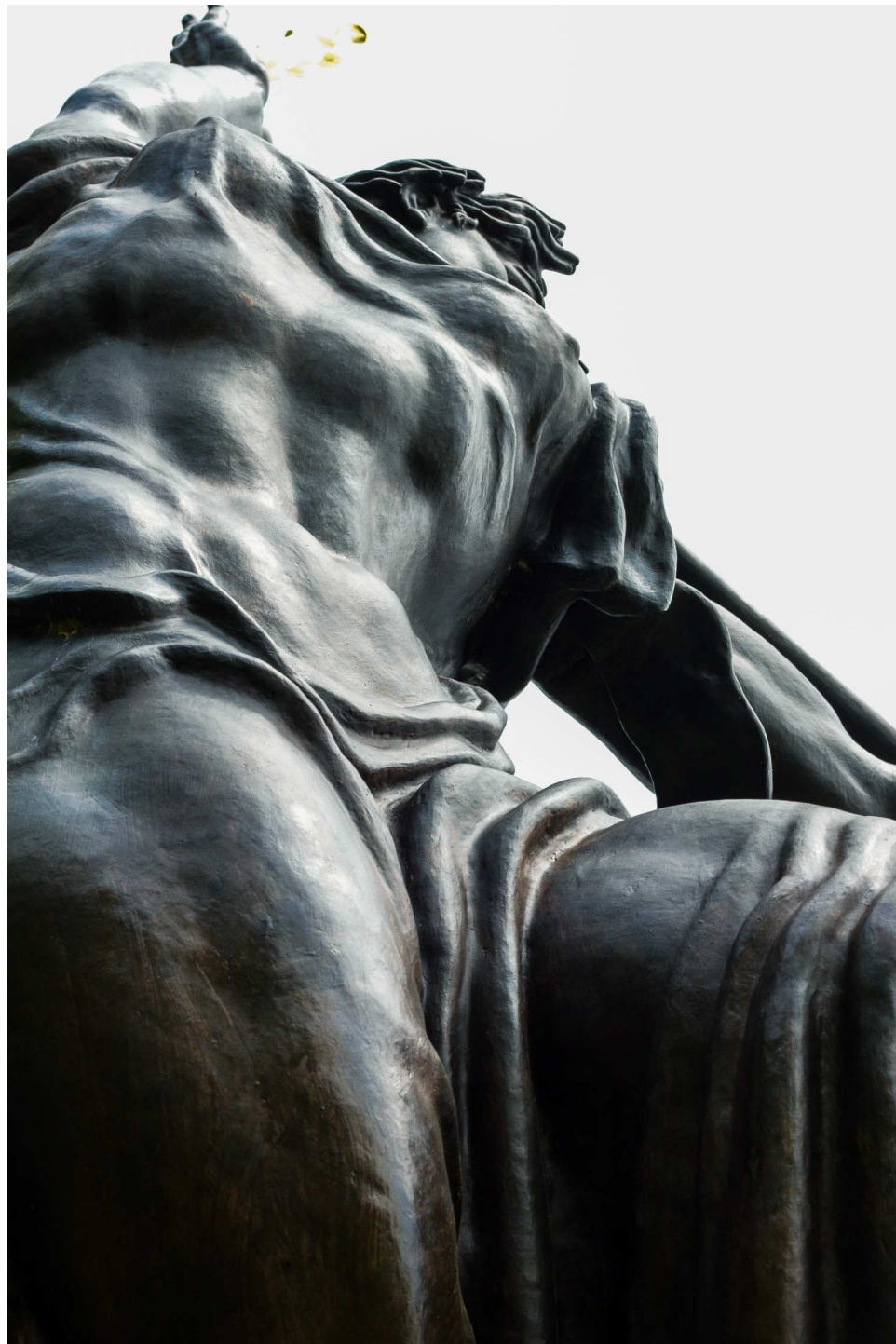




## LINDA D. CATLETT

I am a native New Yorker, born in Manhattan, raised and residing in The Bronx. A Navy veteran - “The Sailor’s Creed” is forever etched into my spirit. I was a Yeoman 3rd Class. Three decades and two careers later, I published my first novel in 2016, and produced my own book cover after taking my first photography class with the Josephine Herrick Project. It was humbling learning alongside and being in the company of my co-veterans who’ve seen and survived battle. That, along with the greatness of Gettysburg, feeling its heartbeat, hearing its truth, walking on its hallowed ground, and connecting it to my own lineage, has birthed an experience that will keep me steadfast in a perpetual state of awe.





Linda D. Catlett



Linda D. Catlett





## **JON PIERRE KELANI**

I was raised in a small town near San Francisco. That is where we pledged our allegiance everyday. I grew up playing team sports. When I joined the Army and earned the privilege of becoming an infantryman, the team work and resilience I had learned on the sports field became core to us on the battlefield. I got into photography after I left the Army. Coming to Gettysburg with JHP was just for fun at first, but when I got to the battlefield and learned more about the details of the battles, it really affected me. Walking on the battlefields helped me work through my emotions. This past is my history too: this land which once stood divided has shown since that it can also stand united.





Jon Pierre Kelani



Jon Pierre Kelani



## **RAFAEL DIAZ**

I grew up in NYC's Lower East Side and Long Island. I served in the Army from 2006-2013 and was deployed to Iraq. My plan is to create a photography studio and publishing house where I can use my work to help veterans in need. The Josephine Herrick Project introduced me to photography. Over our amazing long weekend at Gettysburg, staying in a house still riddled with bullet holes between the front lines of both armies, we were able to photograph the fields at all times of the day. I could feel the magnitude of the historic battle, eerily similar to the abandoned schoolhouse that was my operations outpost in Iraq.





Rafael Diaz





Rafael Diaz





### **Headquarters Staff**

Jessica Wanamaker  
*Executive Director*

Diane Bezucha  
*Director of Programs*

### **Teaching Artists**

Ashley Gilberston  
Alberto Vasari

### **Photographers**

Linda D. Catlett  
Rafael Diaz  
Levi L. Jeffers  
Jon Pierre Kelani  
Stephen Stewart

### **Board of Directors**

Miriam Leuchter, *Chair*  
Randy Bourne  
Mark Hempel  
Craig M. Nisnewitz  
Ron Sharpe

### **Advisory Council**

Brendon Bannon  
Adriana Echavarria-Eisenhower  
Jill Enfield  
Virginia Franklin  
Jeneen Garcia  
Rick Gerrity  
Vik Gupta  
Skip Herrick  
Debra Inwald  
Ellen Jacob  
Cathy Kaplan  
Dondi McKellar  
Sergio Purtell





