

THE INNOCENTS

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publications
traveling exhibitions
multi-media

Photographs and Video by Taryn Simon • An Umbrage Editions Publication
and Traveling Exhibition • Commentary by Peter Neufeld and Barry Scheck

EXHIBITION FACTS

2003–2010 domestic
and international tour

Total 45 prints
to occupy 200 linear feet:

- 45 electronic pigment prints framed in matte black, wood frames w/UV plexi at 20 x 24"
 - 45 text panels/wall labels on laminated sintra board at 7 x 10"
 - 2 introductory panels at 20 x 24"
 - *The Innocents* catalog/publication (retail price \$34.95 hardcover; ISBN: 1-884167-18-7)
 - Monitor programmed with 20-minute video of interviews with the subjects of the photographs
- 6-8 week bookings
 - Fee: \$4,500
 - Artist and Authors are available for panel discussions and lectures

These are the faces and voices of the wrongfully convicted. These are the stories of people imprisoned for years before finally proving their innocence. Gathered from across the United States, this collection exposes a broken judicial system where corrupt prosecutors, sleeping lawyers, bent cops, and jailhouse snitches subvert the most fundamental principles of justice.

Photographer Taryn Simon brings us face-to-face with individuals falsely accused and convicted. While mugshots and photoarrays are used to condemn and imprison these innocents, Simon has turned the camera around to document these victims of mistaken identity and perverted justice. In Simon's interviews, these men and women confront the paradox of innocence and imprisonment, the inability to recover the years stolen from them, and the states' unconscionable refusal to compensate them or ease their traumatic transition to civilian life.

The Innocence Project, founded by leading civil rights attorneys Peter Neufeld and Barry Scheck, is responsible for most of the post-conviction DNA exonerations in the United States today, many of which are included in this book. On the ten-year anniversary of its founding, the Project continues to free the innocent, striving to transform criminal justice into a more equitable and reliable system.

This compelling exhibition of Simon's photographs and interviews with the wrongfully convicted confronts the failings of the criminal justice system and the use of the death penalty in this country, a topic currently under close scrutiny. The images and voices of **The Innocents** mark this historic turning point in America.



For more information, please contact:
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BIOGRAPHIES

TARYN SIMON was born in 1975 in New York. She is a graduate of Brown University. In 2001, she was awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in Photography. Simon's photographs have been exhibited internationally and featured in several publications including *The New York Times Magazine*, *Vanity Fair* and *The New Yorker*.

PETER NEUFELD AND BARRY SCHECK co-founded and direct the Innocence Project at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York City. The Project provides pro bono representation to inmates throughout the country who claim that DNA testing could prove their innocence. The Project also studies the institutional causes of wrongful convictions and provides remedies to reduce the frequency of future miscarriages of justice. In February 2000, *Actual Innocence: Five Days to Execution, and Other Dispatches From the Wrongly Convicted*, written by Neufeld, Scheck, and Pulitzer Prize-winning *New York Times* reporter Jim Dwyer, was published by Doubleday. Their work has shaped the course of case law across the country and helped establish state and federal legislation setting standards for forensic DNA testing. They both serve as members of the New York State Commission on Forensic Science, a body that regulates all crime laboratories in the state.

Neufeld and Scheck are partners in the law firm Cochran, Neufeld & Scheck, specializing in civil rights and constitutional litigation. Frequently retained by victims of police brutality and racial discrimination, the firm pursues civil rights claims in the courts and seeks systemic change. Some of the firm's most recent clients include Abner Louima, a Haitian immigrant tortured by New York police inside a precinct bathroom, two of the four young men racially profiled by and shot at by New Jersey state troopers, and a man beaten to death by jail guards while serving a 90-day sentence for driving while impaired.

Neufeld and Scheck have litigated and taught extensively in both the "hard" and behavioral forensic sciences. Their work has resulted in an enhanced public awareness of national problems, improvement of the criminal justice system, and legislative reform.

UMBRAGE EDITIONS, based in New York City, is a packager of high-quality visual books, traveling exhibitions, and multi-media projects. Founded in 1991 by Nan Richardson, former editor of *Aperture* and editor of over 150 books, Umbrage Editions works on the creation of content-rich books, exhibitions, websites, theatre productions, and CD-ROMs from their conception to development and final production. In the past, published works have varied in subject matter from pop culture to global human rights, from the closets of drag queens to the runways of fashion, from classic photojournalism to cutting-edge art. Umbrage traveling exhibitions have toured to venues worldwide, including: The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; The Fashion Institute of Technology, New York; The Newseum in New York, Washington D.C., and San Francisco, CA; The Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, CA; The Dayton Art Institute, OH; The Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL; The Eastman Kodak House, Rochester, NY; California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA; The Musée d'Elysee, Lausanne, Switzerland; Parc de la Villette, Paris, France; and Fototeca in Havana, Cuba.

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