

INSTALLATION



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RICHARD KRAFT

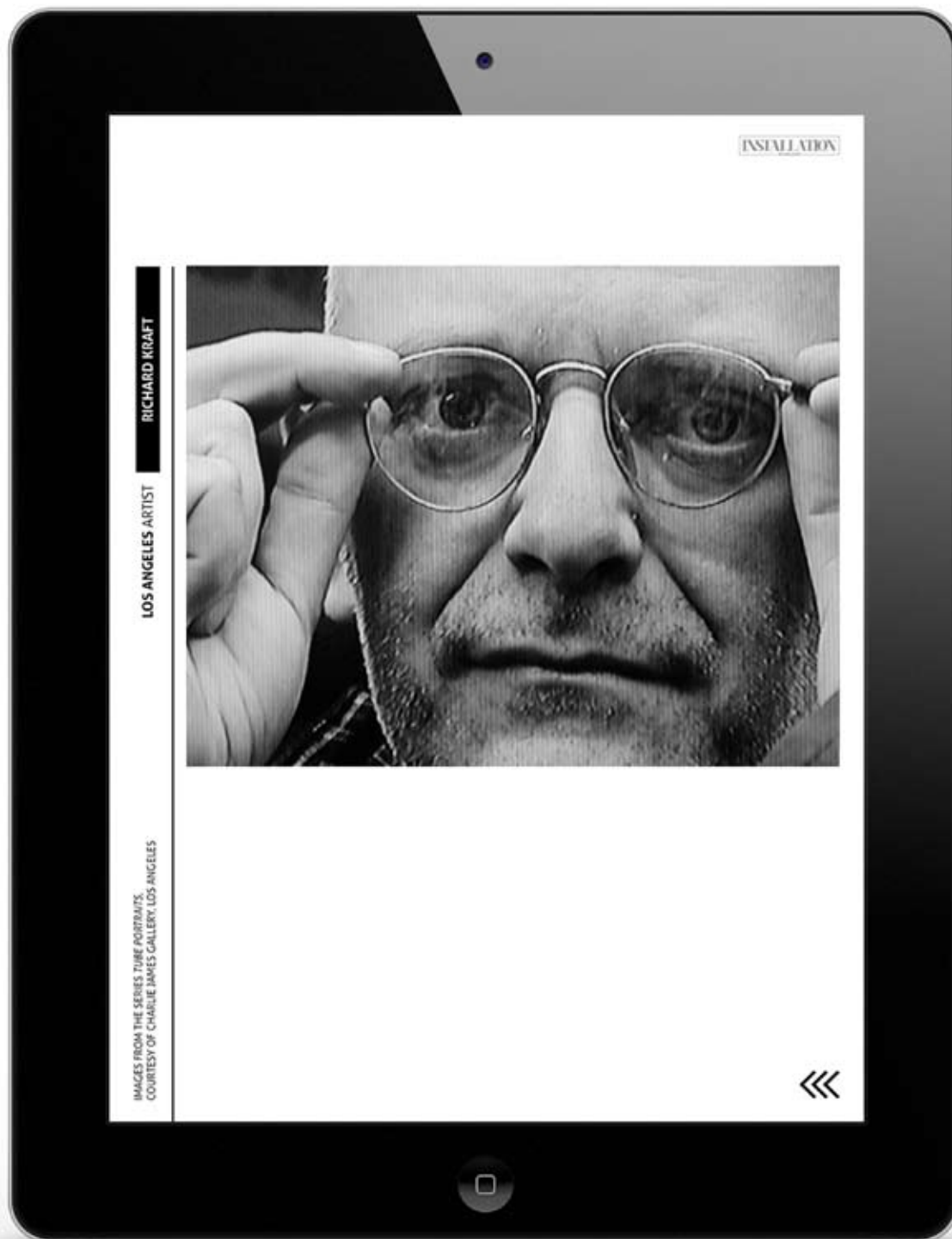
LOS ANGELES ARTIST



IMAGES FROM THE SERIES TUBE PORTRAITS.
COURTESY OF CHARLIE JAMES GALLERY, LOS ANGELES



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there's all kind of distractions around there, but I'm very fortunate to have the partner I have. It's more of coming back from travels and proceeding from my travels and not getting caught up...

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MAGAZINE

RICHARD GILLES

The urban environment is a crucible for creativity and its "distractions" are the artist's muse. What I mean by that is that urban cities are densely populated areas and it is that density that causes people and ideas to bump up against each other. It's this friction that I feel is often the genesis for real creativity.

KEN HOLDEN

Given where I am in life, my spiritual makeup and easy-going nature, I am not distracted by anything in my environment.

RICHARD KRAFT

I'm not sure I find anything distracting about my environment, although I think I'd probably say the same about New York or London. That said, I do miss the pedestrian nature of New York and London. I think I read somewhere that towards the end of his life, when he was dying of tuberculosis, Franz Kafka used to go out in Prague and stand in a line of people just to feel connected, to have some physical contact. That's a tragic story, and to be sure, a dramatic example, but it can be easy in Los Angeles to cut oneself off, to hide out in the studio and go for long stretches without any real contact with people.

MIKE MILLER

Traffic!

TIM NAVIS

The size of the city. One thing that gives a city like NYC or even San Francisco an edge over Los Angeles is their public transportation systems. They work. In Los Angeles, everyone drives and the traffic is maddening. A 20-minute commute can easily be turned into a 2-hour ordeal everyday. On the flip side, since the city is so large, no one wants to drive. Then it becomes hard to go to events, shows, etc. Also, living by the beach is biggest and best distraction one could ask for.

CATHERINE OPIE

The street racing on my block in South Central drives me crazy.

GREGG SEGAL

I don't think of my environment as distracting. The city has been the inspiration for a number of my projects, including *Freeway Close, OJ*, *The People Have Spoken* and *Echo Park*.

