

Jeffrey Saldinger

My early engagement with photography, having gone into hibernation in 1973, resurfaced in 2009, when I bought my first digital camera in order to photograph my paintings and drawings for my website.

Chemistry and library science are the fields in which I was formally educated. Much of my art education took place in the Frick Collection; the Frick Art Reference Library; the Metropolitan Museum of Art; the New York Society Library; dozens of New York galleries; the 1981/82 Guggenheim exhibition of the works of Giorgio Morandi; and the International Center of Photography's school and library.

One painting that has been as important to me as any other is Rembrandt's 1658 self-portrait (in The Frick Collection). The photographs that have most influenced my thoughts about what kinds of photographs to make are those in: Jane Livingston's *The New York School: Photographs 1936-1963*; Lisa Hosteler's *Street Scene: The Psychological Gesture in American Photography 1940-1959*; and Alistair Crawford's *Mario Giacomelli*.

I was born in Brooklyn in 1947; began to draw in 1981; and to paint in oils in 1988. My first solo exhibition (self-portrait paintings) came in 1995. The focus of my painting and drawing (and a part of my photography) has been self-portraiture.

My wife, Willa Cox, is also an artist (her website is [willacox.com](http://willacox.com)). She was raised in Hawaii and, in 1983, moved to New York for the art. Discussions with her about her works and my works and all the works we have seen together have been as important to me as any resource I mentioned in the second and third paragraphs above.

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