



Saving the World

Portraits in the Time of Corona, 2020
RJ Guillermo

“ It’s all a matter of perspective. Whether looking out from the window or the threshold of the door, family can be the ultimate escape, if you let it. Even with a toddler in tow...

Ty, Jake & Dylan
April 12, 2020
Eagle Rock, L.A., CA



“ I know we have a lot of visits, hugs, and walks on the trail ahead of us and I know I’ll appreciate all of those that much more. Until then, we have a lot love in this house, and that’s all we need.

Christina, Carlos, Diego & Joaquin
April 19, 2020
Highland Park, L.A., CA



“ Last year we spent four months completely apart and then the following four months we spent literally every day on the road together. Not to mention all the days on either side of that where we were traveling and running a business, mostly glued at the hip. Our resolution was an attempt to create space so we could each define ourselves outside of our unit. We’re still learning how to do that - just without the actual space.

Tami & Chase
April 7, 2020
West Hollywood, L.A., CA





Paradoxical. Dualistic.

Because even though we're all quarantined, everyone's experience is different. Our lives aren't too different from our regular lives, but I know others have had their lives turned upside down.

We can still talk to friends, and be just a quick call or FT away, but we're apart. Never have I noticed how much physical presence actually affects my connection towards a person. And then there are the people who insist this is all a conspiracy theory while others have been committed to flattening the curve.

Sachie & Josh
April 7, 2020
Mid-City, L.A., CA



“ These are challenging times,
for sure, but we have to
remain diligent and positive.
Lately I’ve realized more
than ever how much love
I have in my life.

It’s beautiful to witness all of the new and meaningful ways in
which humans are connecting with each other during isolation.
That small action has such a big impact and has become the
most essential part of my day. My hope is that we bring this
deepened capacity for meaningful connection with us when we
enter back into the world.

Chelsea
April 16, 2020
Santa Monica, L.A., CA



“I am so grateful to have a job in technology where I can continue to work remotely during these uncertain times. Without my normal commute to work I have more time to start DIY projects, garden, spend time with my family and wash dishes day and night.

Blue
April 24, 2020
Picfair Village, L.A., CA



“ Since we have no place to be anymore and our calendars have been wiped clean, we have way more time to spend together at home as a family. Our lives have slowed down to a much simpler, calmer pace, and I’m finding so much joy in the small moments that we otherwise wouldn’t have had.

Baily, Charlie & Archie
April 25, 2020
Mid-City, L.A., CA



“ My wife and I are both freelancers and unfortunately our jobs can't be done from home. We went from having our best year yet as sole proprietors to both being unemployed in an instant. We spend our days entertaining our two year old son. I'm also attempting to learn the guitar (for like the tenth time in my life). My goal is to learn our son's favorite song (Wagon Wheel) by the time this is all over.

Kim
April 8, 2020
Santa Monica, L.A., CA



“ I miss my family and friends.
I miss seeing and hugging
people. I have bad dreams
most nights, but some days
I wake up, grateful for any
inspiration to make someone
laugh or smile, and I’ll make
a video. It’s helped me to
connect more with people. It’s
like I’m sending a virtual hug.

Cyrina
April 10, 2020
Santa Monica, L.A., CA



“ I’m a therapist and I’m grateful that I can work from home to continue to support my clients. Many people are eager to get back to “normal,” and I’m encouraging my clients to just be in the moment.

Of course I wish the circumstances were different, but times of uncertainty are also full of possibility. It gives us a chance to reflect on what is truly important. In all of my years of practice, this is the first time that we have all faced a common threat on a global scale. We are finally starting to see that we are all, quite literally, in this thing together. And though I am feeling a complex set of emotions and, like many of my clients, have good days and bad days, I am also hopeful. I am hopeful because now we get to decide what type of world we want to consciously and collectively create moving forward.

Ilona
April 10, 2020
Venice, L.A., CA



“ There are times when it’s a challenge to work a full time job, be a full time mom, and raise a little super hero (and keep him entertained)...but we are safe, and that’s the most important thing.

Sylvia & Koa
April 11, 2020
Santa Monica, L.A., CA



“ Started off anxious, but then I started ignoring the news knowing all I can do is isolate and be careful. I’m trying to be positive and to be productive while we’re quarantined. Also, this the most I’ve hung out with my mom in years - it’s been nice.

Raymond
April 12, 2020
Playa Vista, L.A., CA



“ At first I thought, stay at home for 2 weeks - no big deal... I can do this! Then the uncertainty and the chaos of everything we're going through right now started to make me feel uneasy and a little anxious.

I'm grateful that my husband is home and I'm able to continue my nursing program virtually. We're cooking more, we're playing games, we've done some spring cleaning, we're working out and going for walks and catching up on Netflix. We miss hanging out with everyone, but we're enjoying all the new and creative ways we're able to connect with our friends and family!

Florence & Dexter
April 14, 2020
Eagle Rock, L.A., CA



“ Healthcare professionals are often the unsung and under-appreciated heroes. And right now, they are under enormous pressure being at the frontline of this pandemic. Recently retired healthcare workers (and husband/wife team), Vee and Art, reflect on their quarantine time together on a sunny afternoon and appreciate all that their fellow frontliners do as they risk their own lives to treat those sickened by the pandemic.

Vee & Art
April 18, 2020
Eagle Rock, L.A., CA



“ We chose to put a positive spin on the pandemic and the resulting quarantine.

As a result - 1 month of isolation in, we feel closer as a family and couple, we laugh a lot - especially with Maya, cook daily and savor our delivered meals more, potty trained our champ of a daughter, packed up our house for a move that we've been waiting for and we're focusing on getting ourselves ready for our incoming baby girl. We feel lucky to have delicious food and wine, each other and our health so far - we also know we ARE lucky and we're not taking it for granted for a minute.

Nadia, Anish & Maya
April 15, 2020
Playa Vista, L.A., CA



“What “stay at home” has taught me: I normally work from home, so this is not news to me. However, choosing or having to work from home are two different things and the little rebel in me is bursting at the seams.

Second, no matter what I said in the past, even with all the time in the world, I still don't like house cleaning. Third, I really, really love to cook and eat and drink good wine. Lastly, I miss hugging....so much...but I learned to skype, facetime, zoom... and be grateful for all my wonderful friends and family.

Licia
April 17, 2020
Miracle Mile, L.A., CA



“ I feel incredibly fortunate to still be working. I’m going in to the office still 3x a week (we have less than 10 in our office) and WFH 2 days. It’s helped with not feeling completely isolated and stir crazy.

I’ve had a couple of Zoom hangouts with friends from my bookclub and that I do aerial silks with. The lines at Trader Joe’s and wearing masks in public and gloves to pump gas has taken some getting used to and I wonder what the world will look like once this is all over and what adjustments will become part of our new normal. Luckily no one that I know of has tested positive and my friends and family are healthy and safe. I hope that for everyone else as well. And I look forward to the day that I can go to brunch again with friends, watch a movie in the theater with a large buttered popcorn, and go to the mountains for a long hike.

Felicity
April 20, 2020
Pasadena, L.A., CA



“ Our quarantine has been one of ups and downs. At the beginning it was nice to have my husband home with us during the day. Having 2 littles under the age of 2 and working from home can be a little overwhelming at times, so it was really nice to have him working from home too.

Then reality set in a bit more and things changed. Jobs got canceled and furloughed and so we were faced with no work for either of us. So now we are looking on the bright side of this horrible situation the world is in and taking this time to really be with each other and blend together.

Brielle & Franklin
April 22, 2020
South Pasadena, L.A., CA



“Some days I feel okay - even happy. Other days I’m filled with sadness, fear and anxiety..just waiting to see when all this will end. What I do know for certain is, I miss my family & friends terribly and look forward to going back to somewhat normal living.

Tirisha
April 13, 2020
Hollywood, L.A., CA



“ We’ve made many new friends
on long walks in our Mt.
Washington neighborhood
- despite the isolation, the
sense of community feels
heightened.

We measure our weekends by what we can discover, a new walk path, a previously hidden stair street lined with old growth plantings, a stunning view of LA from Kite Hill which has a remarkable clarity now due to the clear skies. Like many, we maintain a weekday routine: daily work schedule, walks, planning for meals a week at a time, utilizing technology for regular deliveries of the things we need. We are constantly grateful for our health, any inconveniences are easily borne as they are minor compared to what others suffer. We are concerned for family and friends here and back home in Austin and New Orleans.

Guy & Ritchie
April 21, 2020
Mt. Washington, L.A., CA



“What’s 550 sq ft. when you
spend it with the person you
love 24/7?”

It’s endless days that turn into nights, it’s time to work, making time to eat and FaceTime with our loved ones daily. Freedom to roam comes at a sacrifice and makes you appreciate the little things like hugs, sunsets on the beach and dinners with friends. We may not be together, but we are in this for one another.

Jacquelyn & Vitor
April 10, 2020
Culver City, L.A., CA



“ We practice love, kindness
(and a whole lot of patience).

Theresa & Marjo
April 13, 2020
Atwater Village, L.A., CA



“ Hitting the pause button,
like we have in quarantine,
allows us to take a step back
and assess things. This is the
perfect opportunity to reflect
and choose what is working
and what is not.

Blaine, Nancy & Desiree
Pasadena, L.A., CA



“ These Portraits have allowed me to flex my creative muscle and to document a crazy moment in our lives. We were all in fear, joy and paranoia together. And I will remember it with a deep heart every time I thumb through these images.

Thank you to everyone who indulged me with my little weekend project. I am appreciative of your time and heart. See you when I see you. Until then, we're here, and we're ok.



Francis, Jordan (3) and RJ (*photographer*) | April 24, 2020

