

Biography of Richard Mann

Born in Hollywood CA. July 20, 1944 Richard Mann, also known as Rich Mann and R Mann is the descendant of Max Goldman and Sylvia Kofsky. His Father was a multi-titled world champion professional prizefighter, were as his mother was a commercial artist. Richard shortened his name adopting his last name of Mann from his favorite renowned educator namely Horace Mann and his elementary school in Beverly Hills. Both parents were born and raised in Brooklyn New York, USA. His grandparents were European collectively originating from Russia, Poland, Germany and England. He was raised in both Hollywood, Beverly Hills and as a teenager resided at the Vista del Mar Children's Home.

In 1965, after returning home from serving in the US Naval reserves, he joined the Teamsters Local Union #728 (Motion picture studio lighting technicians) and worked in the movie industry on the television series Dragnet for three years. He later became Jack Webb's personal assistant. After Dragnet concluded, Mann joined the Teamsters local Union #705 (Costumers) and worked for the renowned Edith Head at the Western Costumer Company. Acquiring production experience and operation knowledge, he excelled as an art director with and worked for the N. Lee Lacy & Associates Commercial Production Company with notables such as the infamous Von Dutch, Ann-Margret and a host of celebrities while continuing a career in commercial film productions from where he has made his home in Venice the past forty-seven years.

Always having his mind's eye on Fine Art and photography, Mann returned to school and learned more about technically creating his own innovative imagery. He attended Santa Monica City College for three years and graduated with an Associate Of Arts degree in Fine Art Photography. Wanting to matriculate to a fine arts school, he attended CalArts (California Institute Of The Arts) in Valencia and Graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Aspiring to teach fine art photography to adult students, he attended Cal-State Fullerton University for a higher education degree and graduated with a Master of Arts (MA) majored in Photography. After returning to Venice, he taught privately in his studio for awhile and displaying his photographic art at exhibitions and galleries which lead him through the following thirty-years that established his career as a locally recognizable artist in Venice and surrounding locations. As the digital era of photography developed through its formative years and computers became more predominant in the arts, Mann returned to study digital photography, Photoshop, graphic arts, website design and computer operations at the lengthy established Venice Skills Center (VCS) from 2000 to 2015.

Art credits & publications: a photo-documentary book depicting the Venice Beach Boardwalk area (circa 1968-1979), titled "North Beach, 90291" published in 1981, depicting and recording Boardwalks at: Atlantic City New Jersey and Coney Island New York. He won numerous awards and contests for documentary and surreal-photographic compilations, installed permanent exhibits at the Venice Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library, Venice Post Office, Venice Skills Center, and the Los Angeles City Hall Art archives winning with a watercolor painting, music album covers, numerous fine art drawings, oil paintings and photography installations throughout the Venice and surrounding communities.

Future projects include: singularly recording worldly boardwalks and amusements and combining 9-12 linear panoramas into one compilation, a series of current documentary, conceptual, experimental infrared photography and mixed combined images.

Websites: www.rvmann.com and www.rvmann.biz.

Art representative; "Mittel's Art Center" located in Venice CA. <http://mittels.net>.