

Images from the installation *Family Snaps* by Renee Cox

File name: Man Lifting Child

(Please note: These individual photographs do not have formal titles.)

In this photograph, Cox's elder son, Ziggy (aka, Alexander), is embraced by his paternal grandfather, Jean-Paul. The scene takes place at Jean-Paul's home outside Paris, where Cox and her husband and children, who live in New York City, are regular visitors. Ziggy, wearing a red jumpsuit and red socks, is approximately nine months old. This photograph captures one of his first visits to France, where his father Nicholas, Cox's husband, was born and grew up, and where his grandparents live. (Approximate date: 1990)

File name: Beach Scene

This image shows Cox, center, having fun with her son, Ziggy, and two close girlfriends at East Hampton Main Beach outside of New York City. Cox wears an oversized straw Mad Hatter-style hat, custom made for her and inspired by 1980s London fashions that revived Victorian attire including the top hat. Like Cox, her girlfriends Montgomery and Nadja are artists (a designer and filmmaker). Four-year-old Ziggy stands in front of his mother; Cox is pregnant with her younger son, Tosh (aka, Julian). (Approximate date: 1993.)

File name: Couple BW photo

This photograph, taken approximately 50 years ago, shows Cox's youngest and favorite uncle with his girlfriend at the time. Cox's uncle, who is in his 80s today, lives in Jamaica, where Cox was born, and works as a lawyer. Growing up, Cox's relationship with her uncle became somewhat strained following an argument about money between her father and her uncle, after which the two men did not speak for 30 years. Despite this, Cox maintained a strong connection with her uncle as a young adult by seeing him during his visits to New York City, where she grew up after her parents moved to the U.S. from Jamaica during her early childhood. Cox's father and uncle resolved their dispute three months before Cox's father died.

File name: Classroom

This photograph pictures Cox's third or fourth grade class at a conservative Catholic school in the New York City area. Cox, the only black child in the classroom, stands in the back row. Cox recalls Catholic school as a strict environment, where her gregarious personality was out of place. She recalls often being required to stay behind after class and write 100 times on the chalkboard, "I will not talk in class," and being reprimanded with Mother Superior's pinching grasp under her chin. After fourth grade, Cox attended a boarding school in Jamaica. (Approximate date: 1970.)