



IQVINDER SINGH
EVERYTHING'S
FINE IN
CHINATOWN

Artist statement

My work actually started with the stories of Sikhs in California, particularly the farmers in Central Valley. I was curious about the how and why they migrated to North America. In this process, I discovered that their stories were very similar to the Chinese, Mexicans, and other immigrants who made America their new home. So my narrow focus shifted from documenting the Sikhs alone to documenting other races as well who migrated to North America.

"Everything's Fine in Chinatown" is just one series from my bigger project called "People of Color". My hope is to continue with traveling shows focusing on different ethnic groups. "Everything's Fine in Chinatown" was perfect for the San Francisco Bay Area because it has one of the biggest Chinese populations in North America.

Everything's Fine in Chinatown is an observation of the everyday lives and culture of Chinatowns throughout the U.S.A. I had the opportunity to work all over the country and I was always very interested in how different ethnic groups settled down in America without losing their cultural identity. Although I photographed many other ethnic groups like Mexicans, Indians, Japanese, and Hmongs, I was always very intrigued by the Chinese.

Chinese, particularly the ones living and working in Chinatowns, held on to their cultural identity like no other ethnic group. Regardless of what goes on in the world, there never seems to be any politics in Chinatown. It's always business as usual.

There's a blend of old, new, and hints of the future in Chinatown. It's a mashup of everything you want in one place: restaurants, art galleries, temples/churches, schools, tourism, etc. My goal with these photographs is to not only capture life as it exists today but also document the changes that are brewing in the background.









































