

CARLOS AND JASON SANCHEZ

Ages: 30 and 26

Location: Montreal, Canada

Website: thesanchezbrothers.com

The Sanchez brothers are a photographic duo that specializes in highly cinematic, emotionally charged images. "Working collaboratively came naturally," says Jason Sanchez. "We make a good team and understand each other's visions. We work on all aspects together—there isn't one of us who specifically does something that the other doesn't."

The brothers create elaborate, large-scale mise-en-scènes that sometimes take months to finish, from set construction through final C-prints. "We try to plan out as much as we can before a shoot," Jason says. "When we work on location we are at the mercy of more uncontrollable forces—especially the weather—but in the studio we can control the environment and create whatever situation and mood we are looking for."

Works such as "The Hurried Child" (left) rely on a tension between provocative titles and enigmatic content, often with disturbing undertones about eerie childhood experiences. "Actually, our childhood was extremely normal," recalls Carlos Sanchez. "It's just that we don't like looking at, or creating, art if it doesn't have an edge."

The duo's work has begun to attract art-world attention in Canada, Europe, and the United States, garnering numerous awards and grants and appearing in exhibitions in New York, Amsterdam, Montreal, and other cities. Like other theatrical stylists such as Gregory Crewdson, the Sanchez brothers cite filmmaker David Lynch as a key influence. "With each of our images we try to create a connection with our viewers—something that will stay with them after they've seen the work," Jason says. "As Lynch and other great artists do, we work hard to orchestrate the elements within our images to create a lasting experience." —J.C.

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