

Photography for Ago Panini is a means of giving form to uncharted feelings, an extension of the act of looking when the image ceases to be mere photocopied reality, along with its documentation of simple facts and its elements of truth. Ago Panini's photography is reality seen through the unseen eyes of the subject, invariably pictured from behind. It endlessly resolves and transforms itself into multiple narrative opportunities, investigating what is not immediately apparent and shining a light into its darkness. In a recent interview the photographer/artist explained: "When shooting 'backies' I deliberately keep the subject's features and actions hidden, denying the spectator any type of self-celebratory image, like the overexposed use of the face and its contingent expressive force. I think the 'backie' helps us relocate the visual elements inside the pictures by re-placing them where they should be. Notwithstanding the viewer's point of view being the subject's back, specific photographic content remains intact. The subject's presence remains fully potential, but true identity is never fully revealed, and what remains is only a random collection of moments in time. It's like having just the beginning of a story, it remains for us to fill in the blanks and choose the path we want to follow. In so doing, we are led to discover many of the things which make our lives worth living".

Denis Curti