Written by Carlos Darío Albornoz
Traditional arts and crafts in extinction
Tucumán, Argentina – 2004
Installation of contemporary daguerreotypes
This work was funded by a grant from the Simon Guggenheim Foundation that I was awarded in 2004.
These are 14 daguerreotypes of 9 x 12 cm. mounted on lighted wooden artifacts.

Daguerreotypes

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These are portraits of craftsmen that still practice trades that are on the verge of extinction due to new technologies and new ways of marketing. It has been a long process of losing old knowledge and traditional tools. These formerly common activities are increasingly disappearing.

Some of these characters are the only remaining practitioners of their trade, like the photographer of the plaza or the milkman, who have been driven out of business by the growing demand or the death of the tradesmen themselves.





