

TEENAGE

JOSEPH SZABO

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Photographer Joseph Szabo's subject is adolescence; His rare gift is capturing the spirit of his students at Malverne High School, caught between puberty and the precipice of adulthood. Taken in the seventies and eighties, the photographs represent a remarkable evocation of that period and yet there is something timeless and endlessly compelling about Szabo's portrait of almost adulthood. Some kids are painfully self-conscious, others are self-assured beyond their years - All have allowed Szabo the unique trust of seeing them as they are.

The fine line between intimacy and exploitation that other photographers approach is not in evidence here - Szabo has no agenda beyond the recording of these moments of extreme loveliness, bravado and confusion.

Joseph Szabo was born in Toledo, Ohio in 1944. He studied photography at the Pratt Institute where he received his MFA. He taught photography at Malverne High School in Long Island, New York from 1972 to 1999. He continues to teach at the International Center of Photography. Joseph Szabo is the recipient of an NEA Visual Arts Fellowship. His work resides in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art, Yale University, The International Center of Photography and the New York National Library, among others.