



## **an unabashed exploration of the plain, ordinary, mysterious matter of vaginas**

### **about vagina vérité®**

Since Sept. 2000, Alexandra Jacoby has been capturing a glimpse of women's most private selves. So private that most women haven't seen their own, much less other's.

She's been making vagina portraits.

The v-portraits are close-up, no details about the model to set the mood for fantasy—just the elusive faces of the vagina in plain view. So women can see ourselves for ourselves.

vagina vérité® celebrates the individuality and the beauty of all women.

Jacoby has made 70 vagina portraits to date and has presented several preview exhibitions. She has also developed a website, where you'll find a wide range of vagina-related topics.

### **about participating and viewing**

From vagina first-times (women's and men's) and vagina names, to vagina-style (as in hair-styles) and vagina plastic surgery, to menstruation and contraception and gynecologist experiences, to—of course: do you like the way your vagina looks?—there are over a 1000 pages of questionnaire-responses that you can read, or add to, on [vaginaverite.com](http://vaginaverite.com).

Jacoby is currently seeking an exhibition space. Email her at [alexandra@vaginaverite.com](mailto:alexandra@vaginaverite.com) if you would like to be notified when the next exhibition is set, or if you have a space to suggest.

In between exhibitions, Jacoby has the v-portraits installed in her living room and welcomes viewers, as well as holds a monthly salon, where small groups can view the v-portraits and talk. Email [preview@vaginaverite.com](mailto:preview@vaginaverite.com) to be added to the v-Salon email list.

**email:** [alexandra@leavethecastle.com](mailto:alexandra@leavethecastle.com)

**website:** [www.vaginaverite.com](http://www.vaginaverite.com)

### **on making a v-portrait**

The v-portraits for vagina vérité® are digital, documentary-style color photographs.

If you're interested in participating, here's how it goes -

A photo-session takes half an hour or so, and you can see preliminary images right after, as well as view all the other v-portraits.

I photograph in my apartment and use my bed as the platform. The position is similar to a gynecological exam, only no stirrups (and no speculum!). And, no gown - you'll just undress from the waist down. Or if you like, you can wear a long, loose skirt that you'll push up to your waist.

I don't have any assistants, so it's just us.

The camera will be on a tripod at the end of the bed, with me behind it and I'll turn on two very bright, very warm lights.

There will be a fresh towel on the bed and some pillows. You'll lay back, and I'll ask you to scoot forward, so that your bottom is at the end of the bed. You'll bend your knees, placing your feet flat (there is an edge to the bed where you can rest your feet) and spread your knees apart. I'll let you know whether I have a good view, and you'll let me know when you're set in a comfortable position.

Then I'll adjust camera settings for lighting (the settings vary depending on skin tone and ambient light) and click off a number of images, checking them on the camera's screen in between, until I feel that we've got it.

Probably, we'll be talking the whole time.

There is a release to sign, where you give me the right to use your images, and verify your identity and that you are of age. You'll bring a form of ID (driver's license, passport, etc.), and note down the ID# on the release. In the release, I also affirm that your identity will remain confidential.

And, if you'd like a print of your v-portrait, I'll mail you one when it's ready. —Alexandra