

## **ANDY - More Than a Friend**

**by Christopher Makos**

I started taking photographs of Andy just because I didn't know what else to do. I have always been an anxious person, and when I don't know what to do, I start find a way out of my anxiousness. In this case, Andy wasn't that verbal, so it made me start taking pictures of him during our times together. He was a willing subject and I was an eager photographer, so it was a perfect match. A lot of the photographs are those special moments between special people that usually are only captured with friends. In our case, being that we all had illustrious friends, the photographs became more than personal snapshots.

Of course my portraits of Andy where he is being a model were some of his favorites, because it gave him the self-image that he never had: that of being attractive. My "Altered Image" series is a project that we had lots of fun working on together because we trusted each other with intimate and important parts of ourselves, and we let it happen. When I talk about "Altered Image" I always refer to the famous Man Ray and Marcel Duchamp collaboration "Rose Sélavy" as part of the provenance, and I hear Andy saying "Gee, that's great."

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