To Charlotte photographer Mitchell Kearney, a portrait is a series of visual cues, indicators of emotions and gestures which combine to create a mood. Kearney’s large-scale, vivid portraits explore the dichotomy between the presentness of the image and his personal relationship to the subject - sometimes known for only minutes or others developed for half a lifetime. The exhibition “Inside Out” shares this intimate viewpoint the artist encapsulates in the image at a “moment of revelation.”

Kearney, a native New Yorker, earned his B.F.A. at the School of Visual Arts in New York City. He then began his commercial photography career working by day for Len Prince Photography on assignments for Cartier Jewelry including Louie Cartier’s Art-Deco originals. After hours, he captured the beginnings of New York City’s Punk Rock music scene in the mid to late 1970’s. Opening his first photo-studio in Charlotte in 1983, Kearney established a highly successful career photographing commercial assignments, along with creating multimedia presentations and fine art print editions.