

# The Glitz and Glamour

## Photos by Priscilla

By JEANETTE CASILLAS / CASA

**W**ITH SOMETHING ALWAYS ON HER MIND and more than likely a camera

in hand, Priscilla has garnered thousands of photos of people and celebrities, some of which are on display at CASA Magazine through February.

"SBIFF has introduced many great talents to Santa Barbara. Once a year when that red carpet greets favorite celebrities, I find myself among the pool of photographers clamoring for 'that shot,'" Priscilla shared.

"Not one of my favorite atmospheres, but we all have that opportunity so we do our best . . . I try and capture a different bit of spontaneity."

Priscilla's *Celebrities* is the first show of her career and features over 45 photos of celebrities that she's encountered at the SB International Film Festival and other events. "This show brought out many emotions for me," Priscilla shared. Priscilla (who doesn't use a surname) hadn't been involved in a career since her twenties until she took up photography. The fact that she was able to develop one later in her life, and succeed in it, leaves her with

"a sense of accomplishment." Getting her work together for the exhibit, took a lot of work, but Priscilla appreciated and enjoyed the company of the people that contributed to making the show possible.

For Priscilla photography is a "joy," not a job. She started her business, Photos by Priscilla, about three years ago, when she received her business license.

"That's when photography changed from being just a hobby," Priscilla added.

Her friend and mentor Roberto says that Priscilla never leaves home without a camera.

"I have taken so

many shots that my library has become very extensive... There is so much to capture," Priscilla continued.

Born and raised in Santa Barbara, Priscilla calls Santa Barbara her home and describes it as "a very charitable community, where everyone can help

someone in some way to make their life more pleasant."

Priscilla's son, Cecil, unknowingly contributed to the start of her career in photography by buying her a digital camera when they first came on the market. "I still have it, it's a Sony Mavica," Priscilla recalled. Priscilla realized that she did not have many photos of her childhood, and that they were "precious memories lost, that can't be visibly shared." She also recalled that one of her first photo shoots was when the American Heart Association forgot to book a photographer for one of their events, so she volunteered to fill in. "That's where my career seemed to take off," Priscilla said.

Priscilla has always had a special interest in children, and with the encouragement of Helen Jepsen and Dan Kass, is able to use her creative talents with the Kids 1st Foundation, whose goal it is to build high self esteem



Photo by Rick Carter

Priscilla



Leonard Maltin; Will Smith, Modern Master, with Tom Cruise at the 2007 SBIFF by Priscilla



Hellen Mirren at the 2007 SBIFF by Priscilla

and confidence in children along with the education of healthy food habits.

"It has been exceptionally gratifying being published in Santa Barbara's local media and magazines as well as internationally," she said. Along the way she has met some fascinating people.

"For me, this is all a wonderful part of my life and there is so much more to do," Priscilla concluded.

See more photos by Priscilla at [santabarbaraseen.com](http://santabarbaraseen.com). Contact her at 969-3301 or [priscilla@santabarbaraseen.com](mailto:priscilla@santabarbaraseen.com).