

**Daniel Terna**

## **MY FIRST WIFE STELLA**

*My First Wife Stella* is a project consisting of Kodachrome slides made by my father while traveling on California's Route 1 with his first wife Stella during the 1960s, and of photographs that I took of travelers, musicians, school teachers, pot growers, and Occupiers during a road trip in 2011, in which I retraced some of the route that they took together. Both my father and Stella survived the Holocaust.

The project addresses the unanswerable questions of family archives, survivors of the Holocaust in post-WWII America, the class distinctions and varying desires of today's American tourist, and young liberal idealists searching for footing during a recession.

Just before I left for my trip, I wrote down some questions for my father. Below is an abridged version of the email that he sent to me while I was traveling.

\*Interview featured in Issue One of Big Big Wednesday.

