



5 Continents Editions srl  
Piazza Caiazzo, 1  
20104 Milano  
T. +39 02 33603276  
info@fivecontinentseditions.com

## LOVING II

MORE PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF MEN IN LOVE 1850S-1950S

*Texts by Hugh Nini & Neal Treadwell. With an essay by Laura Leonelli*

*Loving: A Photographic History of Men in Love, 1850s–1950s*, was published in 2020 at the height of the pandemic. Despite that, the first US printing sold out in six weeks, and the response to the book – available in five languages – was overwhelming and emotional. Five years and multiple printings later, *Loving* remains a best-seller. For *Loving*, the collectors drew from two thousand photographs; now, in 2025, more than twenty-five years after they purchased their first picture, the collection has four thousand images. It seems logical then – even necessary – to publish a new volume with all new photographs from those acquired since 2019.

*Loving II* continues with more stunning vintage vernacular photographs of romantic male couples, with all the emotional power of the first book intact. This new selection continues the story of the unadulterated joy – longed for by all of us and recognisable to anyone – of being in love.

As with the first *Loving*, these photographs and what they convey, whether directly in an embrace or more subtly in a furtive touch, move – in fact change – those who encounter them. Indeed, anyone who has ever loved will identify with the elation – and peace – that these couples share. The collecting criteria have not changed: starting from the earliest years of photography and continuing through the 1950s, the Nini-Treadwell archive includes daguerreotypes, silver gelatin prints, tintypes, ambrotypes, snapshots, and many more – a historical capsule of a century of photographic technique. The subjects come from all walks of life: soldiers, farmers, students, young and old, poor and affluent.

Their creation happened between loving couples from all around the world. Each photo is the story of two told in an instant.

Native Texans, collectors **Hugh Nini & Neal Treadwell** are arts professional currently living in New York City. Their collection has grown over a period of twenty-five years to include more than four thousand images.

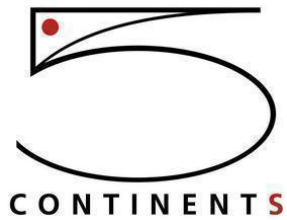
**Laura Leonelli** is a journalist, photographer, and photography historian who contributes to the cultural supplement of *Il Sole 24 Ore*, *Arte*, and *AD*. She has published several books and has studied and collected anonymous, or “vernacular”, photography for many years.

[‘Photographs of Men in Love’ exhibition comes to Australia | ONews Australia](#)

[Photographs of Men in Love exhibition reveals public glimpses of forbidden love | ABC Australian Broadcasting Corporation](#)

[LOVING | ArtsHub Australia](#)

[LOVING: Photographs of Men in Love 1850s to 1950s | City of Melbourne](#)



5 Continents Editions srl

Piazza Caiazzo, 1

20104 Milano

T. +39 02 33603276

info@fivecontinentseditions.com

---

['LOVING II' uncovers a century of forbidden gay love in photos | Xtramagazine.com](#)

[New Photo Book Continues Couples Quest to Authenticate Queer Love through the Centuries | OulturVultur](#)

[The Full Story: Hugh Nini and Neal Treadwell Reveal the Secrets of 'Loving II' | Substack by Killian Melloy](#)

[Love through a lens: 10 epic images of gay couples in love from 1850s-1950s | Attitude](#)

[Loving II: See vintage photos of men in love | OUT.com](#)

[Loving II Reveals Hidden Photographic History of Gay Men in Love, 1850s–1950s | Fox4 Morning News](#)

['Loving II' – Hugh Nini and Neal Treadwell's second photobook shows more affectionate men through history | Bay Area Reporter, San Francisco](#)

[Preserving historical Queer love: A conversation with the Gay authors of Loving II | Seattle and The Pacific Northwest's LGBTQIA+](#)