

# GIOVANNI LANNI

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Giovanni Lanni, *Superjet* (2011)

Giovanni Lanni is a third-year student in Concordia's BFA in Photography program. He has worked professionally as a wedding and event photographer while pursuing his degree. Born in Montreal to Italian parents, Lanni identifies closely with his culture and his family. He draws on these associations in his photographic practice, which focuses to a large degree upon those individuals and places closest to him.

A person who deeply values his relationships, Giovanni considers his photographs of friends and family a form of self-portraiture. His images of Italian family dinners with relatives seated closely around a feast-laden table, wedding parties of people of all ages dancing, drinking and celebrating, and groupings of his close friends engaged in conversation, in familiar places, reveal to the viewer not only with whom this photographer associates, but the very people who are his livelihood.

Giovanni Lanni's photograph, *Superjet* (2011), taken from a car interior from the passenger's point of view depicts the parking lot of a strip mall at night. The tail lights of a white limousine and a grey sedan flash red in the headlights of the photographer's car, mirrored in an abstracted blur on its hood. A yellow, half-lit sign for a *dépanneur* echoes the white and yellow van parked beneath it, both partially cloaked in the evening's darkness. Bright, white fluorescent light glows from within the barred glass of the *dépanneur*, behind advertisements placarded on its windows. The first stop of a party night, the scene before the car represents its beginning; the blurred, frenetic image reflected in its hood foretells its ending.