

Sue Gallo Baugher and
Faye Gallo, Twinsburg, Ohio



Idesha and Mikayla Preston,
8 Years Old, Idesha Older by
10 Minutes, Twinsburg, Ohio



Sue Gallo Baugher and Faye Gallo,
Twinsburg, Ohio, 1998 (printed later)

Idesha and Mikayla Preston, 8 Years Old,
Idesha Older by 10 Minutes, Twinsburg, Ohio,
2002

Double Trouble

Mary Ellen Mark (1940–2015) began taking portraits at the annual Twins Days Festival in Twinsburg, Ohio, in 1998. She also interviewed her subjects, producing transcripts that reveal the joys and struggles of being a multiple.

Take a closer look

Mark experimented with different cameras before falling in love with results of a large-format Polaroid, which doesn't produce a negative. The Gallo image can be reprinted while the Preston print is one of a kind.

Something to talk about

Consider the figures, taking in the details of their clothing, postures, and expressions. What makes these “identical” twins unique?

In her own words

“I'm always looking for something that's a little on the strange side, some kind of tension or a feeling that is slightly off-putting.”

Mary Ellen Mark, *Sue Gallo Baugher and Faye Gallo, Twinsburg, Ohio, 1998* (printed later); Gelatin silver print, 20 x 16 inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of Frieder K. Hofmann

Mary Ellen Mark, *Idesha and Mikayla Preston, 8 Years Old, Idesha Older by 10 Minutes, Twinsburg, Ohio, 2002*; Polaroid, 28¾ x 22 inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of Jill and Jeffrey Stern; © Mary Ellen Mark/The Mary Ellen Mark Foundation

