David Corio was born in London, England, in 1960. He began his professional career in 1978 taking photographs for New Musical Express, followed by The Face, Time Out, and Black Echoes, covering a wide range of music and portraiture. After a stint as a music writer at City Limits, he worked as a freelance photographer for the Daily Telegraph, The Times, Q, Theatre Royal Stratford, and Greensleeves Records, among others.

David's photographs have been exhibited at the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Photographer's Gallery, and the Special Photographers Gallery in London; the Brownwyn Keenan Gallery and the Jack Shainman Gallery in New York; Number One Gallery in Dublin and in Osaka, Japan, Malaysia and Hong Kong.

David has lived and worked in London and New York City, and his work has been published in the New York Times, The Times, the Telegraph, Rolling Stone, Q and Mojo. He has also worked for the School of Visual Arts, the Swedish Institute, New Jersey Institute of Technology, the Institute for Electronic and Electrical Engineers, Greensleeves Records, VP Records, Heartbeat Records, Universal Music Group, EMI and Island Records.

A comprehensive collection of David's photographs of black musicians was published in The Black Chord (Universe, 1999, text by Vivien Goldman). Megaliths, a 14-year project photographing the prehistoric standing stones of England and Wales, with text by Lai Ngan Corio, was published by Jonathan Cape/Random House in 2003. The Couture Accessory (text by Caroline Rennolds Milbank, styling by Lai Ngan Corio) a book of haute couture accessories was published by Abrams in 2002.