

PRESENTATION
HOUSE
GALLERY

March 15 to April 20, 2008

LISETTE MODEL AND HER SUCCESSORS



Lisette Model, *Coney Island, Standing*, 1942.

Courtesy HASTED HUNT, New York, and Baudoin Lebon Gallery,
Paris/Keitelman Gallery, Brussels.

Presentation House Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition that brings together a selection of vintage works by Lisette Model—one of the last century's most significant photographers—and thirteen of her students, each of whom went on to leave their own marks on photographic history: Diane Arbus, Bruce Cratsley, Lynn Davis, Elaine Ellman, Larry Fink, Peter Hujar, Raymond Jacobs, Ruth Kaplan, Leon Levinstein, Eva Rubinstein, Gary Schneider, Rosalind Solomon, and Bruce Weber.

Lisette Model (1901–1983) was as elegant as she was profane—a woman whose searing images and eloquent teachings have influenced a host of photographers, including the star-studded roster featured in this exhibition. Model's early photographs of rich idlers on Nice's Promenade des Anglais in the 1930s clearly indicate her edgy, indelible point of view. Later, she would employ her singular vision to portray America at all social levels, from bathers at Coney Island to jazz club performers to elegant shoppers on New York's Fifth Avenue.

After moving to New York Model was associated with Harper's Bazaar from 1941 to 1955. Her first assignment from renowned art director Alexey Brodovitch to photograph Coney Island resulted in one of her most famous images—an enormous, joyful woman in a black bathing suit, crouching forward with hands on knees, planted majestically on the sand with the surf roaring behind her. The accompanying caption read: "Coney Island Today, the Bathing Paradise of Billions—where fun is still on a gigantic scale."

Model started teaching in 1949 and joined the faculty of the New School for Social Research, New York, in the spring of 1951. Her two courses in the first year were titled "The Function of the Small Camera in Photography Today" and "Photographing New York and its People." Model's best known pupil was Diane Arbus, who studied under her in 1957, and owed much of her early technique to Model's example. Model continued to teach up until her death in 1983.

The broadest and most revealing survey of its kind, *Lisette Model and Her Successors* is curated by Diana Edkins and Larry Fink.

APERTURE, A not-for-profit organization devoted to photography and the visual arts, has organized this traveling exhibition and produced the accompanying publications.

Press contact: Diane Evans, 604-986-1351, devans@presentationhousegall.com

Opening Reception: Friday, March 14 at 7pm

Artist Talk & Book Signing: ROSALIND SOLOMON

Thursday, March 13 at 730pm

At Emily Carr Institute

Lecture Rm 301, South Building

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LISETTE MODEL AND HER SUCCESSORS

Artist Talk by Rosalind Solomon

Thursday, March 13 at 730pm

Emily Carr Institute, 1399 Johnston St, Rm 301, South Building

All images on this page are vintage prints by Lisette Model and courtesy HASTED HUNT, New York, and Baudoin Lebon Gallery, Paris/Keitelman Gallery, Brussels

Image Titles clockwise from top right: Fashion Show, Hotel Pierre, c. 1957. Promenade des Anglais, 1937. World War II Rally, Lower East Side, New York c. 1943. San Francisco, c. 1947.



HER SUCCESSORS

Image credits clockwise from top left:

Larry Fink, *Jean Sabatine and Molly*, January 1983.
Courtesy of the artist.

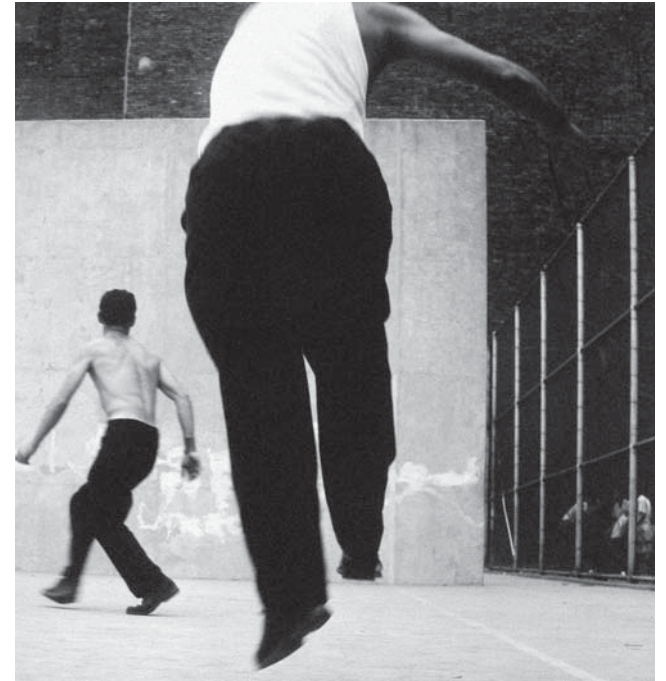
Leon Levinstein, *Houston Street, New York*, c. 1969.
Courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery, New York.

Ruth Kaplan, *Mineral Pool, Marienbad, Czech Republic*, 1994, © Ruth Kaplan. Courtesy of Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto.

Bruce Weber, *Louise Bourgeois, New York City*, 1997. Courtesy the artist.

Rosalind Solomon, *"The Troubles," West Belfast, Northern Ireland*, 1990; (from the series *Survivors*).
Courtesy Silverstein Photography, New York.

Other artists in the show not represented here are Diane Arbus, Bruce Cratsley, Lynn Davis, Elaine Ellman, Peter Hujar, Raymond Jacobs, Eva Rubenstein and Gary Schneider.



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Rosalind Solomon, "The Troubles," West Belfast, Northern Ireland, 1990; (from the series Survivors)
Courtesy Silverstein Photography, New York

Artist's Talk with ROSALIND SOLOMON

In conjunction with the exhibition:
LISETTE MODEL AND HER SUCCESSORS
at Presentation House Gallery, North Vancouver

Thursday, March 13th, 2008 at 7:30 PM

at Lecture Theatre 301, South Building
Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design

Taking up her camera for the first time when she was 38, Rosalind Solomon began intermittent studies in New York with renowned photographer Lisette Model. At the time she photographed damaged dolls, and people at a market in Scottsboro, Alabama. Within two years she would find herself exhibiting at the Museum of Modern Art. Since then she has photographed around the world; at the Baroness Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in the Guatemala Highlands to photograph rural people and rituals, politicians in Washington, DC, Indian Festivals in Southeast Asia, AIDS patients in the USA, Buddhist temples in Katmandu, New York street portraits. Her travels have included Peru, Brazil, Nepal, Poland, Yugoslavia, Cambodia, Cuba, South Africa, Ireland, Israel and Jordan and many other countries.

"Like Diane Arbus and Lisette Model (who was Solomon's, as well as Arbus's teacher), Solomon makes no apparent effort to ingratiate herself with either her subjects or her viewers. The portraits share an inquisitive, almost anthropological approach that is determinedly unsentimental but not unsympathetic. She regards a young man whose face is splotched with lesions of Kaposi's sarcoma, a pregnant panhandler, a gaggle of gray-haired Princeton alumni and several remarkable children with a volatile mix of caution and concern."

The New Yorker, May 29, 2006

People and their relationships with each other are the focal point of Solomon's work. Her images show well-known and ordinary people as they go about their daily lives and celebrate at parties, privately and publicly. Cultural and social contrasts characterize the images, captured during numerous trips she has taken around the world. The pictures tell stories of rootedness and loneliness, poverty and affluence, moments of hope and happiness.

She has had many solo and group exhibitions in galleries worldwide; The Corcoran Gallery of Art, George Eastman House, Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Galerie Zabriskie, Paris, Ikona Gallery, Italy, the National Portrait Gallery and Centre Georges Pompidou. Solomon has been the recipient of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies Fellowships, National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, and Art Matters Inc.

Solomon has been published in numerous anthologies and monographs. Copies of her recent publications *Polish Shadow* and *Chapalingas* will be available for purchase. She will be available to sign her books after the lecture.

Press images and interviews can be arranged by calling Diane Evans, 604-986-1351

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