

FRAENKEL

HELEN LEVITT

31 August 1913 – 29 March 2009

Born in Brooklyn, New York

AWARDS

2007

Spectrum Photography Prize, Sprengel Museum, Hanover, Germany

2004

National Lifetime Achievement Award, Women's Caucus for Art

1997

Master of Photography Award, International Center of Photography, New York, NY

Outstanding Achievement in Humanistic Photography, Photographic Administrators, Inc.

1995

Doctor of Fine Arts, h. c., Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

1987

Friends of Photography Peer Award for Distinguished Career in Photography

1981

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship

1976

National Endowment for the Arts Photography Fellowship

1974

New York State Council for the Arts (CAPS) Fellowship

1964

Ford Foundation Fellowship (for filmmaking)

1960

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship

1959

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship

1946

Museum of Modern Art Photography Fellowship

SELECTED INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

2025

Helen Levitt, Fundación MAPFRE, Barcelona, Spain

2009

A Memorial Tribute, Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY

2008

In the Street, Foam Fotografiemuseum Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2007

Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, Paris, France

2005

Slide Show, Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY

2004

Art & Utopia: Limited Action, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nantes, Nantes, France

Art & Utopia: Limited Action, Museo d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

Vintage Graffiti, Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY

1999

Paul Kopeikin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

1998

Rupertinum, Salzburg, Austria

Festspielgalerie, Berlin, Germany

Museum Villa Stuck, Munich, Germany (catalogue)

Musee de L'Elysee, Lausanne, Switzerland

Gibson Gallery, Seattle, WA

Sabine Smidt Gallery, Cologne, Germany

1997

Crosstown, International Center of Photography, New York, NY
Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, AZ
Documenta X, Kassel, Germany
Duke University, Durham, NC
Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA

1996

Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY

1995

Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto, Canada
Peter Fetterman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Sandra Berler Gallery, Chevy Chase, MD

1994

Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Paul Kopeikin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Diputación Provincial, Granada, Spain (catalog)

1993

Ehlers Caudill Gallery, Chicago, IL
Helen Levitt & Mary Ellen Mark, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
Zelda Cheatle Gallery, London, England

1992

Dean Jensen Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY
Helen Levitt, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA & Metropolitan
Museum of Art, New York, NY; traveled to National Museum of American Art,
Washington, DC; Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI; Art Institute of Chicago,
Chicago, IL; Presentation House Gallery, Vancouver, Canada; Seattle Art Museum,
Seattle, WA; Utah Museum of Arts, Salt Lake City, UT; Los Angeles County Museum
of Art, Los Angeles, CA

1991

Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY

1990

Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Sandra Berler Gallery, Chevy Chase, MD

1989

Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH
Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY

1988

Photographers Gallery, London, England

1987

International Center of Photography, New York, NY
Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY

1986

Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Robert Menschel Photography Gallery, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
Film in the Cities, St. Paul, MN

1985

Fotografiska Museet, Stockholm, Sweden

1984

Robert Klein Gallery, Boston, MA
Blue Sky Gallery, Portland, OR
Camera Obscura, Tel Aviv, Israel

1983

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

1982

Ikona Gallery, Venice, Italy
Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA

1981

University Art Museum, Berkeley, CA
Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT

1980

Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, NY (catalog)

Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC (catalog)
Grossmont College, El Cajon, CA (catalog)

1977

Carlton Gallery, New York, NY

1976

Nexus Gallery, Atlanta, GA

1974

Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

1974

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1957

Museum of the City of New York, New York, NY

1952

Institute of Design, Chicago, IL (with Frederick Sommer)

1943

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026

Women Photographers 1900-1975, A Legacy of Light, National Gallery of Victoria,
Southbank, Australia

2025

FRAMED: American urban photography 1907–2012, Lillehammer Art Museum, Norway

Louis Faurer/Helen Levitt: New York City, 1940s–1988, Deborah Bell Photographs,
New York

Dynamic Duos, Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, MA

Faces in the Crowd: Street Photography, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

2024

When Images Learned to Speak: Conceptualised Documentary Photography from Astrid

Ullens De Schooten Whetnall's Collection, The Recontres d'Arles, Arles, France

Fragile Beauty: Photographs from the Sir Elton John and David Furnish Collection, V&A
South Kensington, London, United Kingdom

2023

Modern Women/Modern Vision: Photography from the Bank of America Collection, Taft
Museum, Cincinnati, OH

2022

Responsibility to Reveal: 30 Years of The Knight Purchase Award for Photographic Media,
Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH

2007

That 70s Show: New York City in the 1970s, Powerhouse Arena, Brooklyn, NY

1998

New York School of Photography, Jan Kesner Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA

1997

Open Secrets, Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Documenta X, Kassel, Germany
St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO (catalogue)

1996

Highlights of the Permanent Collection, International Center of Photography, New York, NY
Recent Acquisitions, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY

1995

American Photography 1890-1965, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (traveled)
Images of an Era: Selections from the Permanent Collection, Institute of Contemporary Art,
Los Angeles, CA

1994

American Surrealist Photography, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
Hidden Faces, Paul Kopeikin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
One Hundred Years of Street Photography, Wright State University, Dayton, OH

1993

Three Masters, Three Decades, Laurence Miller Gallery, New York, NY
Mexico through Foreign Eyes, International Center of Photography, New York, NY
South of the Border, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT

1992

Eye on the Ball, Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA

International Center of Photography, New York, NY

Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA

This Sporting Life, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA

Masterworks from the Target Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

1991

Art of the 40s, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Photographs of the 40s & 50s, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY

Mean Streets, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Motion & Document, Addison Gallery of Art, Andover, MA

American Document on the Fringe, Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo,
Japan

1990

The Indomitable Spirit, International Center of Photography, New York, NY (catalog,
traveled)

Children in Photography, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Canada (catalog, traveled)

1989

On the Art of Fixing a Shadow: 150 Years of Photography, National Gallery of Art,
Washington, DC; Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL (catalog, traveled)

Photography Until Now, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (catalog, traveled)

The New Vision, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY (catalog)

El Surrealismo Entre Veijo y Nuevo Mundo, Centro Atlantico de Arte Moderno, Cabildo
Insular de Gran Canaria, Spain (catalog)

Ikona Photo Gallery, Venice, Italy (catalog)

The Cherished Image, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada

Photography 150 Years, Australian National Gallery, Canberra, Australia (catalog)

1988

Convulsive Beauty, Whitney Museum of Art Downtown, New York, NY

Evocative Presence, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

No Trumpets-No Swans, Pratt Institute Galleries, New York, NY

1987

Mothers & Daughters, Burden Gallery (Aperture), New York, NY (catalog, traveled)

1986

Photography: A Facet of Modernism, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA (catalog)

Portraits from the Permanent Collection, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY

The New York School, Part II, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

1985

The New York School, Part I, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

Wagstaff Collection, International Center of Photography, New York, NY

American Images - American Photography 1945-1980, Barbican Center, London, England

Four Street Photographers - Part II, Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, CA

Flowers, Detroit Institute of Fine Arts, Detroit, MI

1984

Fifth Anniversary Exhibition, Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco, CA

Photographs from the Collection of the National Endowment for the Arts, National Museum of American Art, Washington, DC

Twentieth Century Photography, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

The Dog Observed, The Dog Museum of America, New York, NY

The Automobile & Culture, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA

Department of Photography Galleries, 1984 - Present, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1983

Color in the Street, California Museum of Photography, Riverside, CA (catalog)

200 Photographs From the Collection, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA

1982

Color as Form, George Eastman House, Rochester, New York, NY

Lichtbildnisse: Das Portrat in der Fotografie, Rheinisches Landmuseum, Bonn, Germany

Twentieth Century Photography from the Museum of Modern Art, New York, Seibu Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan

1981

The New Color: A Decade of Color Photography, Emerson Art Museum, Syracuse, NY
International Center of Photography, New York, NY
American Children, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (traveled, catalog)

1980

School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
Salford '80, Salford, England

1979

Recent Acquisitions, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
Covered Faces, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
Curator's Choice: Contemporary American Photography, Venezia La Fotografia, Venice, Italy

1978

The Presence of Walker Evans, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
Mirrors & Windows, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
New Standpoints: Photography 1940-1944, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
New York, New York, Light Gallery, New York, NY
Children's Aid Society Exhibition, New York Historical Society, New York, NY

1977

The Target Collection of American Photography, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
Some Color Photographs, Castelli Gallery, New York, NY
Recent Acquisitions, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
New York: The City & Its People, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT

1976

Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
100 Master Photographs, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
The American Situation, William Hayes Ackland Memorial Art Center, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC; traveled to Telfair Academy of Arts, Savannah, GA;
Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH; Brooks Memorial Art Gallery, Memphis, TN;
Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC

1973

Landscape/Cityscape, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY

1971

Photographs of Women, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1967

Photographs of Women, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada

1968

Harlem on My Mind, Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1966

Guggenheim Fellows in Photography, Philadelphia College of Arts, Philadelphia, PA

1965

Photography in America, 1850-1965, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT

1963

Three Photographers in Color, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1957

Museum of the City of New York, New York, NY

1955

The Family of Man, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1953

Contemporary American Photography, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan,

1950

Photography Mid-Century, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, CA

1949

Six Women Photographers, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1948

Fifty Photographs by Fifty Photographers, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

In & Out of Focus, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Creative Photography, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1944

Art in Progress, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

1941

American Photographs at \$10, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

SELECTED INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS

Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, AZ
Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
Fotografiska Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Hallmark Collection, Kansas City, MO
International Center of Photography, New York, NY
International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House, Rochester, NY
Joseph E. Seagrams & Sons, New York, NY
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, MN
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC
National Museum of American Art, Washington, DC
New York Public Library, New York, NY
Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
Pilara Family Foundation, San Francisco, CA
St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo, Japan
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT