

Press Release

Hauser & Wirth Announces Online Exhibition 'Annie Leibovitz. Still Life'

Exhibition Includes New Benefit Edition Supporting COVID-19 relief efforts, Black Lives Matter, and the Equal Justice Initiative



hauserwirth.com Live Date: 20 June 2020

American photographer Annie Leibovitz will debut a new print in an edition of 100 to coincide with her forthcoming online exhibition 'Still Life,' opening on 20 June. As part of Hauser & Wirth's #artforbetter initiative and in support of the urgent fight to dismantle systemic racism and police brutality in America, 100% of the proceeds of sales of 'Upstate,' a work comprising a grid of photographs Leibovitz has taken while in quarantine, will be split equally between Black Lives Matter, the Equal Justice Initiative, and COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund for the World Health Organization.

The online exhibition explores the importance of our sense of place. It includes images from a project completed by the artist before the onset of the coronavirus pandemic alongside a suite of recent photographs made during the lockdown. The exhibition showcases Leibovitz's singular ability to combine portraiture and photojournalism with profound humanism and sly wit.

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Annie Leibovitz





The earlier photographs in the exhibition are from a project Leibovitz made for herself in order to explore places that were inhabited by people from the past who mean something to her. 'It wasn't an assignment,' she says. 'It was very personal. I traveled alone to places that interested me. There were no people in the pictures. I photographed houses and landscapes and objects that belonged to people who were no longer there.'

The inner lives of artists are reflected in the delicate pressed flowers of Emily Dickinson's childhood herbarium and the worn surface of Virginia Woolf's writing desk. On a visit to Georgia O'Keeffe's Abiquiu, New Mexico, home, Leibovitz finds a rattlesnake skeleton displayed under glass on her coffee table and at O'Keeffe's Ghost Ranch house she photographs the small red hill that so often appeared as a monumental symbol of the American Southwest in O'Keeffe's paintings. During a trip to England, she is shown bird specimens preserved by Charles Darwin, the intellectual basis of his life's work. These journeys were exercises in personal and artistic renewal for Leibovitz.

The photographs from which the 'Upstate' grid are drawn document the landscape of the artist's home in upstate New York, where she has been living during the quarantine period. She began taking the pictures after looking back at the earlier work. 'I did finally start taking pictures here,' she says. 'Our road at night. Pieces of a puzzle based on the Waterhouse painting of the Lady of Shallot that my daughter is working on. A fish dropped by a heron. Are these new pictures even photographs? I don't know. They are more a response to this moment.'

For more information or to purchase 'Upstate' please visit: www.hauserwirth.com

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About the Artist

Annie Leibovitz has achieved international recognition for her photographs, which serve to shape both the contemporary cultural imagination and our retrospective view of the late twentieth century. Through innate qualities of personality and talent, she achieves an intimate and authentic understanding of her subjects that is beautifully transcribed in her work.

Her pictures began appearing in Rolling Stone in 1970, when she was still a student at the San Francisco Art Institute. She was soon the magazine's chief photographer. In 1983 she became the first contributing photographer to the revived Vanity Fair and in the early 1990s began contributing regularly also to Vogue. Her early work was based in photojournalism. Robert Frank and Henri Cartier-Bresson were her primary influences. Photojournalism remains a key element in everything she does, but it is as a portraitist, particularly a conceptual portraitist, that she is most well known and influential. She has been a working photographer for fifty years and her large and distinguished body of work encompasses some of the most well-known portraits of our time.

Supporting COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund for the World Health Organization, Black Lives Matter, and the Equal Justice Initiative

Hauser & Wirth will donate 10% of the proceeds of the sale of works from this exhibition to the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund for the World Health Organization as part of the gallery's ongoing #artforbetter initiative.

Annie Leibovitz will donate 100% of the proceeds of the sale of the work 'Upstate' (2020) from this exhibition equally between COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund for the World Health Organization, Black Lives Matter, a non-profit organization created to fight the end of State-sanctioned violence, liberate Black people, and end white supremacy forever, and the Equal Justic Initiative, a non-profit organization that works to end mass incarceration, excessive punishment, and racial inequality.

To learn more about the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund for WHO please visit: covid19responsefund.org To learn more about Black Lives Matter please visit: blacklivesmatter.com
To learn more about Equal Justice Initiative please visit: eji.org

For additional information, please contact:

Irene Kopitov, Hauser & Wirth, irenekopitov@hauserwirth.com, +1 646 740 1887 (USA) Chloe Kinsman, Hauser & Wirth, chloe@hauserwirth.com, +447780904011 (Europe) Andrea Schwan, Andrea Schwan Inc., info@andreaschwan.com, +1 917 371 5023 (USA) Matthew Brown, Sutton, +447715 901047, Matthew@suttoncomms.com (Europe)

COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund

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#artforbetter

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Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth

Upstate 2020 Edition of 100 + 15 APs 44.5 x 55.9 cm / 17 1/2 x 22 in (unframed)

Georgia O'Keeffe's red hill Ghost Ranch 2010 Archival pigment print Edition of 3 + 2 AP 73.7 x 97.2 cm / 29 x 38 1/4 in

Charles Darwin's bird specimen, collected during the voyage of the Beagle 2010
Archival pigment print
Edition of 3 + 2 AP
43.2 x 63.8 cm / 17 x 25 1/8 in (unframed)