

F O N D A T I O N

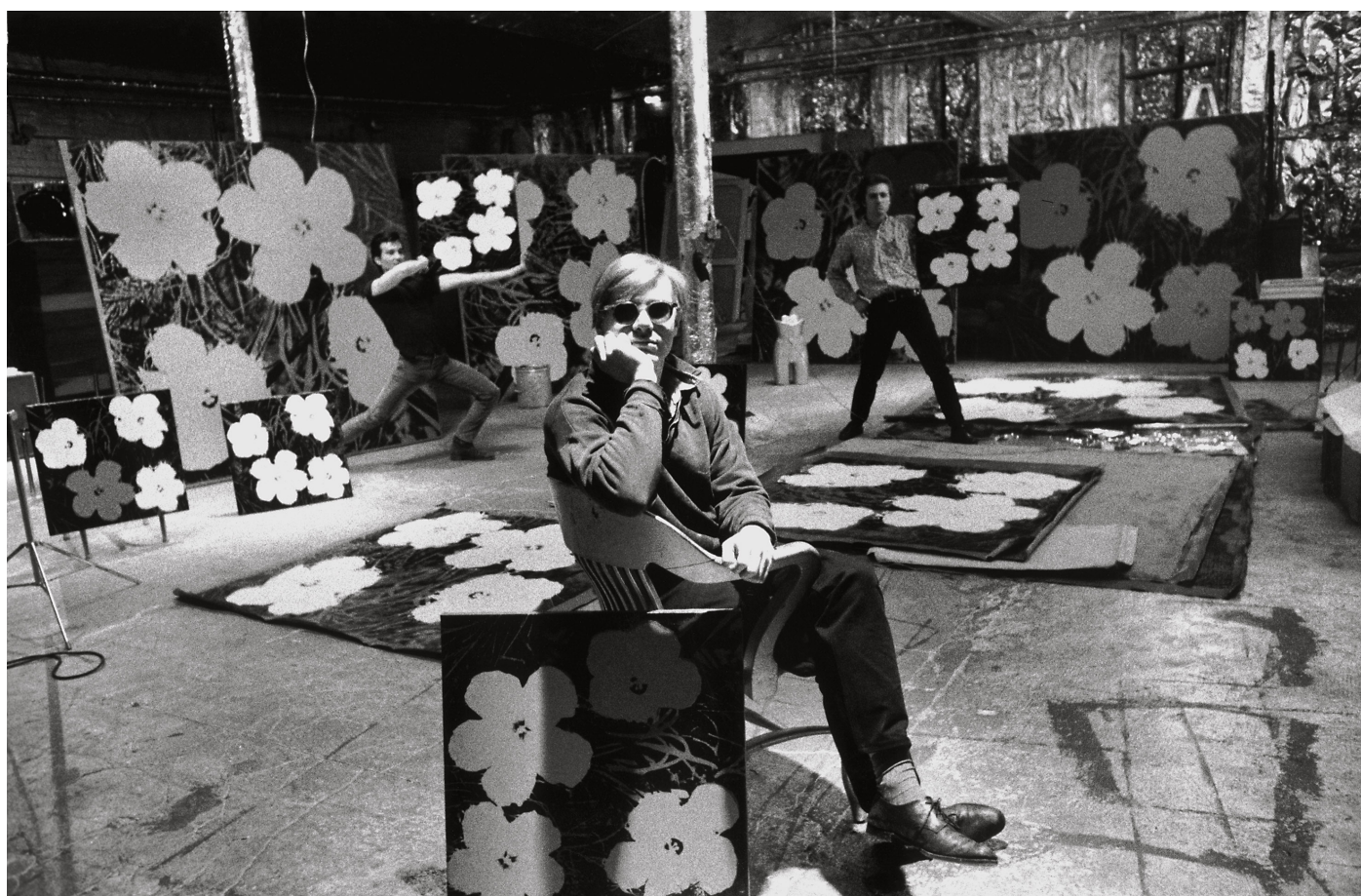
H·C·B

Henri Cartier-Bresson

Press
Release

UGO MULAS

La Photographie



From January 15th to April 24th, 2016

Press opening Thursday, January 14th from 10:00 to 12:00

Public opening Thursday, January 14th from 18:00 to 21:00

Table of Contents

Press Release	3
Biography	4
Visuals	5
Book (Point du Jour)	6
Useful Information	7
Conversations and “Grands Entretiens” at the HCB Foundation	8

*The photographer's task is to identify his own reality;
that of the camera is to record it in its entirety.*

Ugo Mulas (1928-1973) was a major figure of twentieth century Italian photography. Nevertheless, his work remains little known in France. This solo exhibition is the first of its kind and pays homage to this great observer and interpreter of the novelty that appeared in the art world in Italy and in the United States in the 1960s. It brings together, for the most part, the photographs selected by Mulas for publication in *La Fotografia* (Einaudi, 1973), his last, now legendary, book, an essential testimony of his work and his reflections.

When he arrived in Milan in 1948, Ugo Mulas associated with the artistic and literary circles that gathered at Bar Jamaica and he quickly began to photograph the city. Turned professional photographer, he developed more personal projects simultaneously. Official photographer of the Venice Biennale beginning in 1954, he documented the Italian and New York art scene of the 1960s. From 1968 onwards, he devoted himself to the *Verifications*, his last project, which questions photography and its practices.

With a title that is both simple and ambitious, *La Photographie* is a unique work. Through brief sequences of images introduced by text, Mulas analyzed the art of his time and made portraits of artists with whom he associated while creating their work as an intimate relationship with time. For Mulas, all moments are fleeting, they are all worthy, and the least significant moment can be in fact the most exceptional. Besides its documentary value, this group of work has a strong autobiographical tone. This selection closes with the *Verifications*, the final seminal chapter, which will forever establish the speculative dimension of his work.

The exhibition, composed of some sixty black-and-white vintage prints, is presented in collaboration with the Ugo Mulas Archives (Milan) and Giuliano Sergio, associate curator. It is co-produced with the Point du Jour, art center / editor (Cherbourg), which published Ugo Mulas's book *La Photographie* in French, reproducing the format, text, and photographs of the Italian first edition.

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BIOGRAPHY

- 1928: Born on August 28th in Pozzolengo, near Desenzano del Garda (Brescia)
- 1948: Arrives in Milan, where he studies law and associates with the intellectual and artistic circles, especially at the Bar Jamaica
- 1950: He begins to photograph the city of Milan
- 1954: Mulas publishes his first reportage on the Venice Biennale, and he documents all of its editions until 1972
Turned professional photographer, he develops more personal projects simultaneously
- 1960-1970: Mulas documents several notable exhibitions in Italy. He also collaborates with theater directors such as Giorgio Strehler at the Piccolo Teatro in Milan and Puecher, in 1969
- 1960: He travels all over Europe and realizes a series of reportages for *L'Illustrazione Italiana*, in collaboration with Giorgio Zampa, and other magazines such as *Settimo Giorno*, *Novità*, *Domus*, and *Du*
- 1962: He photographs the Spoleto sculpture festival, where he meets David Smith, who he photographs in his atelier in Voltri, and Alexander Calder, who he photographs at Saché in Touraine and again in 1964 in his atelier in Roxbury, Massachusetts
- 1964 onwards: He photographs the New York art scene
- 1967: Publication of his book *New York, the New Art Scene*
- 1968-1972: He creates his *Verifications* series, which questions photography and its practices
- 1973: Mulas dies in Milan on March 2nd
Publication of his book *La Fotografia* (Einaudi) in Italy
Exhibition "Ugo Mulas, Immagini e testi," Palazzo della Pilotta, Università di Parma
- 2007: Mulas retrospective exhibition at the Museo nazionale delle Arti del XXI secolo (Rome)
- 2015: The Centre Pompidou in Paris presents the *Verifications*, acquired in 2009, in the exhibition "Qu'est-ce que la photographie?"

UGO MULAS

La Photographie

REPRODUCTION CONDITIONS FOR PRESS VISUALS :
TWO VISUALS AUTHORIZED PER PUBLICATION

Use is limited to the promotion of the exhibition presented at the HCB Foundation and must not be cropped.

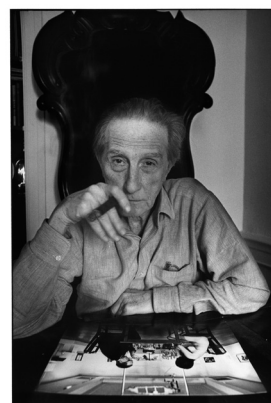
For requests for high-definition visuals :

jessica.retailleau@henricartierbresson.org / emilie.hanmer@henricartierbresson.org

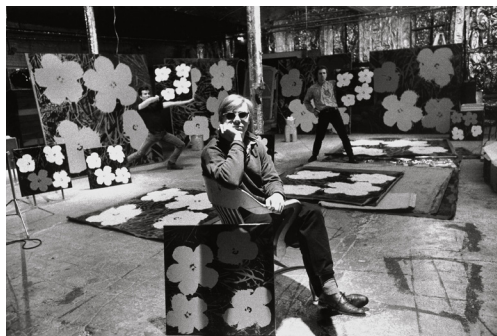
© Estate Ugo Mulas, Milano - Courtesy Galleria Lia Rumma, Milano / Napoli



Alexander Calder, Roxbury, 1964



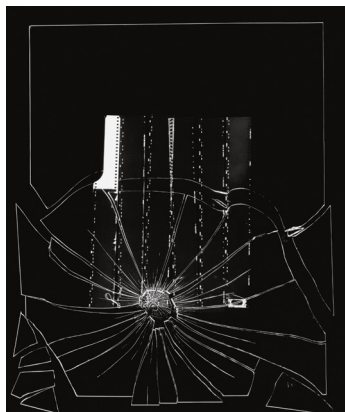
Marcel Duchamp, New York, 1965



Andy Warhol, Philip Fagan and Gerard Malanga, New York, 1964



Jasper Johns in his atelier, New York, 1964

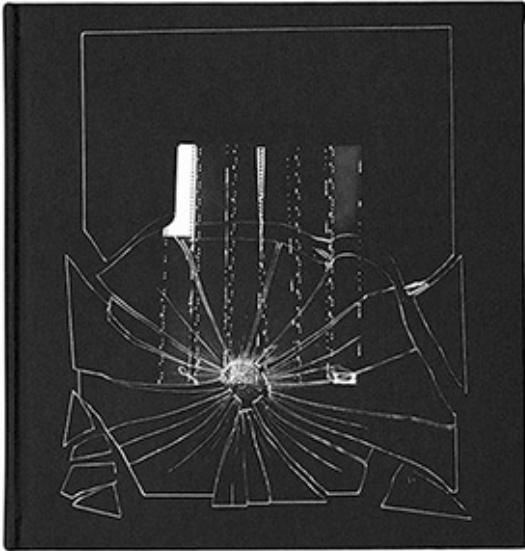


End of the Verifications,
1972



Michelangelo Pistoletto room, exhibition
"Vitalità del negativo," Rome, 1970

Le Point du Jour



La Photographie is the French version of the last book of the great Italian photographer Ugo Mulas (1928-1973), published shortly after his death. Under a seemingly insignificant title, this book is in fact a unique work. Through brief sequences of images introduced by texts written in the first person, Mulas covered the art of his time and made portraits of artists with whom he rubbed shoulders. But in addition to its documentary value, this grouping also has a strong autobiographical and speculative dimension. Representing art works in the space and in the presence of their creators, often at work, Mulas was led to question his own practice, at the intersection of photography and art.

Translated from Italian to French by Laura Brignon

Format : 19,5 x 20,5 cm

139 duotone photographs

180 pages

39 euros

ISBN : 978-2-912132-83-3

Publication : October 2015

PRESS BREAKFAST

The HCB Foundation has the pleasure of inviting you to a breakfast for the press on Thursday, January 14th, 2016 from 10:00 to 12:00.

RSVP

Jessica Retailleau (until January 18th) / Emilie Hanmer

T +33 1 56 80 27 03 / F +33 1 56 80 27 01

jessica.retailleau@henricartierbresson.org / emilie.hanmer@henricartierbresson.org

After spending seven terrific years at the Foundation, I am leaving my position to move to Bordeaux. Emilie Hanmer will replace me starting from January 19th.

I sincerely thank you for your collaboration and for the great moments shared over the years.

Useful Information

Address

2, impasse Lebouis, 75014 Paris

Tel : 01 56 80 27 00 / Fax : 01 56 80 27 01

contact@henricartierbresson.org

Hours

From Tuesday to Sunday from 13:00 to 18:30

Saturday from 11:00 to 18:45

Free Wednesday evenings from 18:30 to 20:30

Ticket price

Full price 7€- reduced rate 4€

Free for the Amis de la Fondation HCB

Free Wednesday evenings

(18:30-20:30)

Last entrance 30 min before closing

Closed Mondays and holidays

Métro

Gaîté, line 13, exit n°1, towards rue de l'Ouest

Edgar Quinet, line 6, towards rue de la Gaîté

Vélib

90, avenue du Maine - 48, rue de l'Ouest

Info : www.henricartierbresson.org

Bus

Line 28 and 58, stop Losserand-Maine

Line 88, stop Jean Zay – Maine

CONVERSATIONS AT THE HCB FOUNDATION

The HCB Foundation hosts a cycle of “Conversations”-conferences on photography- led by art critic Natacha Wolinski, with different figures in the photography world.

Thursday, April 14th from 18:30 to 20:00

Light, paper, chemicals : Contemporary photography returns to its origins

With Anne Cartier-Bresson, Cultural Heritage Curator, director of the ARCP, Atelier de Restauration et de Conservation des Photographies de la Ville de Paris, and Laurent Millet, photographer, Prix Niépce 2015.

Free admission subject to availability
Mandatory registration : contact@henricartierbresson.org

THE “GRANDS ENTRETIENS” AT THE HCB FOUNDATION

The “Grands Entretien”, led by Centre Pompidou photography curator Clément Chéroux, are part of the Foundation’s longtime history. The “Grands Entretien” aim to give the public an insight into the dynamics of modern and contemporary photography by interviewing artists, photographers, critics, historians, curators and publishers.

Tuesday, January 19th from 18:30 to 20:00

Sophie Calle

Tuesday, March 22nd from 18:30 to 20:00

Patrick Tosani

The “Grands Entretien” will be recorded and will begin ontime.
No entry permitted after 18:30.

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The press release has been translated from French by Sally Katz.

Ugo Mulas at the HCB Foundation- 2 impasse Lebourg 75014 Paris- From January 15th to April 24th 2016
www.henricartierbresson.org