



# HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON L'EXPÉRIENCE DU PAYSAGE

FONDATION HCB

JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> - SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

# CONTENTS

## 3 A SUMMER FOR BUILDING

### HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON - *L'EXPÉRIENCE DU PAYSAGE*

#### 4 EXHIBITION

#### 5 BIOGRAPHY

#### 6 PRESS IMAGES

### FONDATION HCB

#### 8 UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS PROGRAMME

#### 10 PRESS IMAGES 79 RUE DES ARCHIVES

### PRESS OPENING

THURSDAY, JUNE 30 FROM 2PM AT 4PM

79 rue des Archives – 75003 Paris

+33 (0)1 40 61 50 50

henricartierbresson.org

### PRESS CONTACT

Cécilia Enault

cecilia.enault@henricartierbresson.org

79 rue des Archives - 75003 Paris

+33 (0)1 40 61 50 60

### OPENING HOURS

Tuesday - Sunday : 11am - 7pm

### RATES

Full rate 9€ / Concessions 5€

### SOCIAL NETWORKS



Cover:  
New York, United States, 1959  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



## A SUMMER FOR BUILDING

The exhibition *L'expérience du paysage* of Henri Cartier-Bresson's photographs is a lesson in construction. The photographer's eye is selective as it moves through boundless nature and urban development. The way characters are inscribed in the image—Cartier-Bresson's great contribution to photography—dictates sense and scale, and participates actively in creating the geometry that the artist treasured.

Never-before-seen in Paris, the exhibition draws on celebrated as well as lesser-known photographs, selected by Henri Cartier-Bresson and Agnès Sire not long before the photographer's death.

For a different form of construction, this summer will see the Fondation HCB expanding again. Following the opening of the *Cube* in 2018, the *Tube* will offer a 30% increase in exhibition space, with an inaugural exhibition uniting, or rather reconciling Henri Cartier-Bresson with Martin Parr through many unreleased and rare documents, for an event that's unique in many ways.

It will also be the occasion, finally, to see the wonderful Jan Groover retrospective by Photo Elysée, Lausanne, after several postponements due to Covid.

This rich program starts a new chapter for the Fondation, with a strong emphasis on Henri Cartier-Bresson at Rue des Archives, Paris, and other major cities, including Seoul and Milan.

François Hébel  
Director



# HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON L'EXPÉRIENCE DU PAYSAGE

JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

## EXHIBITION

Selected by Henri Cartier-Bresson (1908-2004) towards the end of his life, the photographs in *L'expérience du paysage* show the artist approaching an element that is not just simple background for observing human beings, but a subject in its own right. Each image, taken between the 1930s-1990s in Europe, Asia and America, illustrates the photographer's construction of landscape, natural or urban.



Torcello, Italy, 1953  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos

*It's worthwhile to gaze at landscapes by Giovanni Bellini, Hokusai, Poussin, Corot, Cézanne, Bonnard, and so many others, before going out into the world, pencil-in-hand.*

Henri Cartier-Bresson, september 1999

Cartier-Bresson began his long career with painting and drawing. Early on at André Lhote's atelier, he was taught the watchword of the Académie de Platon, later applying it to photography: "Let no one ignorant of geometry enter." His work, which inspired many artists to come, is characterized by composition, juxtaposition of planes, respect for proportionality, and pursuing balance between forms.

Unlike nature in its "unprocessed form", the notion of landscape is relative to a subject—that of the observer with a certain point of view. From this order among the components of reality, Cartier-Bresson found poetics and pleasure. Landscapes are not just frames enclosing a subject but seemingly timeless patterns interacting with human figures. He decided on this selection of images shortly before his death in 2004, even though he had abandoned photography in favour of drawing since the early 1970s. These photographs bear witness to the experience of landscape, which, like drawing, is close to meditation.

In this 70-photograph selection, Cartier-Bresson implicitly unveils the self-portrait of an artist in the process of questioning his relationship to the world. The exhibition culminates in a selection of drawings by the artist found in the Fondation HCB's collections, for a journey through the œuvre of Henri Cartier-Bresson along a contemplative path.



Serbia, 1965  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos

## CURATOR

Agnès Sire, Artistic director, Fondation HCB





## BIOGRAPHY

Born in Chanteloup, Seine-et-Marne, in 1908, Henri Cartier-Bresson began studying painting at the André Lhote atelier in Paris before he turned to photography. In 1931, following a year in Côte d'Ivoire, he purchased his first Leica.

His work was exhibited and published, first abroad and then in France, starting in 1933. He then traveled in Europe, to Mexico and the United States, and became interested in filmmaking. In 1936 and 1939, he collaborated with Jean Renoir and produced three documentaries on the Spanish Civil War in the same time period.

Taken prisoner on June 23, 1940, he managed to escape in 1943, after two unsuccessful attempts. The New York MoMA presented an exhibition of his work in 1947, the same year that he created the Magnum Photos agency, along with Robert Capa, David Seymour, George Rodger and William Vandivert. He then spent three years in the East. Back in Europe, he published his first book, *Images à la Sauvette (The Decisive Moment)*, in 1952. After this, he traveled on numerous occasions and devoted himself to drawing starting the early 1970s.

Dubbed "l'œil du siècle" (eye of the century), Cartier-Bresson bore witness to the great events of the 20<sup>th</sup> century: Gandhi's funeral in India, the last days of the Kuomintang in China, first photographs of the USSR... At his passing in 2004, he endowed the history of photography with an inimitable legacy, which is still subject to new interpretations.



Vermont, East Coast, United States, 1960  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos

*We all have a mental landscape structuring our relation to the world; we all have an inner picture.*  
Paul Virilio, excerpt from *Cybermonde, la politique du pire*, Éditions Textuel, 1996

## EVENTS

Each exhibition includes conferences, discussions, screenings and signings. The events for the exhibition Henri Cartier-Bresson - *L'expérience du paysage* will be announced on [henricartierbresson.org](http://henricartierbresson.org)

# PRESS IMAGES HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON L'EXPÉRIENCE DU PAYSAGE

## PRESS IMAGES

All visuals must be used with their captions and copyrights. No cropping is permitted and only two images per medium can be published.



01 | New York, United States, 1959  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



02 | Torcello, Italy, 1953  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



03 | Serbia, 1965  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



04 | Lake Sevan, Armenia, Soviet Union, 1972  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



05 | Spain, 1933  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



PRESS IMAGES  
HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON  
L'EXPÉRIENCE DU PAYSAGE



06 | The Rhine, Germany, 1956  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



08 | Siena, Italy, 1933  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



07 | Vermont, East Coast, United States, 1960  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



09 | Srinagar, Kashmir, India, 1948  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos

# UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS PROGRAMME AT THE FONDATION HCB

NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2022 - FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

## Reconciliation

Henri Cartier-Bresson « with » Martin Parr

### Opening of the Tube

In 1989, Martin Parr, who was already a famous and controversial photographer for his colour photographs of the British middle class, caused an uproar when he applied to join the cooperative agency Magnum Photos. Henri Cartier-Bresson fulminated against this prospect.

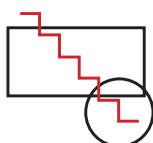
The Cinémathèque française has just rediscovered a 1963 still image film, made for British television ITV/ABC. Oh surprise, Henri Cartier-Bresson makes an amused portrait of English people at work and at play... in the north of England. HCB's specially produced and still original photographs and commentary resonate in a disturbing way, 23 years apart, with the much criticised work of Martin Parr. A real treasure.

The *Tube*, the new extension of the FHCB, will be inaugurated with the original prints of Henri Cartier-Bresson, the raw material for this film, and a new commission (2019/2022) to Martin Parr to return to the same north of England to photograph the English at work and leisure. Three eras, three photographic writings to describe the same society and its evolution (1962, 1985, 2020) at work and at the beach. As Henri Cartier-Bresson said: "For me, England is the most exotic place in the world". It is a reconciliation through images.

François Hébel, curator of the exhibition and director of the Fondation HCB

### A NEW EXHIBITION SPACE

A 100m<sup>2</sup> space will be inaugurated in the autumn 2022, representing a 30% expansion of the exhibition and event space - the current *Cube*. A room for school groups is also being equipped.



Henri Cartier-Bresson, Blackpool, United Kingdom, 1962  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



Martin Parr, Bilston, Wolverhampton, England, 2011  
© Martin Parr / Magnum Photos



Henri Cartier-Bresson, *Garment factory*, Manchester, United Kingdom, 1962  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos



Martin Parr, Bristol, England, 2008  
© Martin Parr / Magnum Photos





# UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS PROGRAMME AT THE FONDATION HCB

NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2022 - FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

## Laboratory of Forms Jan Groover

In collaboration with Photo Elysée in Lausanne, the Fondation is presenting the first retrospective to be devoted to the American photographer Jan Groover (1943-2012) since her death. Through her constant experimentation with the photographic medium, Jan Groover's work features an exceptional diversity of subjects, format and technical processes.

A unique artist who is still relatively unknown, Jan Groover has nevertheless had a considerable impact on the recognition of colour photography. This exhibition shows the evolution of her work, from her original polyptychs to the still lifes she produced throughout her career, including the *Body Parts* series. The exhibition explores the different methods of creation of the photographer and allows us to appreciate the preciousness and the experimental aspect of her work. It is based on the Jan Groover collection, donated by her husband Bruce Boice to Photo Elysée.

Curators of the exhibition:

Tatyana Franck, former director of Photo Elysée (2015-2021) and president of the French Institute Alliance Française in New York (2022-)  
Emilie Delcambre Hirsch

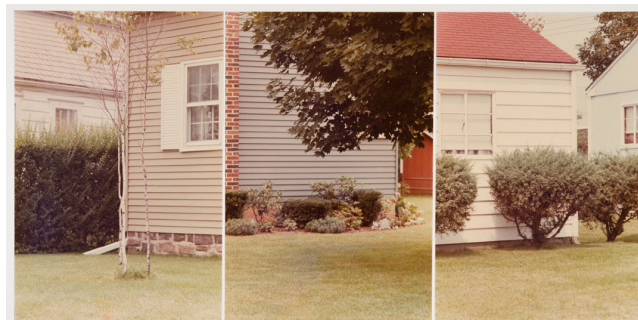
Scientific advisor: Paul Frèches

An exhibition produced by Photo Elysée, Lausanne.

**PHOTO  
ELYSEE**



Jan Groover, *Untitled*, ca.1978  
© Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne - Fonds Jan Groover



Jan Groover, *Untitled*, ca. 1977  
© Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne - Fonds Jan Groover



Jan Groover, *Untitled*, ca.1981  
© Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne - Fonds Jan Groover

## TRAVELLING EXHIBITIONS

Beyond its own site, the Fondation continue to support the works of Henri Cartier-Bresson and Martine Franck being shown in many institutions around the world. The Magnum Photos agency, created by Henri Cartier-Bresson, at the instigation of Robert Capa along with George Rodger, David Seymour and William Vandivert, continues to handle requests for copyright syndication.

**FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> - JULY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2022**

**Henri Cartier-Bresson**

**China, 1948-49 | 1958**

MUDEC (Museo delle Culture), Milan, Italy

After the success at the Fondation HCB in 2019 and in Taiwan in 2020, Henri Cartier-Bresson's photographs in China are now presented at the Museo delle Culture (MUDEC) in Milan. The exhibition is an unprecedented account of two key moments in China's history: the fall of Kuomintang and the establishment of the Communist regime (1948- 1949) and Mao Zedong's "Great Leap Forward" (1958). It brings together about a hundred original prints from 1948-1949, 40 prints from 1958, and many archive documents.



*Gold Rush. At the end of the day, scrambles in front of a bank to buy gold. The last days of Kuomintang, Shanghai, 23 December 1948.*

© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos

**JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> - OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2022**

**Henri Cartier-Bresson**

**Images à la Sauvette**

Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, South Korea

Initiated by the French publisher Tériade, the project of the famous publication *Images à la Sauvette* is finally achieved on October 1952 as a French-American co-edition, with the contribution of Matisse and the American publishers Simon and Schuster. The latter chose *The Decisive Moment* as the title of the American version, and unintentionally imposed the motto which would define Cartier-Bresson's work. Since its publication in 1952, *Images à la Sauvette* has received an overwhelming success. It is considered as "a Bible for photographers" according to Robert Capa's words. The innovative design of the publication stroke the art world with its refine format, the heliogravure quality and the strength of the image sequences. The publication reveals the inherent duality of Cartier-Bresson's work; between the photographer's intimate interpretation and his documentary approach. The exhibition presents a selection of vintage prints as well as many archive documents related to the adventure of this book, up to its recent reprint in facsimile by Steidl.

*Magazines end up wrapping French fries, while books remain.*

**Henri Cartier-Bresson**



*Images à la Sauvette (Verve, 1952), cover*

© Collections Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson



# PRESS IMAGES

## 79 RUE DES ARCHIVES



01 | Fondation HCB, 79 rue des Archives, November 2018  
© Cyrille Weiner



04 | Exhibition Eugène Atget - Voir Paris  
Fondation HCB, 79 rue des Archives, June 2021  
© Hugo Hébrard



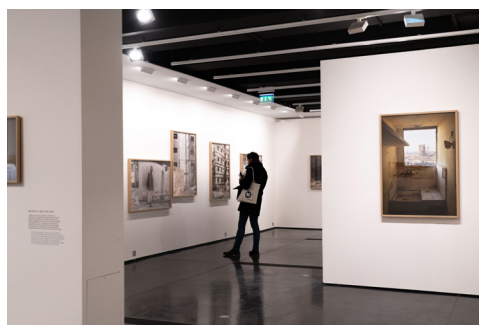
02 | Reception and bookshop  
Fondation HCB, 79 rue des Archives, June 2021  
© Hugo Hébrard



05 | Exhibition John Coplans - La vie des formes  
Fondation HCB, 79 rue des Archives, October 2021  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson



03 | Exhibition Gregory Halpern - Let the Sun Beheaded Be  
Fondation HCB, 79 rue des Archives, October 2020  
© Hugo Hébrard



06 | Exhibition Mathieu Pernot - La ruine de sa demeure  
Fondation HCB, 79 rue des Archives, March 2022  
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson