



/Jean Pigozzi/



/Ron Galella/



PAPARAZZI



/Alison Jackson/



/Christopher Makos/



/Sébastien Valiela/



OPERA GALLERY

« *Ce que la photographie reproduit à l'infini n'a lieu qu'une fois.* »

Roland Barthes, *La chambre claire : Note sur la photographie*, 1979

'*What the photograph reproduces to infinity has occurred only once.*'

Roland Barthes, *Camera Lucida: Reflections on Photography*, 1979

Maitres des images volées, les paparazzi jouissent d'un statut tout particulier au sein des milieux artistique et médiatique. L'exposition « Paparazzi » est l'occasion, pour Opera Gallery Monaco, en partenariat avec Photo Management de mettre en lumière le travail photographique d'une grande ambivalence de ces hommes décriés.

Alors que la société évolue vers la communication par l'image et le renforcement des idées, des opinions et des vérités par la preuve, la photographie est devenue un support média incontournable. L'image obtenue n'a pourtant de valeur médiatique que si l'instant précis d'un acte est saisi. Plus qu'un cliché pris par hasard ou par chance, le travail des paparazzi est le résultat d'une technique; certains préféreront dire d'une traque. Il ne peut être obtenu qu'à l'issue d'une véritable chasse, de beaucoup de patience et d'un savoir-faire spécifique.

Ces photographies obtenues à la dérobée constituent aujourd'hui une collection d'images mythiques qui permettent à tous d'entre-apercevoir par flash un monde qu'ils ne font qu'effleurer dans les médias. Une fois exposés, ces clichés nous donnent une proximité pour dialoguer avec les icônes de notre temps et présentent une instantanéité qui n'aurait pu exister sans le témoignage paparazzo.

Gilles Dyan
Fondateur et Président
Opera Gallery Group

Bien que la production des photos de paparazzi trouve dès son apparition un réel auditoire dans la presse, le milieu artistique n'a pas immédiatement reconnu cette pratique innovante. L'exposition « Paparazzi » au Centre Pompidou de Metz en 2014 marque un tournant. Hier décrié comme un presque voyou nourrissant la presse à scandale, le paparazzo tend aujourd'hui à être reconnu comme un véritable artiste qui oscille, à la manière d'un funambule sur un fil, entre les limites de l'art, de la perception de l'autre et du respect de la vie privée.

De Ron Galella, pionnier du genre ayant côtoyé les plus grandes stars américaines des années 1960-1970, à Sébastien Valiela qui a dévoilé, en 2013, la liaison de François Hollande et Julie Gayet, Opera Gallery Monaco expose les photos de cinq des plus grands acteurs du milieu paparazzo. Christopher Makos, quant à lui, a suivi Andy Warhol dans les années 1980 et lui a consacré un reportage photographique présentant tout particulièrement ses soirées avec l'élite New-Yorkaise. Aux côtés de ces trois artistes est exposé Jean Pigozzi, collectionneur, philanthrope mais avant tout photographe qui a pu montrer au grand jour les nuits les plus folles des stars de Venise à New York, en passant par Antibes et Cannes. Pour terminer, seront présentées les photos d'Alison Jackson, maîtresse du réalisme qui montre les célébrités dans des mises en scène fictives troublantes de réalité.

Didier Viltart
Directeur
Opera Gallery Monaco

Masters of stolen pictures, paparazzi enjoy a special status within the press and art sectors. On the occasion of its exhibition dedicated to them, Opera Gallery Monaco, in partnership with Photo Management, highlights the double-edged photographic work of these castigated men.

While the society evolves towards a communication based on pictures and the reinforcement of ideas, opinions and truth by the proof, photography has become a key media. Yet, the picture obtained can only be a media hit if the moment of a precise act is taken. More than a shot taken by chance or fate, the work of paparazzi is technical: it can only exist as the outcome of a true tracking, a lot of patience and of a specific know-how.

These photographs, clandestinely taken, are part of a major collection of legendary pictures thanks to which one can catch a glimpse of a world than can cross one's mind. Once exhibited, these shots give us proximity to dialogue with our contemporary icons and they represent an instantaneousness that could not have existed without the paparazzo's testimony.

Gilles Dyan
Founder and Chairman
Opera Gallery Group

Although the production of the paparazzi's pictures finds a huge public in the press, the artistic sector had not immediately recognized this innovative practice. The exhibition entitled 'Paparazzi' hosted by the Centre Pompidou Metz in 2014 marks a turning point. These so-called louts who used to feed the gutter press are today recognized as true artists who, like tightrope walkers sway between the limits of the art, of the perception of his environment and the respect of private life.

From Ron Galella, pioneer of this kind who has rubbed shoulders with the biggest American stars of the 1960-1970s, to Sébastien Valiela who unveiled the relationship between François Hollande and Julie Gayet in 2013, Opera Gallery Monaco today exhibits the most powerful actors of the paparazzo sector. Christopher Makos, as for him, has dedicated a whole reportage on Andy Warhol in the 1980s, especially following him through the most extravagant parties of the New Yorker elite. Alongside these three artists, Jean Pigozzi, a art collector, philanthropist and photographer will show the craziest nights of the stars from Venice to New York, stopping by Antibes and Cannes. Last but not least, Alison Jackson is the fifth artist of this exhibition and gives us, as a master of realism, celebrities in troubling yet realistic stagings.

Didier Viltart
Director
Opera Gallery Monaco

Ron

GALELLA

Ron Galella, born in 1931, started photography after graduating from high school, when he served as a United States Air Force photographer during the Korean war. Later, he enrolled at the Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles and obtained his degree in photojournalism in 1958. He started as a paparazzo to occupy his freetime and finally became well-known for his photographs that he used to sell to the National Enquirer or to Photoplay (American fans magazines).

His pictures became famous rapidly and he started getting published in magazines such as the Time, Harper's Bazaar, Vogue, Vanity Fair, The New Yorker...

To get the perfect shot, Ron Galella is clearly willing to take great risks. As a result, he has endured two highly publicized court battles with Jacqueline Kennedy-Onassis, a broken jaw at the hands of Marlon Brando, and a serious beating by Richard Burton's bodyguards before being jailed in Cuernavaca, Mexico. But ultimately, it is his passion for the fine art of photography, coupled with a dedicated do-it-yourself approach to his craft — few artists can claim his level of skill in making their own prints — that saw Ron's body of work exhibited at museums and galleries throughout the world.

His photographs have been exhibited in various galleries worldwide, including the MoMa in New York and San Francisco, the Tate Modern in London, the Helmut Newton Foundation Museum of Photography in Berlin and lately in 2014 at the Centre Pompidou Metz.



Jackie & Aristote depart PJ Clarke's, New York, USA, 1971

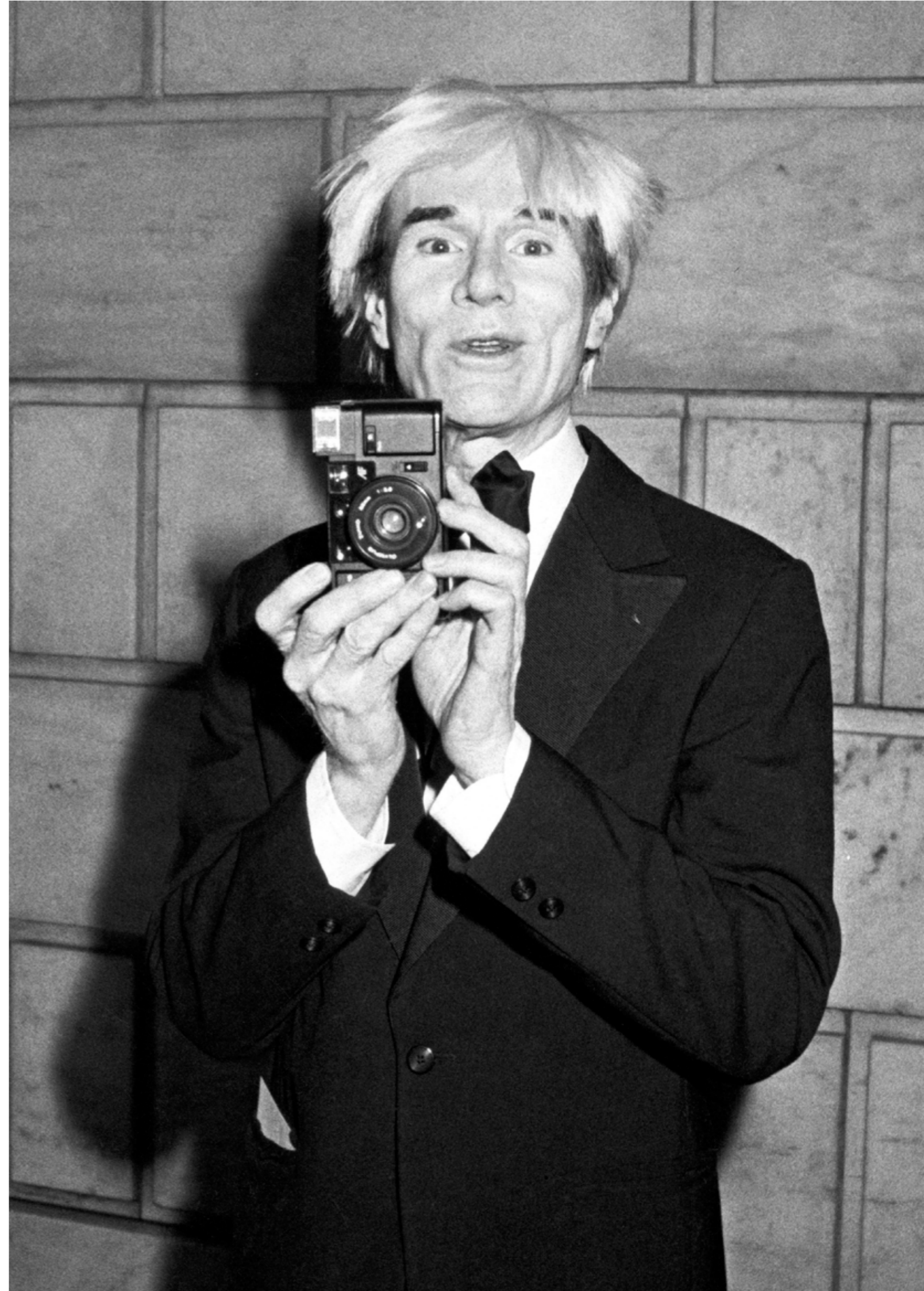
Artist's Proof

101,6 x 76,2 cm - 40 x 30 in.



Franck Sinatra the detective, New York, USA, 1967

Edition of 7
101,6 x 76,2 cm - 40 x 30 in.



Andy Warhol with camera, New York, USA, 1986

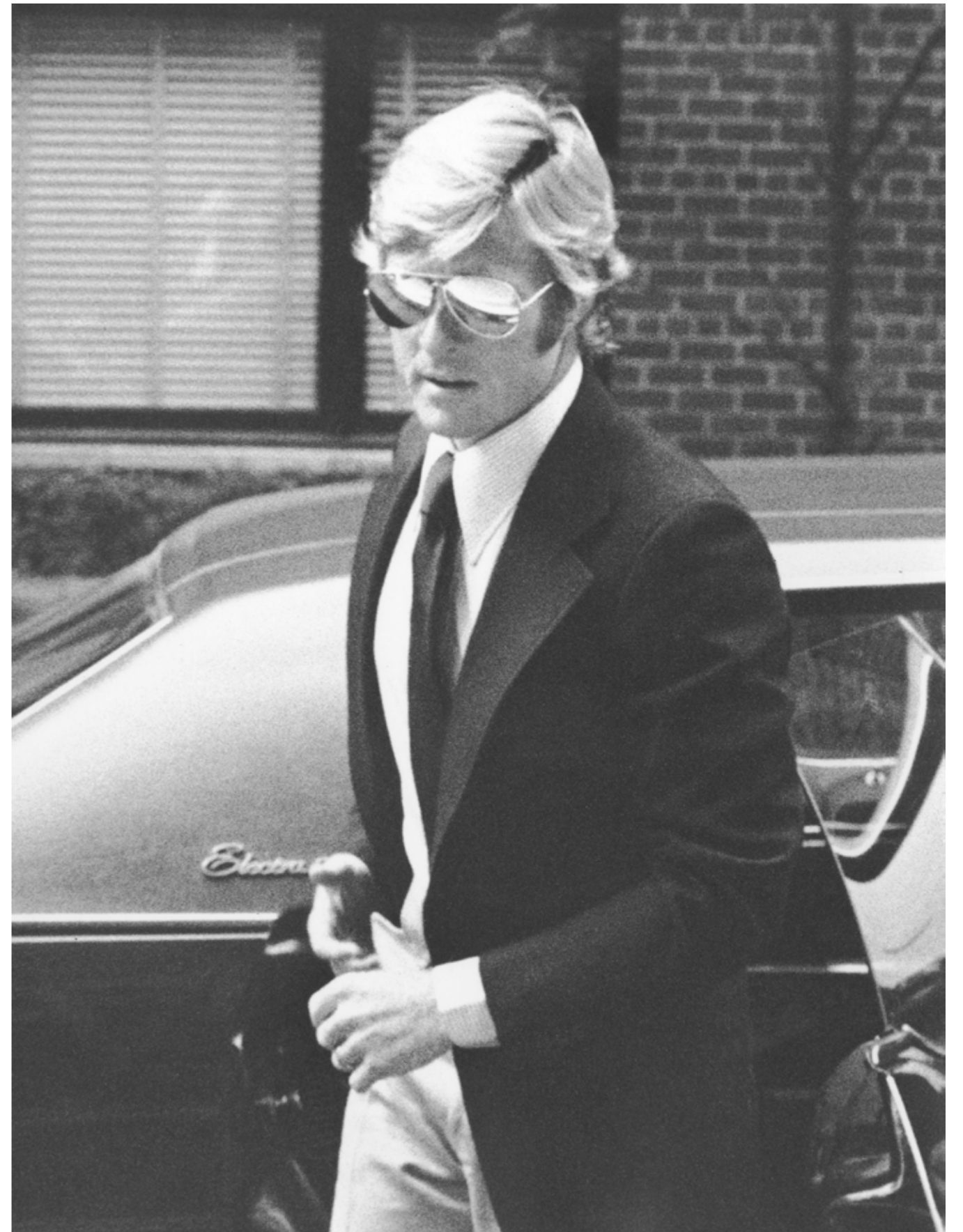
Edition of 16
101,6 x 76,2 cm - 40 x 30 in.



Mick Jagger middle finger, New York, USA, 1983

Artist's proof

76,2 x 101,6 cm - 30 x 40 in.



Robert Redford, New York, USA, 1974

Edition of 25
101,6 x 76,2 cm - 40 x 30 in.

Windblown Jackie, New York, USA, 1971

Artist's Proof
101,6 x 76,2 cm - 40 x 30 in.

Jean PIGOZZI

Jean Pigozzi, born in 1952 in Paris, is a renowned businessman, art collector and photographer. He did most of his studies in Paris before enrolling at Harvard University. After he graduated, he started to work for the Gaumont Film Company and the 20th Century Fox where he put a first foot into the media hype.

Being a very creative man, he also acted in the design sector, creating a men's clothing and an accessories line called LimoLand for the brand he founded in 2007.

Jean Pigozzi is also an important collector who initiated the world's biggest collection of contemporary African art in 1990. The Contemporary African Art Collection (CAAC) often presents some of his pieces through exhibitions held at major museums such as the Tate Modern and the Saatchi Gallery in London, the Centre Georges Pompidou, the Fondation Cartier and the Grand Palais in Paris or the Metropolitan Museum in New York.

Pigozzi's photographs have been showcased in solo exhibitions held at the Musée d'Art Moderne of Paris in 1974 or more recently at the Moscow House of Photography in Moscow and at the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art in Beijing in 2014. Along with Ron Galella, Sébastien Valiela and Alison Jackson, he was exhibited at the Centre Pompidou Metz in 2014 for the exhibition 'Paparazzi ! Photographes, stars et artistes.'



CANNES 1987

Paparazzi, Cannes Festival, France, 1987

Edition of 15
50,8 x 61 cm - 20 x 24 in.



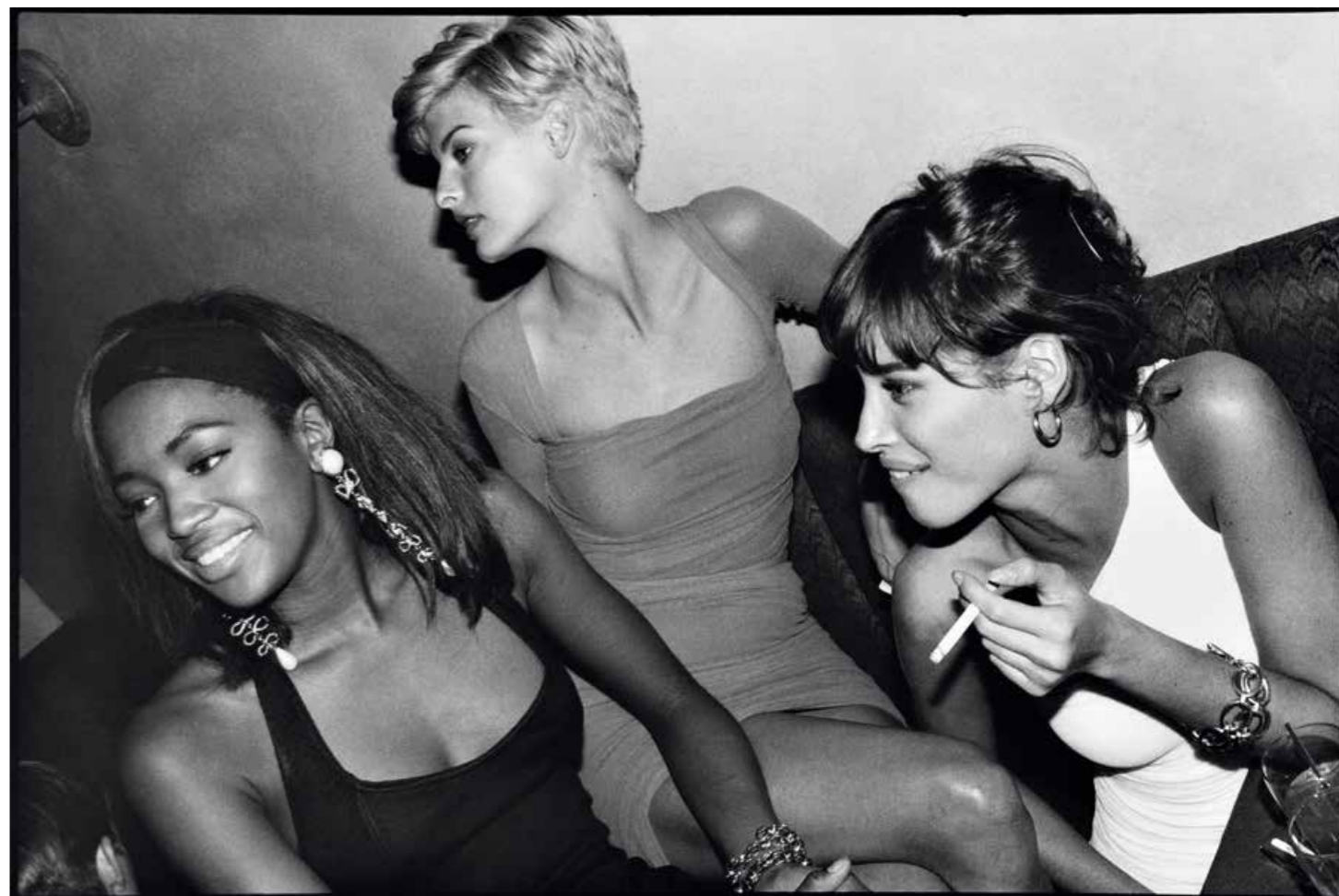
Jack Nicholson and Willy Rizzo, Venice, Italy, 1991

Edition of 30
27,9 x 35,6 cm - 11 x 14 in.



Tetou Restaurant, Antibes, France, 2014

Edition of 30
27,9 x 35,6 cm - 11 x 14 in.



Naomi Campbell, Linda Evangelista, Christy Turlington, New York, USA, 1990

Edition of 30
27,9 x 35,6 cm - 11 x 14 in.



Mick Jagger and Arnold Schwarzenegger, Hôtel du Cap, Antibes, France, 1990

Edition of 30

27,9 x 35,6 cm - 11 x 14 in.



Mick Jagger, Cannes, France, 2004

Edition of 30

27,9 x 35,6 cm - 11 x 14 in.

Christopher MAKOS

Christopher Makos, born in Lowell, Massachusetts, grew up in California, and moved to New York after high school. He studied architecture in Paris and briefly worked as an apprentice to Man Ray. Andy Warhol, Makos' good friend and frequent portrait subject, called Makos 'the most modern photographer in America'. His photographs have been exhibited in galleries and museums such as the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, the Tate Modern in London, the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the IVAM in Valencia, and the Reina Sofia Museum in Madrid.

Christopher Makos burst onto the photography scene with his 1977 book, *White Trash*. This raw, beautiful book chronicled the downtown NYC punk scene, interspersed with portraits of Uptown Boldface names like the designer Halston and Andy Warhol.

Up to this point, Makos had traveled widely in Europe, spending time with Man Ray.

Makos continued to document the New York scene in the 80s using his Interview Magazine «IN» column to present up and coming stars Matt Dillon, Christian Slater, Robert Downey JR. or Tom Ford. Besides, he continued to be a regular in Madrid. His portraits of Pedro Almodovar, Agatha Ruiz de la Prada, Bibi Andersen and Miguel Bose helped to identify *La Movida*.

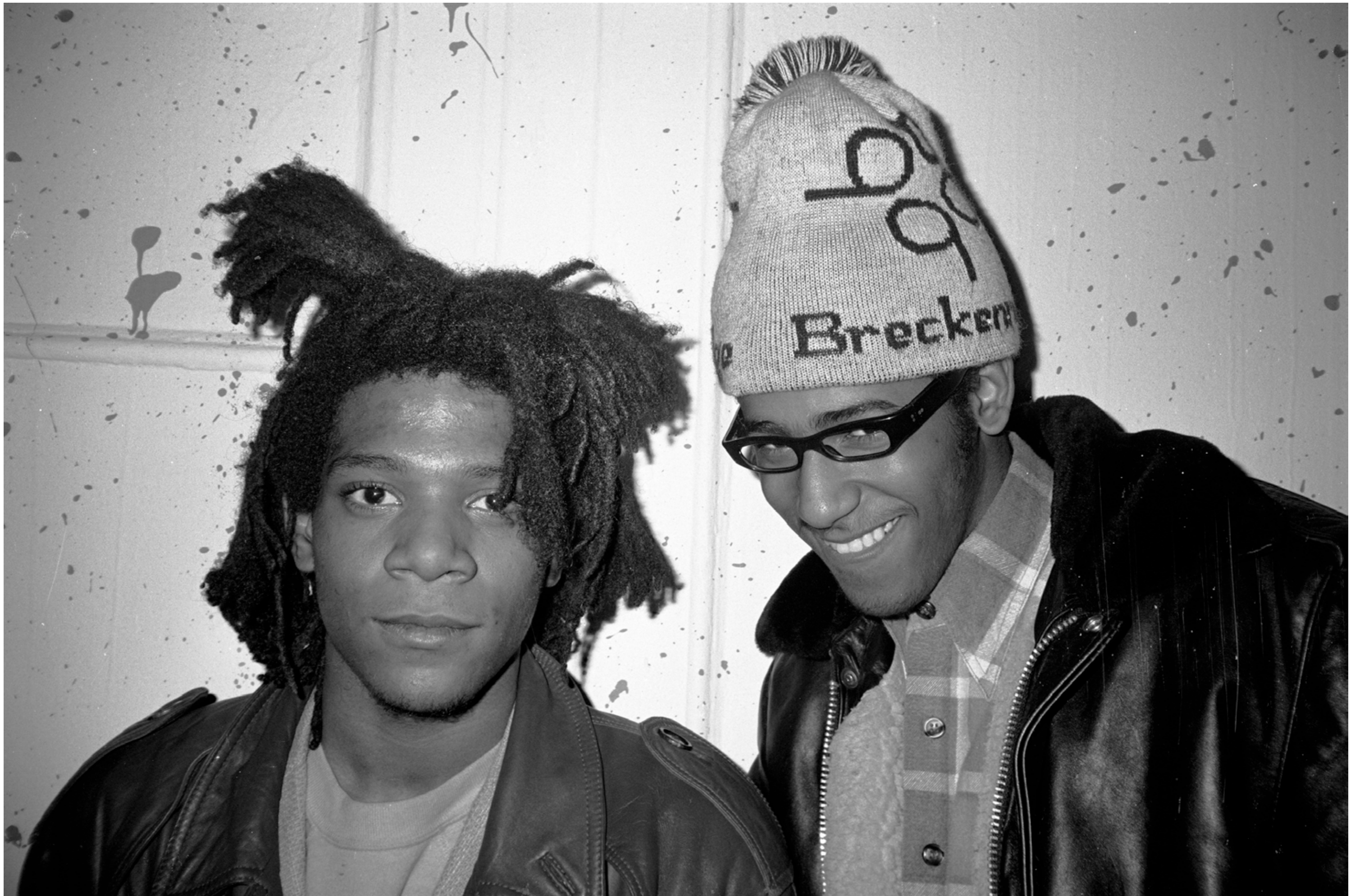
His pictures have been published in magazines and newspapers, including *Paris Match* and the *Wall Street Journal*. He is the author of several important books, like the volumes *Warhol/Makos In Context* (2007), *Andy Warhol China 1982* (2007) and *Christopher Makos Polaroids* (2009).



Debbie Harry, New York, USA, 1977

Edition of 7

137,1 x 91,4 cm - 54 x 36 in.



Jean-Michel Basquiat, New York, USA, 1983

Edition of 7

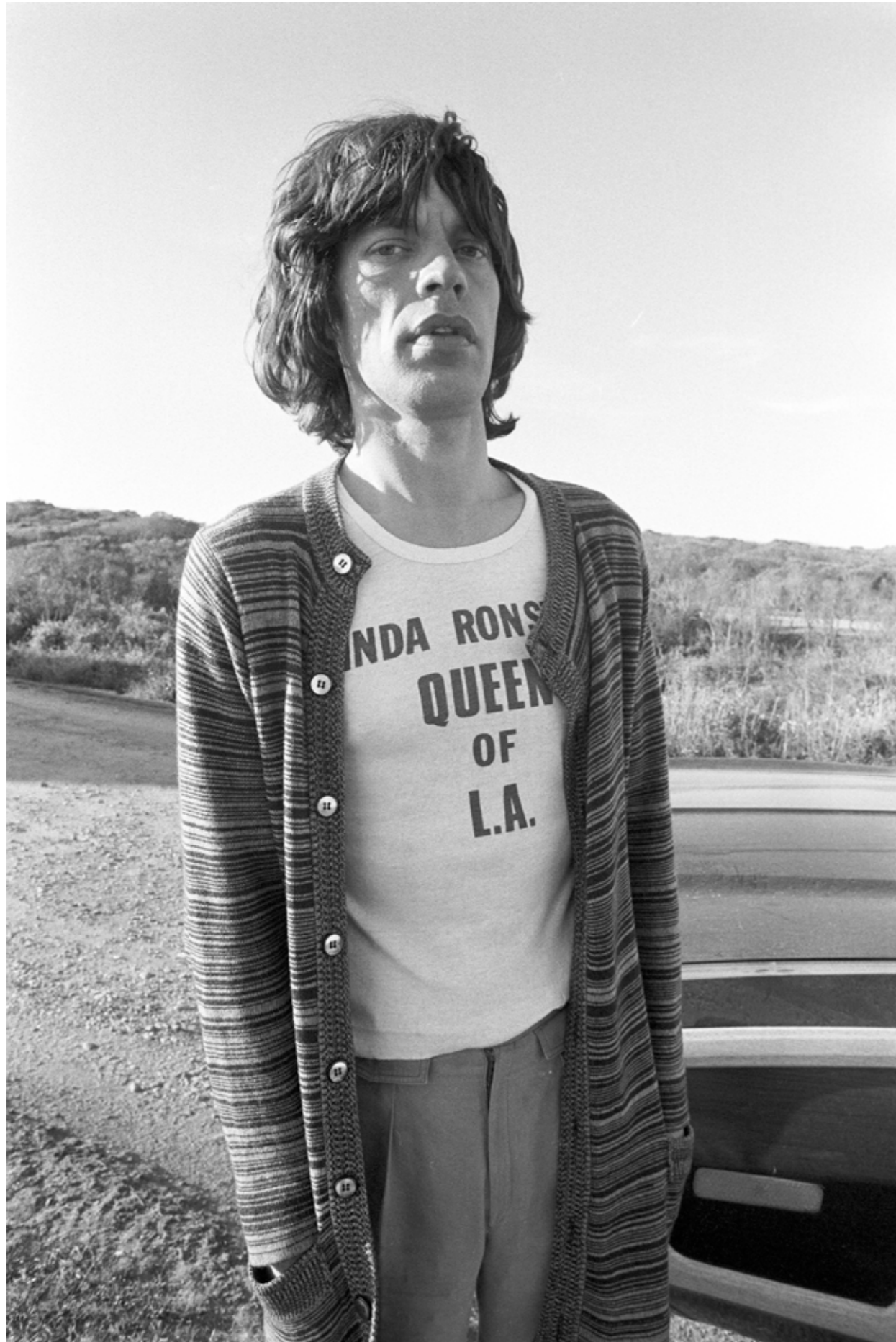
91,4 x 137,1 cm - 36 x 54 in.



Andy Warhol & Caroline de Monaco, New York, USA, 1983
Edition of 7
91,4 x 137,1 cm - 36 x 54 in.

Keith Richards, New York, USA, 1977

Edition of 7
137,1 x 91,4 cm - 54 x 36 in.



Mick Jagger, Montauk, USA, 1977

Edition of 7
137,1 x 91,4 cm - 54 x 36 in.



Jack Nicholson, Aspen, USA, 1983

Edition of 7
137,1 x 91,4 cm - 54 x 36 in.

Sébastien VALIELA

Sébastien Valiela, French photographer born in 1971, has graduated from L'École de Photographie et Techniques de L'Image (CE3P) before before chosing a paparazzo career.

He became interested in photography at the age of 15 and never stopped ever since. Considered as one of the best French paparazzi, he chose to pursue this work after the apparition of the Internet, that completely upturned the sector. Thanks to magazines such as *Voici*, Valiela has become the symbol of a new generation of paparazzi, snapping pictures of the stars, but also of French politicians.

He signed the cover of many people magazines, mostly revealing secret love stories or intimate moments. He has taken pictures of stars such as Gérard Depardieu and Carole Bouquet, Pierre Arditi and Jane Birkin... But the photography he became most famous for is the one of François Mitterrand and Mazarine Pingeot, revealing the filiation of the latter.

In 2004, he moved to Los Angeles in the USA, where the law is more permissive to street photographers than it is in France. New celebrities such as the Hiltons or the Kardashians used his talent to speak to the media.

He went back to France in 2008 and pursued his work, with more difficulties than in the USA. But his patience finally paid when, in 2013, he sold a picture of French President François Hollande, leaving the flat of actress Julie Gayet. This picture literally overturned the codes of the paparazzi photography, shining a light on the personal secrets of the most powerful person in the country.

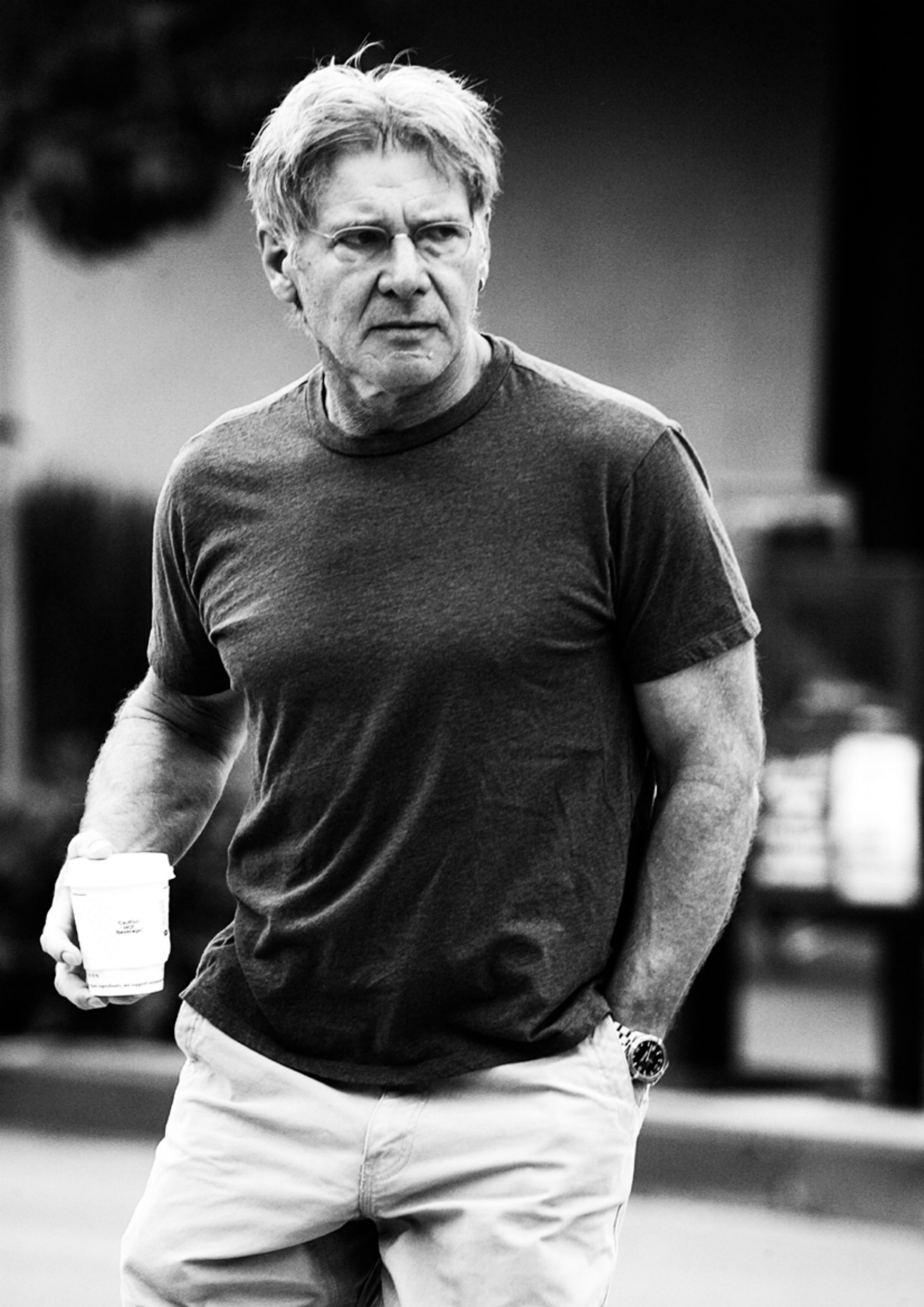
Since then, he has taken part into the exhibition at the Centre Pompidou Metz dedicated to Paparazzi and he continues to sell his pictures to the press.



With Laurent Viers

François Hollande, Paris, France, 31 December 2013

Edition of 7
80 x 100 cm - 31.5 x 39.4 in.



Harrison Ford, Los Angeles, USA, 25 October 2005

Edition of 7

60 x 50 cm - 23.6 x 19.7 in.

Paris Hilton, Los Angeles, USA, 25 March 2006

Edition of 7
60 x 50 cm - 23.6 x 19.7 in.





Val Kilmer, Los Angeles, USA, 27 April 2007

Edition of 7

50 x 60 cm - 19.7 x 23.6 in.



François Mitterrand & Mazarine, Paris, France, 21 September 1981

Edition of 7
50 x 60 cm - 19.7 x 23.6 in.



Angelina Jolie, Paris, France, 23 February 2010

Edition of 7
80 x 100 cm - 31.5 x 39.4 in.

Alison JACKSON

Born in Hampshire, Alison Jackson trained in Fine Art Sculpture at Chelsea College of Art in London and in Fine Art Photography at The Royal College of Art. She lives and works in London.

Her signature is to create works of art that depict imaginary sceneries of celebrities doing private things that could have existed. Through these realistic pictures, she denounces voyeurism and the intrusive yet seductive nature of the pictures taken by paparazzi. Thanks to her provocative *clichés*, she stresses the importance of media into the celebrity culture.

She has received several awards for her art and has also won the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) trophy for 'Doubletake', a comedy program broadcasted on BBC Two. As in her photographs, she used lookalikes to create awkward situations in which she depicted George W. Bush and Tony Blair.

Her work has been exhibited in various museums such as the San Francisco MoMA, the Carrousel du Louvre in Paris for the Paris Photo art fair in 2002, the Centre Pompidou Metz in 2014 and in many other galleries in the UK, in Europe and in the USA.



Marilyn undresses for JFK, 2000

Edition of 5
45,7 x 55,8 cm - 18 x 22 in.



Marilyn wanking, 2000

Edition of 5

76,2 x 106,6 cm - 30 x 42 in.



Kate, William & Baby George in bath, 2013

Edition of 5
76,2 x 106,6 cm - 30 x 42 in.

Queen on loo, 2014

Edition of 5
55,8 x 45,7 cm - 22 x 18 in.

In partnership with



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