

DOUBLE TAKE

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 — FEBRUARY 18, 2024

JOHN BRADY PRINT GALLERY | DES MOINES ART CENTER



DOUBLE TAKE is part of an ongoing series of exhibitions highlighting recent additions to the Des Moines Art Center's photography collections. Co-organized by Senior Curator Laura Burkhalter and Guest Curator Ben Easter, this exhibition aims to call attention to the aesthetic choices photographers make in works both posed and improvisatory.



LEFT
CINDY SHERMAN (American, born 1954)
Untitled Film Still #50, 1979
Gelatin silver print
6 1/4 x 9 5/16 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with funds from the Edmundson Art Foundation, 1992.39

RIGHT
AUGUST SANDER (German, 1876–1964)
Secretary at West Germany Radio in Cologne, 1931, printed 1992
Gelatin silver print
10 1/4 x 5 7/8 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with funds from the Rusty Hubbell and Ellen and Jim Hubbell Photography Acquisition Fund and the Peg Buckley Fund for Print Acquisitions, 2019.20

CURATOR'S STATEMENTS

DOUBLE TAKE is the first of what I hope are many co-curated photography exhibitions in the John Brady Print Gallery. When building an exhibition, it is essential to consider the various points of view an audience brings to the gallery, so having someone to question, critique, and get creative with makes for a stronger selection of works. In kicking off a series of photography shows, selecting a photographer to work with was a natural choice, but I could not have asked for someone more thoughtful and enthusiastic about the subject than Ben Easter. It is a joy to introduce his perspective to our audience with this exhibition. Our dual perspectives, Ben's as a photographer and mine as a curator, mirror the theme we chose for *Double Take*, which pairs superficially similar images to examine the ways photographs can appear deliberately staged or quickly improvised. We hope our collaboration inspires consideration of the numerous choices artists make to express their unique points of view and reveals that even the most similar images contain a multitude of new perspectives.

SENIOR CURATOR LAURA BURKHALTER

DOUBLE TAKE challenges viewers to delve beyond the surface of seemingly similar photographs. Through pairings of images captured by different photographers, the audience is invited to take a second look and uncover both the similarities and differences within. Whether portraiture, architectural, landscape, or street photography, each pairing prompts viewers to explore the intentions behind the photographs. Was it a staged composition or a candid moment frozen in time? By encouraging a deeper examination, I hope to ignite curiosity and provoke contemplation about the stories behind each image.

I firmly believe that a powerful image is born from the profound connection between the photographer and the subject. It is through this connection that the essence of the subject is captured, transcending mere visual representation. Laura Burkhalter and I created this visual journey to explore the intricate layers of photography, unraveling the stories, intentions, and connections that lie within each frame. We hope viewers will embrace the power of observation and introspection and discover the hidden narratives that await. Our world is so divided right now — this exhibition feels like an opportunity to use art to close the gap of our differences and focus on our similarities.

GUEST CURATOR BEN EASTER



LEFT
CINDY SHERMAN (American, born 1954)
Untitled Film Still #4, 1977
Gelatin silver print
7 1/4 x 9 1/4 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with funds from the Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc., 1992.38

RIGHT
JACQUES LOWE (American, 1930–2001)
Two dancers on stage, ca. 1960
Vintage gelatin silver print
13 5/8 x 9 3/8 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2016.42



LEFT
CINDY SHERMAN (American, born 1954)
Untitled Film Still #56, 1980
Gelatin silver print
6 3/4 x 9 1/4 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with funds from the Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc., 1992.40

RIGHT
DANNY LYON (American, born 1942)
Woman in a phone booth, 1967
Later gelatin silver print
18 x 12 1/16 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Philip A. Bernstein and Luisa Recalcati, 2017.142

LEFT
ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE (American, 1946–1989)
Two Men Dancing, 1984
 Gelatin silver print
 19 1/16 x 15 1/4 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Hudson, New York, 2001.12



RIGHT
LARRY FINK (American, born 1941)
Allentown, PA, Fair, 1980
 Vintage gelatin silver print
 13 3/4 x 14 1/16 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2006.103



LEFT
HIROSHI SUGIMOTO (Japanese, born 1948)
White Rhinoceros, 1980
 Gelatin silver print
 13 7/16 x 23 1/8 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Hudson, New York, 2001.18



RIGHT
JEANNE DUNNING (American, born 1960)
Study after "Untitled Landscape," 1988
 Black and white photograph
 3 1/2 x 4 1/2 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Hudson, New York, 2001.16



LEFT
MICHAEL DISFARMER (American, 1884–1959)
Two Young Men in Khaki Pants, Long-sleeved Sport Shirts, Striped Background, ca. 1940
 Gelatin silver print
 5 x 3 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2008.3

RIGHT
AUGUST SANDER (German, 1876–1964)
Country Girls, 1925, printed 1991
 Gelatin silver print
 10 1/4 x 7 7/16 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with funds from the Rusty Hubbell and Ellen and Jim Hubbell Photography Acquisition Fund and the Peg Buckley Fund for Print Acquisitions, 2019.19

LEFT
JUDY DATER (American, born 1941)
Imogen and Twinka at Yosemite, 1974
 Gelatin silver print
 12 15/16 x 9 15/16 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jim and Ellen Hubbell, 2018.27



LEFT
DANNY LYON (American, born 1942)
Marilyn, in an abandoned building, from "The Destruction of Lower Manhattan," 1966–1967, printed later
 Gelatin silver print
 11 x 9 13/16 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2016.52

RIGHT
LEONARD FREED (American, 1929–2006)
Nude in fetal position between trees, 2002
 Vintage gelatin silver print
 5 7/8 x 8 3/4 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Mark Greenberg, 2017.61

RIGHT
LARRY FINK (American, born 1941)
Ella & JJ, Martins Creek, 1982
 Vintage gelatin silver print
 11 7/8 x 17 7/8 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2006.102



LEFT
DANNY LYON (American, born 1942)
Cal, Elkhorn, Wisconsin, 1966, printed 2006
 Gelatin silver print
 12 3/4 x 19 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2009.142

RIGHT
NATHAN LERNER (American, 1913–1997)
Focused view for camera: Brown's face, 1939, printed later
 Gelatin silver print
 11 5/8 x 8 3/4 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry, 2021.80

LEFT
HARRY CALLAHAN (American, 1912–1999)
Tall urban buildings, ca.1977, printed 1980–1981
 Dye transfer print
 8 3/4 x 13 1/2 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2016.35



RIGHT
DOROTHY NORMAN (American, 1905–1997)
Village home, Cape Cod, 1937
 Gelatin silver print on original mount
 3 9/16 x 2 15/16 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2016.44



LEFT AND ON THE COVER
EDWARD W. QUIGLEY (American, 1898–1977)
Portrait of young woman holding up a tennis racquet, 1937
 Vintage gelatin silver print
 13 x 10 5/8 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry, 2021.29

RIGHT AND ON THE COVER
DMITRI BALTERMANTS (Russian, 1912–1990)
Test Pilot Ahmet Khan Sultan, Twice Hero of the Soviet Union, 1961, printed 2003
 Gelatin silver estate print
 15 x 14 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry, 2021.33

LEFT
MAN RAY (American, 1890–1976)
Self Portrait (solarized), ca. 1932
 Gelatin silver print
 9 x 6 7/8 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with funds from the Mildred M. Bohlen Deaccessioning Fund, 2008.37



LEFT
DIANE ARBUS (American, 1923–1971)
Loser at a Diaper Derby, N.J. 1967, 1967
 Gelatin silver print
 14 1/4 x 14 1/2 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of the Fraenkel Gallery, 2019.48

RIGHT
JULIE BLACKMON (American, born 1966)
Cupcake, 2007
 Archival digital print
 22 x 22 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jim and Ellen Hubbell, 2020.32

LEFT
HARRY CALLAHAN (American, 1912–1999)
Providence, ca. 1970, printed 1980–1981
 Dye transfer print
 7 3/8 x 7 1/4 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2009.82



LEFT
JUDY DATER (American, born 1941)
Twinka Thiebaud (Twinka and Tree), 1970
 Photograph
 13 7/16 x 10 3/8 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jim and Ellen Hubbell, 2018.28

RIGHT
SALLY MANN (American, born 1951)
Untitled, (Jenny and the Bedspread), from the "At Twelve" Series, 1983–1985
 Gelatin silver print
 7 7/16 x 9 3/4 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Jim and Ellen Hubbell, 2018.24

RIGHT
HANS BREDER (American, born Germany, 1937–2017)
Cuilapan, Mexico, from the series "Body/Sculptures," 1973
 Gelatin silver print
 14 7/8 x 14 15/16 inches
 Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of the Estate of Hans and Barbara Welch Breder, 2023.11

LEFT

JOEL MEYEROWITZ (American, born 1938)
Margaret and Caroline, 1983
Vintage chromogenic contact print
9 3/4 x 7 11/16 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent
Collections; Gift of Carl Alterman, 2016.73



RIGHT

JACQUES LOWE (American, 1930–2001)
Portrait of two dancers, ca. 1960
Vintage gelatin silver print
9 1/4 x 13 5/8 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent
Collections; Gift of Jeff Perry in honor of
Myron and Jacqueline Blank, 2016.41

LEFT

KARL STRUSS (American, 1886–1981)
Nude draped in gauze, plate 32 from
the series "The Female Figure," 1917
Hess-Ives color print, tipped to mount
8 5/8 x 5 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent
Collections; Gift of Mark Greenberg,
2018.78



RIGHT

JOEL MEYEROWITZ (American, born 1938)
Jan Testori, 1985
Vintage chromogenic contact print
9 5/8 x 7 5/8 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent
Collections; Gift of Mark Greenberg,
2018.77

This gallery guide is published in conjunction with

DOUBLE TAKE DOUBLE TAKE

on view in the John Brady Print Gallery of the Des Moines Art Center
September 1, 2023 – February 18, 2024

EXHIBITION PROGRAM

GALLERY TALK

with Senior Curator Laura Burkhalter and Guest Curator Ben Easter
Sunday, September 17, 2023 | 1:30 pm

Photography: Rich Sanders, Des Moines
Design: Connie Wilson

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