

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Mary Ellen Mark, Photographs

May 2 through June 22, 2019

Opening Reception

May 2, 7 – 9pm

The Fahey/Klein Gallery is pleased to present *Mary Ellen Mark, Photographs*, an exhibition of works celebrating Mark's unique eye for photojournalism, documentary photography, and portraiture. The exhibition surveys highlights from many of her series including Indian Circus, humorous and bizarre shots of performers and contortionists and their animals from India's liveliest circuses. Selections from *Twins* explore siblings at the Twins Days Festival in Twinsburg, Ohio. Images from Mark's work for LIFE magazine about the Damms, a homeless family in California, express the grim reality of survival on spare change and welfare checks.

Also on view will be work from *Streetwise*, which portrays homeless and troubled youth in Seattle including a girl named Tiny. Work from *Tiny: Streetwise Revisited*, her series completed in 2015, encapsulates Mark's 30-plus years photographing Tiny, now a middle-aged mother of ten. Mark also photographed on film sets and is known for her celebrity portraits including images of Marlon Brando, Sean Penn, Woody Allen, and Yoko Ono.

Mary Ellen Mark (1940-2015) was born in Philadelphia and achieved worldwide visibility through her photographs. For over four decades, she traveled extensively to make influential pictures that reflect a high degree of humanism. During her lifetime, her photo essays and portraits were exhibited worldwide and appeared in numerous publications, including LIFE, The New York Times Magazine, and The New Yorker. Her photo essay on runaway children in Seattle became the basis of the Academy Award-nominated film *Streetwise*, directed and photographed by her husband Martin Bell, and was published in book form in 1988. Mark published 21 books, including *Ward 81* (Simon & Schuster, 1979), *Falkland Road* (Knopf, 1981), *Streetwise* (second printing, Aperture, 1992), *American Odyssey* (Aperture, 1999), *Twins* (Aperture, 2003), *Exposure* (Phaidon, 2005), *Seen Behind the Scene* (Phaidon, 2009), *Prom* (Getty, 2012), and *Tiny: Streetwise Revisited* (Aperture, 2015).

Mary Ellen Mark's work has been exhibited internationally and is in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art and the International Center of Photography, New York; Bibliotheque nationale de France and Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; California Museum of Photography, Riverside; Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, AZ; Corcoran Gallery of Art; Washington; Detroit Institute of

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Arts; Centro Fotografico Alvarez Bravo, Oaxaca; El Centro de la Imagen, Mexico City; George Eastman House, Rochester, NY; The Hague Museum of Photography, J. Paul Getty Museum, Malibu; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; The Margulies Collection, Miami; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago; the Philadelphia Museum of Art; the Seattle Art Museum; the Vincent Van Gogh Foundation, Arles; and the Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven; among others.

Her honors and awards included a Fulbright Scholarship, Guggenheim Fellowship, Cornell Capa Award, and the 2014 Lifetime Achievement in Photography Award from George Eastman House.

Press Photographs Available on Request

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