

# HELMUT NEWTON FOUNDATION

## CHRONORAMA Photographic Treasures of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Duration: through 20 May 2024



Helmut Newton, Patti Hansen in Yves Saint Laurent, Promenade des Anglais, Nice, 1976, © Helmut Newton Foundation, courtesy Condé Nast (left) | Cecil Beaton, Actress Marlene Dietrich, Vanity Fair, 1932 © Condé Nast (middle) | Deborah Turbeville, Three Models, from the series Bathhouse, at the East 23rd Street Swimming Pool, New York City, Vogue, 1975 © Condé Nast (right)

The **Helmut Newton Foundation** and **Pinault Collection** proudly present **CHRONORAMA. Photographic Treasures of the 20th Century**. Following its highly successful premiere at Palazzo Grassi in Venice, the collaborative project will be shown at the Helmut Newton Foundation in Berlin starting 15 February 2024. CHRONORAMA marks the latest partnership between the Helmut Newton Foundation in Berlin and leading international collections. In 2018, it hosted *Between Art & Fashion*, with 223 works by 85 photographers from the collection of Carla Sozzani, former editor-in-chief of the Italian *Elle* and *Vogue*.

Now, the foundation unveils François Pinault's recently acquired collection of exceptional photographs, including portraits, fashion, still lifes, architecture, photojournalism, as well as early illustrations from the legendary **Condé Nast Archive**. Showcasing nearly 250 works created between 1910 and the late-1970s for Condé Nast's style-defining magazines, this chronological presentation traces the evolution of the fashion industry against the backdrop of radical changes in western culture, spanning subjects from the sophisticated to the sublime. Naturally, Helmut Newton's works are also part of this remarkable collection, as he contributed extensively to Condé Nast magazines like *Vogue* and *Vanity Fair* from the 1950s onward. Most of Newton's fashion photographs featured in this show have not been previously exhibited in Berlin.

Furthermore, the exhibition brings together an impressive array of Helmut Newton's contemporaries and predecessors, including trailblazing photographers like **Diane Arbus, Cecil Beaton, David Bailey, John Deakin, Robert Frank, Evelyn Hofer, Horst P. Horst, George Hoyningen-Huene, Peter Hujar, William Klein, Lisette Model, Ugo Mulas, Irving Penn, Bert Stern, Deborah Turbeville, and Chris von Wangenheim**.

CHRONORAMA comprises a breathtaking compendium of valuable vintage prints, many of which served as the basis for high-quality images in the magazines of their time. These photographic treasures transport today's viewers through the history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, offering insight into fashion staging and the evolving interpretation of fashion trends as well as culture, lifestyle, and world events. Organized by decade, the immersive tour begins in 1910, one year after Condé Nast acquired *Vogue* magazine, transforming it into a leading platform for fashion, style, and beauty.

In those early days, photographs were still relatively rare, so abundant drawings by renowned fashion illustrators of the era also adorn the exhibition walls. Unlike the photography back then, the illustrations gracing the magazine's pages and covers were in color – an important selling point for Condé Nast and its magazines. The dynamics between the two mediums underwent a seismic shift as photography rose to prominence in the ensuing decade in *Vogue* and *Vanity Fair* and other leading publications. Black-and-white photography long remained the standard, so the earliest color image on display dates to 1952, shot by Irving Penn, who also created over 100 *Vogue* covers.

Besides fashion, CHRONORAMA places people at the heart of its captivating chronicle, with numerous portraits of luminaries from the realms of music, art, sports, and politics – a veritable Who's Who of the 20th century's most celebrated figures. The exhibition also surveys lavish interiors, beauty salons, artistic still lifes, photographic experiments, and examples of journalistic photography, capturing war-torn London and the newly erected Empire State Building in New York. All these facets were published concurrently across Condé Nast's magazines – and now this extraordinary treasure trove of images awaits discovery in Berlin.

The exhibition, produced and presented at Pinault Collection – Palazzo Grassi (Venice) in 2023, is now shown at the Helmut Newton Foundation under the joint curatorship of Matthieu Humery, Advisor for photography at Pinault Collection and Matthias Harder, Director of the foundation.

The exhibition is accompanied by the publication *CHRONORAMA: Photographic Treasures of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*, Abrams & Chronicle Books, New York, 2023, 432 pages, Price: 38 €, ISBN 978-1-4197-6662-6

#### CHRONORAMA REDUX / Daniel Spivakov in the Project Room of the Helmut Newton Foundation

These enigmatic images somehow seem familiar, or at least certain elements of the motifs do. Consisting of multiple layers, they appear simultaneously figurative and abstract. Painter Daniel Spivakov engages with a preexisting image he selects himself, typically sourced from art or photography history, which he prints onto the canvas. Then, he overlays this image with expressive figures, applying quick brushstrokes. The faces in this second layer often resemble Spivakov's own, transforming each painting into a form of self-portrait. By superimposing himself as a mimetic layer onto the art-historical backdrop, he creates a dialogue spanning time and generations. The paintings, reminiscent of a grisaille (a gray-toned painting), are punctuated with splashes of yellow and red.

Daniel Spivakov, born in 1996 and represented by Stallmann galleries in Berlin, is an artist, who strives for truthfulness in his work. In 2023, he completed three large-format canvases at his studio in Venice. Each canvas comprises three parts that have been screwed together to form a layered triptych. These works were first presented shortly after completion as part of the complementary exhibition *Chronorama Redux* at Palazzo Grassi, and are now making their debut in Germany.

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