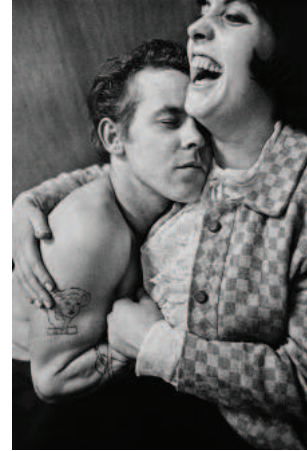




Anders Petersen. *From Back Home*. 2009
© Anders Petersen. Courtesy Galerie VU'
BnF, Estampes et photographie



Anders Petersen. *Close Distance*. 2002
© Anders Petersen. Courtesy Galerie VU'
BnF, Estampes et photographie



Anders Petersen. *Café Lehmitz*. 1970
© Anders Petersen. Courtesy Galerie VU'
BnF, Estampes et photographie

Anders Petersen [Photographs]

For the first time ever in Paris, a big monographic exhibition is devoted to Anders Petersen at the Bibliothèque nationale de France. The 330 photographs on display are not meant to be seen as a retrospective exhibition but a splendid searing journey through the work built up by the famous Swedish photographer during half a century. From the closed world of his debut to an opening up to the world, both a personal journey and the strength of an intuitive and sensual style are revealed to visitors.

In June 1974, in the wake of an acquisition, a generous donation brought 25 prints from the Café Lehmitz series to the collections of the Bibliothèque Nationale, the first and famous series of photographs made by the young Anders Petersen. Since then, his highly personal world, already present in those pictures, has unfolded itself and expanded. Petersen has asserted his artistic approach.

"We have the privilege to present in the Mansart gallery of the BnF the works of a photographer whose talent is now worldwide acknowledged and celebrated", says Bruno Racine, President of the BnF.

Petersen studied photography under Christer Strömholm. They share a similar vision of the world and the use of a vibrant, dynamic and sensitive photography in black and white close to snapshots. Neither roughness nor voyeurism nor complacency are allowed to taint the nature of the photographer's encounters or his absolute sincerity towards others. The flesh of human beings and animals encountered during Petersen's travels emerges as a flood of world objects in all their beauty and peculiarity. These street scenes, portraits and details of everyday life, insignificant or extravagant, are emphasized through an almost heretical framing practice.

*« (...) It's not really a style, for me it is an approach. I like people. There are common themes between my first pictures and what I am doing now. (...) It doesn't work that much with anecdotes and atmospheres. It works more with light and shadows. I'm interested in a distinct, sharp attack. That is not explaining anything, that has no answers, but has many questions. And the more questions and longings I can find in one cut, the better. » says Anders Petersen. **

The exhibition aims to show the stunning plasticity of Petersen's work. Photography is considered by the artist as a manifold medium offering a wide range of possibilities. Vintage prints stand harmoniously next to digital prints, books and contact sheets. Thanks to bold, free and adaptable layouts like installations, these photographs do not only show a vision of the visible but also a reconstruction of the visible, a way to arrange the chaos of the world.

*On the website dedicated to the photographer Erick Kim: <http://erickimphotography.com>.

This exhibition is a coproduction from the BnF, the Galerie VU' and Fotografiska (Stockholm).

Exposition

Anders Petersen [Photographs]

13 november 2013 - 2 february 2014

BnF I Richelieu
5 rue Vivienne, Paris II^e

Galerie Mansart
Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m to 7 p.m
Sunday, 12 a.m to 7 p.m
Closed on Mondays and public holidays
Admission : 7 euros, concession : 5 euros
Booking : FNAC at 0892 684 694 (0,34 euros inc.tax/min) and on www.fnac.com

Curator

Anne Biroleau, Curator at the Prints and photographs department of the BnF

Publication

Anders Petersen

Co-publication BnF / Max Ström
20 × 29,5 cm, 400 pages, 350 photographs black and white
with texts from Anne Biroleau, Hasse Persson and Urs Stahel
Price : 49 euros

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Dans le cadre de Paris Photo 2013

