



Mame-Diarra Niang
Remember to Forget

—

Raymond Meeks
The Inhabitants

Press opening

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Contact

Julia Pecheur
julia.pecheur@henricartierbresson.org
79 rue des Archives, 75003 Paris
+33 (0)1 40 61 50 60

79 rue des Archives 75003 Paris
+33 (0)1 40 61 50 50
henricartierbresson.org
@FondationHCB



Monday to Sunday : 11 a.m – 7 p.m.
Full fare 10 € / Reduced fare 6 €

Summary

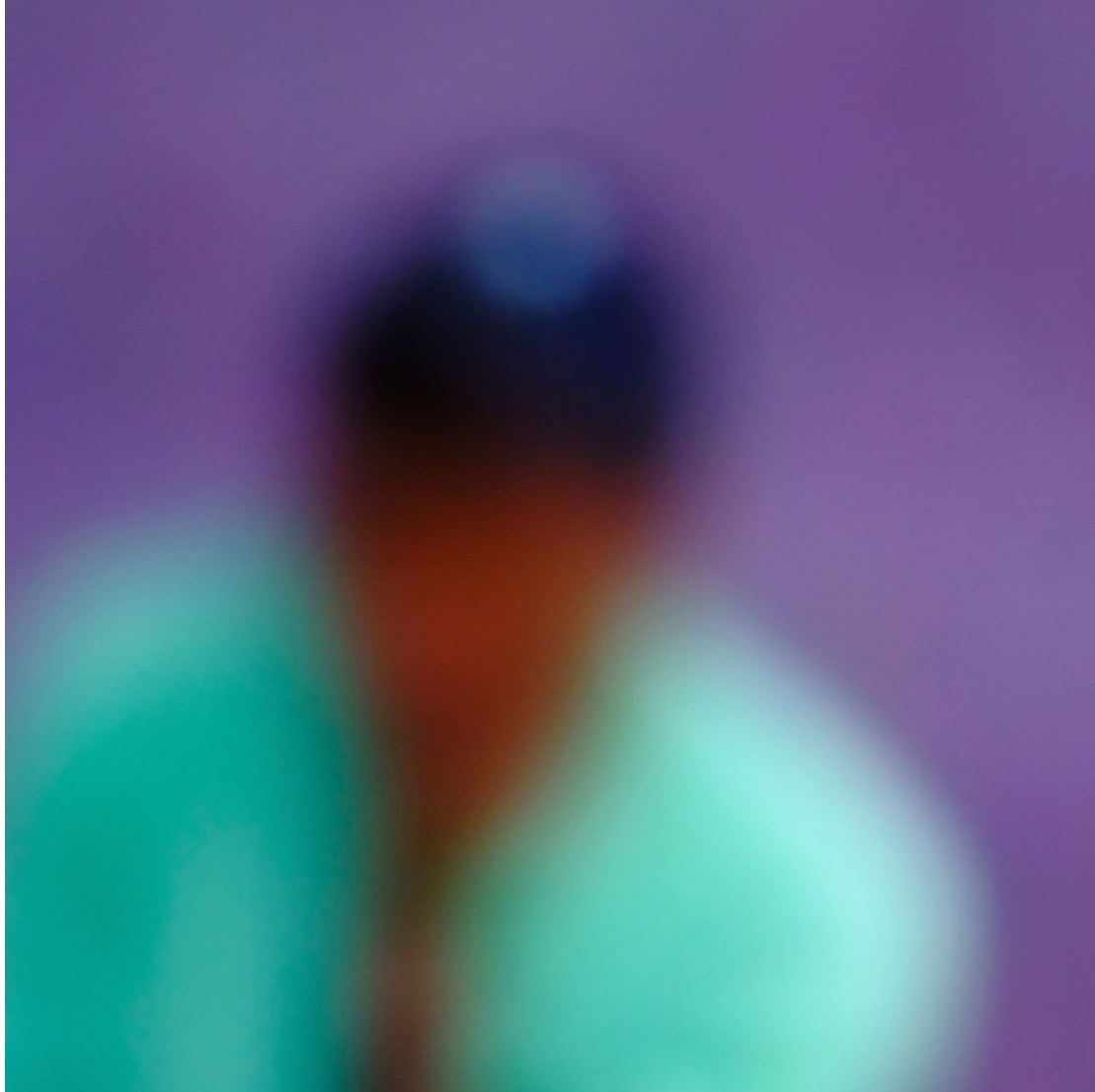
Mame-Diarra Niang 4
Remember to Forget

October 9, 2024 — January 5, 2025

Raymond Meeks 10
The Inhabitants

October 9, 2024 — January 5, 2025

Special display to celebrate the new edition 14
of Henri Cartier-Bresson's *The Decisive Moment*
on show until January 5, 2025



Morphologie du rêve #6, from the series *Sama Guent Guii* © Mame-Diarra Niang. Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam

The black body is at the heart of French artist Mame-Diarra Niang's new series. She doesn't want to define it, or tell its story. On the contrary, she wants to untie it from the ways it has been represented by centuries of Western narratives. She therefore seeks to make it abstract, through what she calls forms of non-portraits.

Each of the images in this tetralogy can be viewed as an evocation of the artist herself. "What constitutes me?" she ponders. Her personality cannot be reduced to a fixed, imposed or subjected identity. It's made up of experience, memory and forgetting. As such, it is in perpetual flux. It is this dynamic, this constantly shifting territory, that she explores.

In this work, initiated during a long period of confinement by re-photographing digital screens, Mame-Diarra Niang plays with the characteristic imperfections of conventional photography, such as blurriness, distortions and halos. Like a psychologist resorting to the inkblots of a Rorschach test to expose what's hidden in the subconscious, she uses these contemporary imagery's defects as projection surfaces. "I am this blur," she says.

Exhibition curator

Clément Chéroux

Director, Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson

EXHIBITION

Remember to Forget is the photographer's first monographic exhibition in France.

Æther (2024), the series that concludes the exhibition, is original and shown here for the very first time.

BIOGRAPHY

Mame-Diarra Niang was born in Lyon, France, in 1982, and lives in Paris.

Self-taught artist and photographer, she explores what she terms the "plasticity of territory".

Mame-Diarra Niang has exhibited her work on numerous occasions, through monographic exhibitions, notably at Zeitz MOCAA in Cape Town (2023-2024), at the Stevenson Gallery in Johannesburg and Amsterdam (2022, 2021, 2017, 2014), or through group shows: *Glitch. The Art of Interference* at the Pinakothek der Moderne in Munich (2023), *Unbound: Performance as Rupture* at the Julia Stoschek Foundation in Berlin (2023), the Sharjah Biennale (2023), the Hamburg Photography Triennial (2022), the Dakar Biennale (2022), the São Paulo Biennale (2018) or the Berlin Biennale (2018), to name but a few of the most recent.

Mame-Diarra Niang's work has been acquired by major photographic collections such as MoMa, Sharjah Art Foundation, Huis Marseille Museum for Photography, Pinakothek der Moderne Munich, Frac Corse, Frac Réunion, the Centre National des Arts Plastiques (Cnap), Soloviev Foundation and Walther Collection.

Niang published her first artist's book, *The Citadel: A Trilogy*, in 2022 with MACK, a three-volume edition articulating her "personal yet analytical relationship with place".

She is currently working on a second book to be published by MACK.



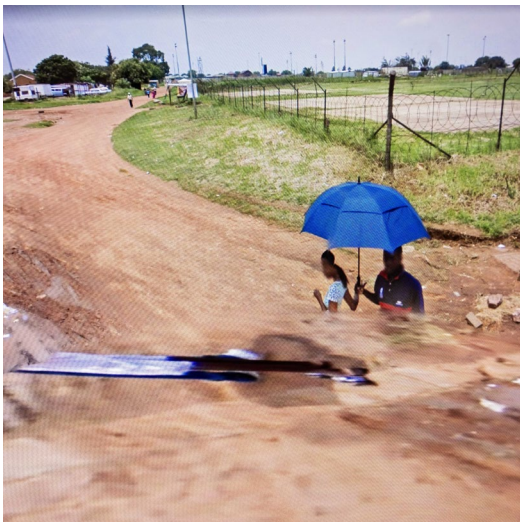
Continue #22, from the series Call Me When You Get There © Mame-Diarra Niang. Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



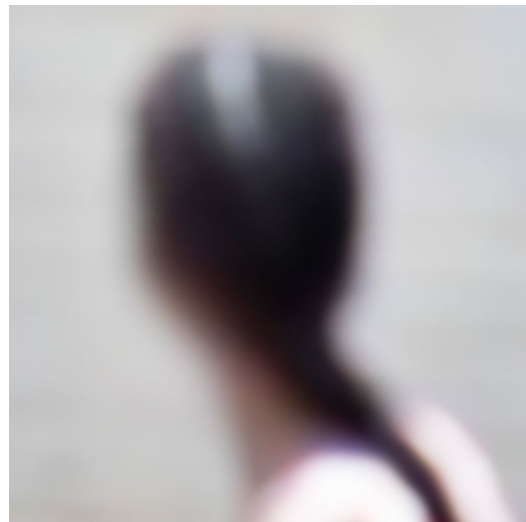
01
Turn #2, from the series *Call Me When You Get There* © Mame-Diarra Niang.
Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



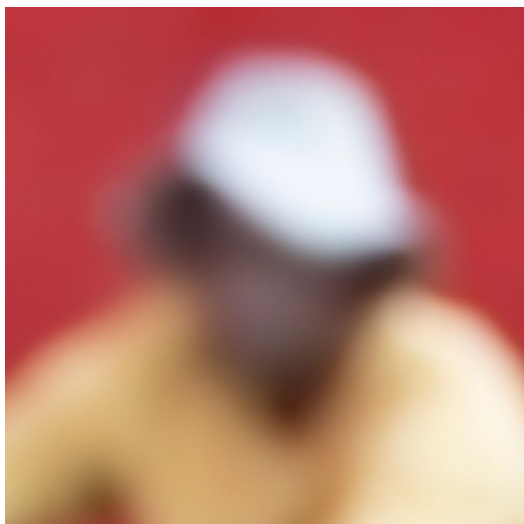
02
Continue #35, from the series *Call Me When You Get There* © Mame-Diarra Niang.
Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



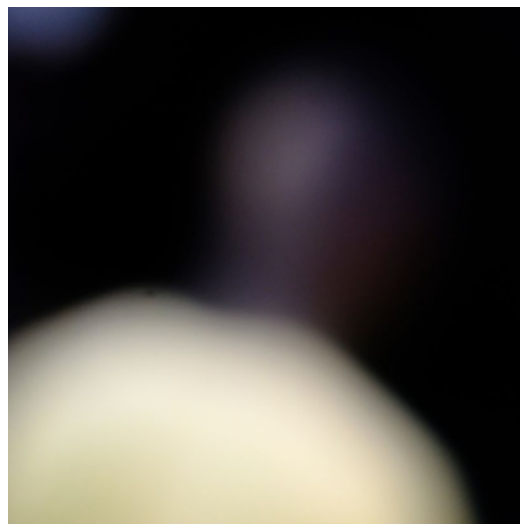
03
Continue #22, from the series *Call Me When You Get There* © Mame-Diarra Niang.
Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



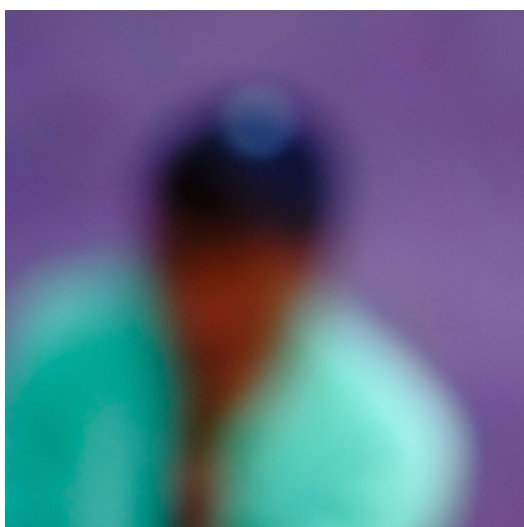
04
Ce qui monte, from the series *Léthé* © Mame-Diarra Niang.
Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



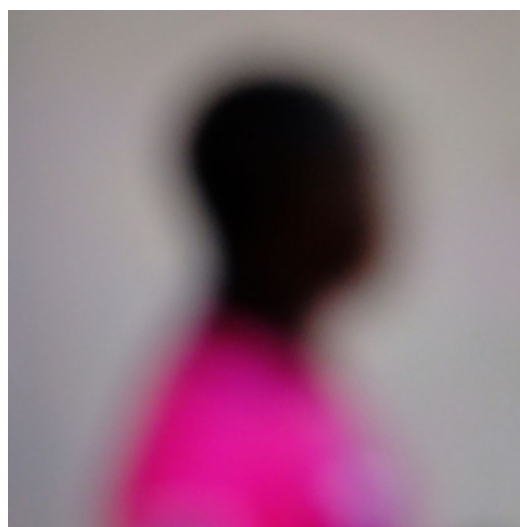
05
Figure le moment qui précède, from the series *Léthé* © Mame-Diarra Niang.
Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



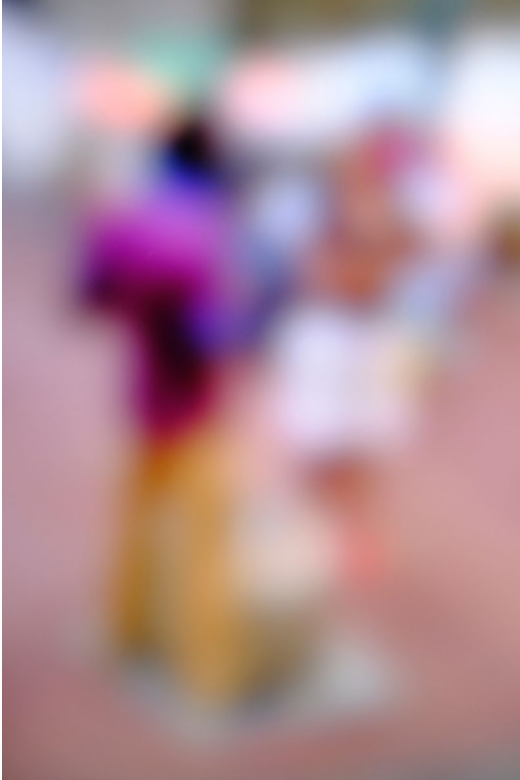
06
Morphologie du rêve #3, from the series *Sama Guent Guui* © Mame-Diarra Niang.
Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



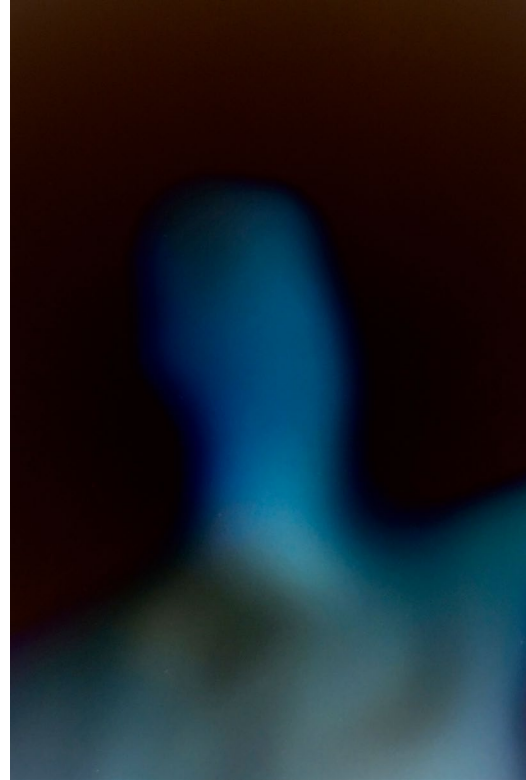
07
Morphologie du rêve #4, from the series *Sama Guent Guui* © Mame-Diarra Niang.
Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



08
Morphologie du rêve #6, from the series *Sama Guent Guui* © Mame-Diarra Niang.
Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



10
Morphologie du rêve #23, from the series *Sama Guent Guii* © Mame-Diarra Niang. Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam



11
Æther © Mame-Diarra Niang. Courtesy of Stevenson Cape Town/ Johannesburg/ Amsterdam

Recipient of the Immersion program of the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, American photographer Raymond Meeks spent a long time in France in the year 2022. He photographed in the South, on the border with Spain, and on the northern coast around Calais, two crossing points for asylum seekers on their way to England. He has chosen not to photograph the faces of the displaced, but rather the traces and residue of their itinerancy. There's a shoe in the dirt, a blanket rolled up on the ground, a jacket hanging on the branches... Meeks is especially attentive to the inhospitable spaces migrants temporarily inhabit: ditches, embankments, motorway roadsides, riverbanks, wastelands and other non-places. Even when not directly visible, rivers are omnipresent in his images. These waterways might even act as a metaphor for migration flows. There are also many obstacles—stony embankments, concrete blocks, brambles or barbed wire—which might only suggest the plight of refugees on a daily basis. *The Bourgeois de Calais*, as sculpted by Auguste Rodin, also appear in the series, bearing witness to the catastrophic history of the 100 Years' War. The project is accompanied by a text from American writer George Weld, who shares with Meeks' photographs a similar approach marked by discretion and empathy.

Exhibition curator

Clément Chéroux

Director, Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson

EXHIBITION

The Inhabitants is Raymond Meeks' first monographic exhibition in France.

BIOGRAPHY

Raymond Meeks (Ohio, 1963) has been recognized for his books and pictures centered on memory and place, the way in which a landscape can shape an individual and, in the abstract, how a place possesses you in its absence. Meeks lives and works in the Hudson Valley (New York). He is the sixth laureate of Immersion, a French-American photography commission sponsored by Fondation d'entreprise Hermès. *The Inhabitants*, a book made in collaboration with writer George Weld, was published in August 2023 by MACK.

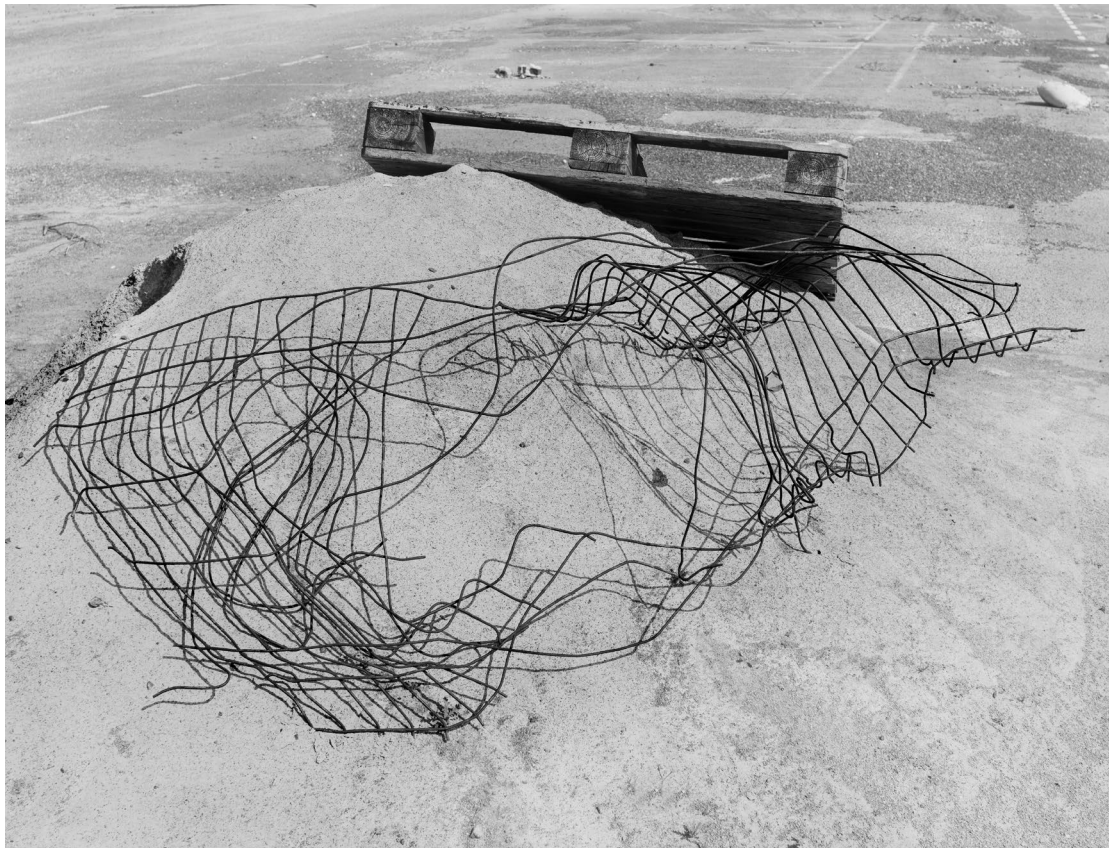
Raymond Meeks is a 2020 recipient of a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in Photography and was awarded a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant in 2022.

IMMERSION

Immersion is designed to support contemporary photography in France and the United States. Initiated in 2014 by the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, this Franco-American photographic commission is an annual program of cross-residencies, exhibitions and publications, alternatively open to a U.S.-based photographer wishing to work on an original project in France, mentored by an English-speaking professional, and, the following year, to a French-based photographer wishing to work on an original project in the U.S., mentored by a French professional. Each year, as part of an alliance established with the Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson in Paris and the International Center of Photography in New York (ICP), Immersion results in solo exhibitions held at these two prestigious institutions.

The sixth edition was sponsored by David Company, Director of Programs at the ICP. Raymond Meeks completed his residency in France in 2022. The outcome of his work was presented at the ICP in September 2023, alongside the two previous winners, Vasantha Yoganathan (France) and Gregory Halpern (USA).

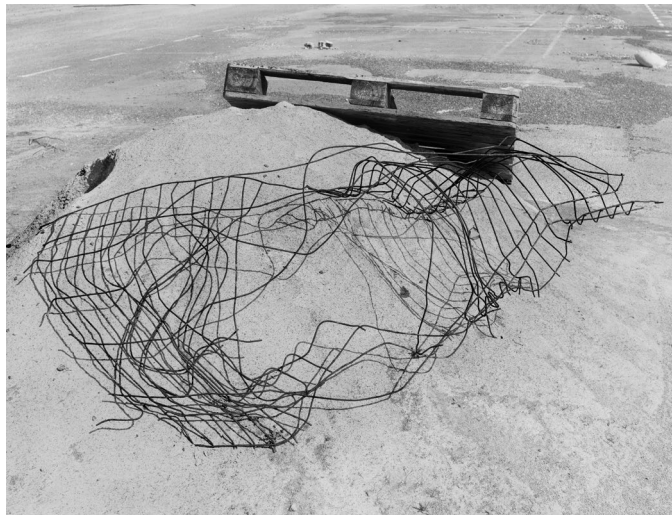




The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



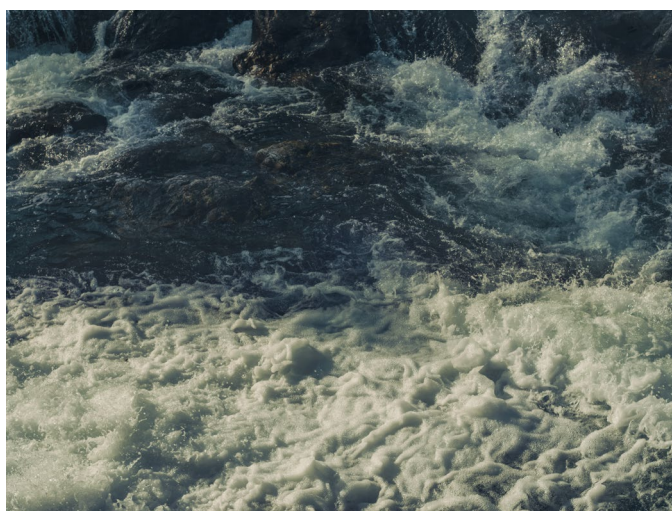
01
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



02
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



03
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



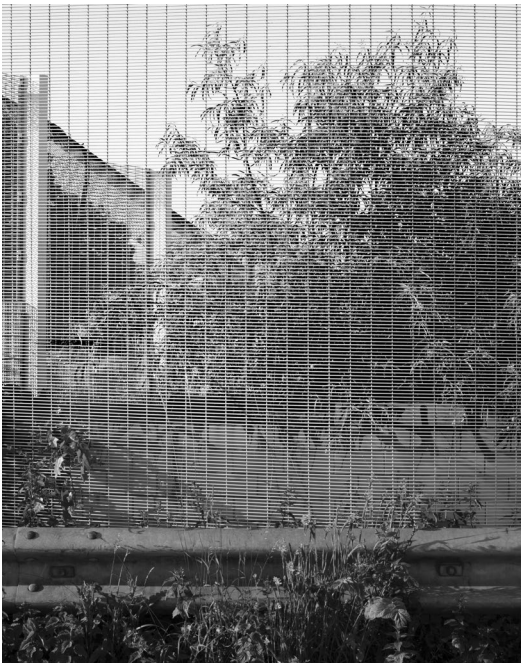
04
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



05
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



06
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



07
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



08
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



09
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks



10
The Inhabitants © Raymond Meeks

Special display to celebrate the new edition of Henri Cartier-Bresson's *The Decisive Moment* on show until January 5, 2025

Press visuals

To celebrate the publication of the new edition of Henri Cartier-Bresson's famous book *The Decisive Moment* (Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, June 2023), the Fondation has designed a special display featuring a dozen of the book's most striking images, several cover copies of the original book and an exceptional document. The display remains on view until January 5, 2025.

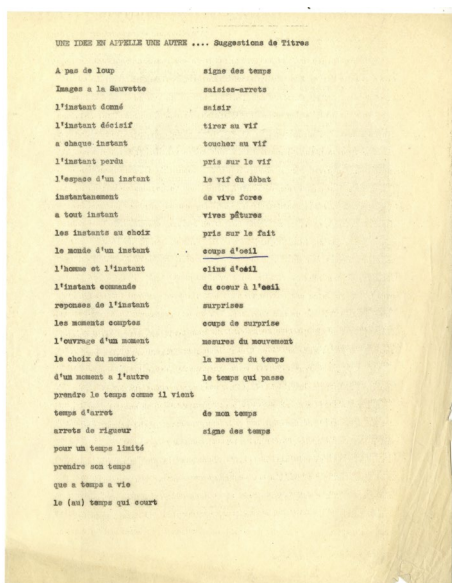
Visuals must be accompanied by their captions and copyrights. No cropping permitted. Visuals are limited to two per publication.



01
The Decisive Moment © Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson



02
Henri Cartier-Bresson, *Sunday on the banks of the Seine*, France, 1938
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos.



03
Henri Cartier-Bresson, « Une idée en appelle une autre... Suggestions de titres », 1952 © Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson



04
Henri Cartier-Bresson, *Valencia*, Spain, 1933
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson / Magnum Photos.



01
Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, 79 rue des Archives, November 2018
© Cyrille Weiner.



02
Front desk and bookstore
Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, 79 rue des Archives, June 2024
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson



03
Carolyn Drake - *Men Untitled* exhibition
Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, 79 rue des Archives, September 2023
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson.



04
Vasanthan Yogananthan - *Mystery Street* exhibition
Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, 79 rue des Archives, May 2023
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson.



05
Stephen Shore - *Véhicular & Vernacular* exhibition
Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, 79 rue des Archives, June 2024
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson.



06
Ruth Orkin - *Bike Trip, USA, 1939* exhibition
Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, 79 rue des Archives, September 2023
© Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson.

