

PLANCHES CONTACT



exhibition

September 14 | October 28, 2023



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Maurice Renoma

From September 14 until October 28, 2023, the GNG gallery will host the “Planches Contact” exhibition to highlight the aesthetic approach of Maurice Renoma, as an artist, and the creative impulse that accompanies his whole life.

Gilles Naudin presents an original project, designed to investigate the origins of the artist’s creative process and the multiple facets of his personality.

This exhibition will be held on the occasion of the **60 years anniversary of Maison Renoma in October 2023.**

If the artistic act begins with the intention, it is through the look and the choice that the author has on his drafts that we discover the creative process.

Maurice Renoma opens his archives and exhibits for the first time his contact sheets, containing the pictures from the beginning of his practice of photography. This course in search of its aesthetic becomes for the spectator to read real visual notebooks.

The strength of photography arises from the fusion between poetry and reality: Maurice Renoma stages the unknown, experiments without setting limits and likes to be amazed with the results, in a position of a rebellious mind and impervious to collective norms and values. Presenting a spontaneous character and strongly inventive, he designs a universe for his own use from his own impulses.

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Photos Ratées [Failed Photos]

Photos taken without intention or reflection, accidents of the present.

Maurice Renoma did not design his failed photos for them to become artistic objects. They are accidents, failed takes that are sometimes the genesis of accomplished works throughout his journey. These first images capture the movements of life, shadows and bodies. His gesture is automatic and intimate, destined to capture the noise of existence, the form of emotions, the dimension of missteps: the blurs preserve the mystery of the individuals and erase the boundaries between fiction and reality, shadow and light, perversions and virtues.

The human body is at the center of his early years of experimentation, marked by a particular interest for the characters – sometimes taken out of context and rendered in an almost cinematic setting; the images are imbued with sensuality and explore the details of a garment on the body, capturing the charm of a lost gaze or an intimate ritual.

We could call it intimate photography, in which the subjects were photographed in “stolen” situations, in the moments before and after the real posing. These are spontaneous images captured in the movement of life, preserving the mystery of individuals and subtracting nothing from the grace or harshness of the moment.



© Maurice RENOMA, Photos Ratées series



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Maurice Renoma

artist and style icon, celebrates 60 years of creation and counterculture

Maurice Renoma is an unclassifiable visionary who knew how to create, from fashion to image, an instinctual aesthetic giving life to a transgressive and abundant universe.

In 1963, the White House Renoma boutique opened its doors: Maurice Renoma began to express through clothing an original vision freed from all prejudiced aesthetics. Its countless collections can punctuate the century in a kaleidoscope of form and colors, of which men's fashion counts, even today, few equivalents.

In the early 1990s, he developed a passion for a new means of expression: the image. His photographic debut materialized with the blur: far from being the first artist to experiment with this kind of technique, he was surely the first to use it in his brand's advertising campaigns. This operation attracted criticism from the art world, whereas famous photographers recognized him as a talented colleague.

He dares everything he should not do and everything no one does use: the failure and the 400 ASA film are examples. He thus finds his language.

It is life itself, in its extraordinary normality, which becomes the main subject of his photographs. Her journey is thus presented as a continuous sequence of experiences and visual productions on different media: he goes from film to digital, from black and white to color, from nude to landscape and still life.

Fiercely independent, Maurice Renoma cultivates a raw image of his own, which offers a mythology of the body and its surroundings. It's about giving shape to the intimate far from the codes of classical representation, hence the hybridization that runs through his work and the setting application of singular modes of figuration.



The framing, the natural light, the blurs, testify to the impulsive and spontaneous act of his shots. Tireless explorer of the female body, he highlights the emotions which are born from the grace of an attitude, a look, the curve of a thigh or a back. This is how the velvet of the grain of the photo merges with the one of the skin.

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