

LEICA M MONOCHROM: A BLACK-AND-WHITE MASTERPIECE?

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PHOTOGRAPHY

A Different Take

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PERSONAL ARCHIVES

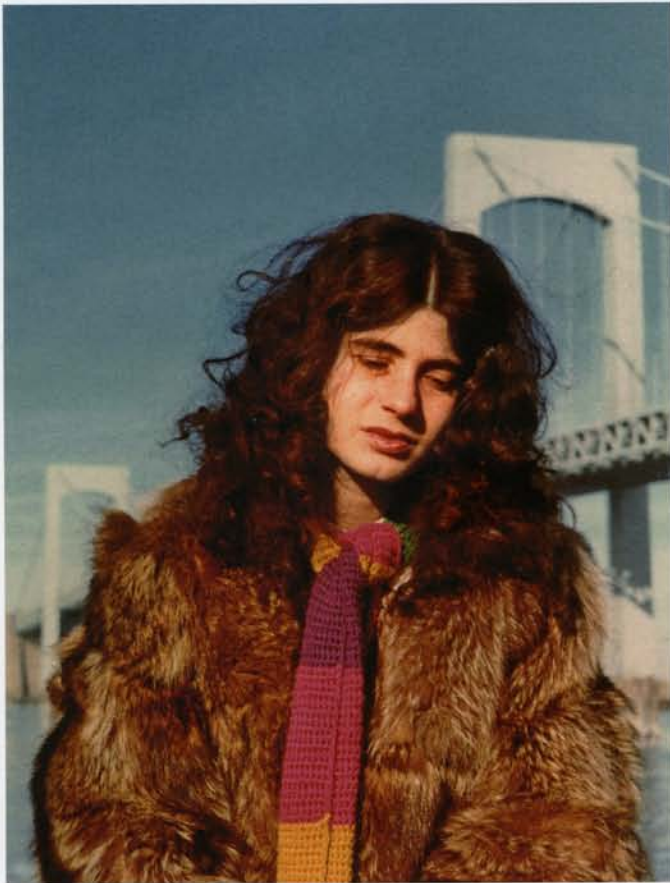
EXPLORING THE PAST

Unseen images by Tom Wood, Garry Winogrand and Miles Aldridge surface as we delve into their archives

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- 1 **Whitestone Bridge** All images © Joshua Lutz, courtesy of ClampArt, New York City
- 2 **Praying for the Mantis**
- 3 **Failed Attempt**



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Hesitating Beauty

In his second exhibition at New York's ClampArt Gallery, Joshua Lutz presents a body of work in which he attempts to come to terms with his mother's lifelong mental illness. Gemma Padley reports

"Holding on so tightly to what I believed was sanity and being consumed by fear of depression and schizophrenia prevented me from being fully present to my mother's reality. The past few years, as she slipped away from the aggressive paranoia and depression of my youth to an almost calming sense of delusion, made it much easier for me to rid the anger that veiled my life and to attempt to find a place of empathy and compassion as I managed her care," writes Joshua Lutz.

In *Hesitating Beauty*, the New York-based photographer offers a glimpse into the emotional highs and lows he experienced growing up with his mother's struggle with depression. He combines photographs from his family archive, interviews, letters and his own photographs to

create an intimate and moving portrayal of a family affected by mental illness.

"In making this work and simultaneously falling deeper into her psychosis, I tried to imagine a time when the past, present and future collided; a place where the weight of memory is heavier than reality," writes Lutz.

Exploring the notion of memory and the photograph as a vehicle for truth, Lutz turns to the family archive to aid his understanding of his mother's condition. Yet at the heart of the work is a sense of uncertainty as Lutz recognises there is no single truth to be shown, but rather many possible ways of viewing and interpreting the effects of his mother's illness on himself and his family.

The exhibition at ClampArt opens on 11 April and coincides with the release of Lutz's monograph of the same title, published by Schilt Publishing. The gallery's Project Room will also be showing a selection of work from Lutz's other series, *Amsterdam*. *BJP*

Hesitating Beauty is on at ClampArt, New York, until 18 May
www.clampart.com
www.schiltpublishing.com



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