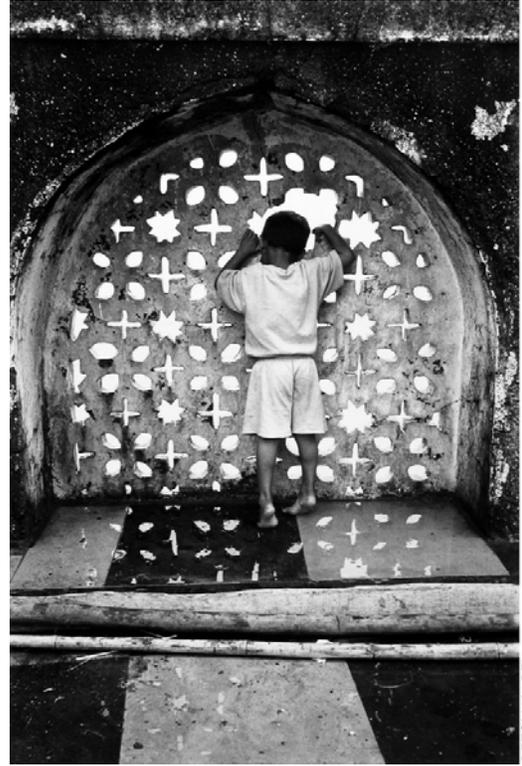


Sacred Sight

Photographs in India

23 January – 14 March, 2009

Opening Reception
Thursday, 22 January, 6-8pm



New York – Howard Greenberg Gallery proudly presents an exhibition of rare vintage and contemporary photographic prints on India. Rich in culture, tradition and a generosity of spirit, these images illustrate a people and land so unique that the patterns of their environment seem to radiate throughout their beings. This show brings together a varied group of images from the late 19th century overview of Calcutta by Bourne and Shepard to the poignant images of the prostitutes of Falkland Road, in Bombay by Mary Ellen Mark.

Margaret Bourke-White was sent to India by LIFE Magazine to cover the war dividing India and Pakistan. There she photographed Sikhs migrating to their new homeland after the creation of Sikh and Hindu section of India, and photographed Gandhi only hours before his assassination.

Samuel Bourne's name is synonymous with British Indian photography. He is the most researched and highly-praised colonial photographer. His work gave birth to a studio, Bourne & Shepherd that still operates in Calcutta. Bourne's photographs have what his contemporaries described as a "luminescent quality" that exemplifies classic Raj photography.

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Henri Cartier- Bresson arrived in India in 1947, at the time of Independence. Having made insider connections through Jawaharlal Nehru, he was able to capture the essence of India. He photographed Hindus in refugee camps after the Partition and during six extended visits over a twenty-year period, made images such as his astonishing pictures on the death and cremation of Gandhi. The images he made there only confirm that Cartier-Bresson had an extraordinary gift of observation.

William Gedney's work was focused mainly around two lengthy trips to India starting in 1969 (funded by Fulbright and National Endowment for the Arts fellowships in 1979) that resulted in a set of pictures of people living in the cramped, old sections of cities. When Gedney arrived in Delhi in November 1969, he traveled to Benares, where he lived and photographed in the old part of the city for fourteen months.

In 1953, **Leon Levinstein** left his full time position at Colby Advertising Agency to commit himself to photography. By 1955, he had begun traveling the world to photograph and by 1977 made his the first of many trips to India, where he continued to make his distinct style of street photographs.

Mary Ellen Mark made her first trip to India in 1968. On this trip she discovered the women of Falkland Road, a road "lined with old wooden buildings, with cage like structures with girls inside of them". In 1978, after 10 years of trying to make photographs of this place, Mark was finally accepted by the women and spent 4 months living among and photographing the prostitutes of Falkland Road. The end product was an intense and truly loving body of work.

Former Magnum member **Marc Riboud** is best known for his extensive world travels. In 1955 he began what would be 5 years traveling and photographing the East. Stopping first in India where he would make quiet, elegant pictures of the people and life in India.

Award winning photo-journalist **Betsy Karel** found herself traveling to India after being inspired by the work of Indian Authors. While in Bombay Karel was struck by the dichotomy of the beauty and the filth, and overwhelmed by the chaos and overstimulation. The title of her project *Bombay Jadoo* (the Hindi word for Magic), rings true in every photograph. Karel manages to isolate the beauty and the personal among the madness and overpopulation, turning public spaces into private places.

For further information, or to request visuals for press,
contact Ali Price at 212 334 0010 or ali@howardgreenberg.com
Starting January 23rd, the exhibition can be viewed at www.howardgreenberg.com