

# JAMES KARALES

November 7 – December 14, 2013



New York City – James Karales' photographs of the Civil Rights movement put him on the photo world map, but some of his other major themes will be the focus of an exhibition at Howard Greenberg Gallery from November 7 – December 14, 2013. While his iconic image of the Selma to Montgomery march will be on view, the exhibition will also delve deeper into his lesser-known surveys of the integrated mining community of Rendville, Ohio; logging in Oregon; and the aftermath of the Andrea Doria disaster. Many of the images were taken for LOOK magazine and are on public view for the first time. The exhibition, which includes work from 1956 to 1969, will be held in HGG Two, located next to the main gallery at 41 East 57<sup>th</sup> Street in New York City. An opening will be held on Thursday, November 7, from 6-8 p.m.

The exhibition of work by James Karales (1930-2002) coincides with the publication of a new book by Steidl, with text by Vicki Goldberg, Howard Greenberg, and Sam Stephenson. The book, *James Karales*, aims to show that Karales' stature as a photojournalist and social documentary photographer par excellence is based on much more than one image from Selma.

Another book published earlier this year, *Controversy and Hope: The Civil Rights Photographs of James Karales* (The University of South Carolina Press, April 2013), includes a forward by Civil Rights leader Andrew Young, who was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s aide. He writes, Karales' images reveal "the complexity of emotions intertwined with the hopes and hardships of the struggle."

In 1956, a young Karales set out to document Rendville, Ohio, a coal-mining town that had fallen on hard times. Immersing himself in the small town, he elevated and dignified its residents with his lens. The work attracted the attention of Helen Gee at the famed Limelight photography gallery in Greenwich Village who gave him a show in 1958. Among the highlights of the exhibition at Howard Greenberg Gallery are the photographer's touching portrayals of everyday moments, a girl with a life-like doll in her lap and a woman clapping in church.

Also in 1956, the SS Andrea Doria, an Italian ocean liner bound for New York City, sunk off the coast of Nantucket, Massachusetts, killing 52 people. Karales documented families awaiting news of survivors in New York City. In one photograph, two women embrace as a policeman stands over them seemingly oblivious to their plight.

In 1965, Karales traveled to Vietnam to photograph the U.S. Special Forces, where he told the story of the war through faces of the people. A 1963 image shows a young Vietnamese boy carrying a baby on his back in a cloth sling.

### **About James Karales**

James Karales graduated from Ohio University with an M.F.A. in photography in 1955. His first job was as an assistant to W. Eugene Smith where he learned darkroom skills from the master. Early in his career, his work began to attract attention, most notably from Edward Steichen, the director of photography at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, who purchased two prints. Beginning in 1960, Karales was a photographer for LOOK magazine for 11 years, and became known for his landmark essays on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who granted him unprecedented access to his family. When LOOK closed in 1971, Karales became an independent photographer. His work is in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art and the International Center for Photography in New York.

### **About Howard Greenberg Gallery**

Howard Greenberg Gallery is located at 41 East 57th Street, Suite 1406, New York. The gallery exhibits at The Armory Show, The AIPAD Photography Show New York, Paris Photo Los Angeles, Art Basel, Paris Photo, and Art Basel Miami Beach. For more information, contact 212-334-0010 or [info@howardgreenberg.com](mailto:info@howardgreenberg.com) or visit [www.howardgreenberg.com](http://www.howardgreenberg.com).