

All About Abbott

Berenice 1926-1955

15 September – 4 November 2006

Opening

Thursday, 14 September, 6-8pm



Ballantine's Brewery, 1938

New York Howard Greenberg Gallery in association with Commerce Graphics is pleased to announce an exhibition of photographs by the critically acclaimed photographer Berenice Abbott. This exhibition will not only focus on her well known photography but will also display examples of her earliest work as a portrait photographer in Paris during the 1920's; her New York photographs of the 1930's; her scientific photographs from the 1950's and her images from U.S.1 the coastal highway from Maine to Florida.

In 1923, Berenice Abbott began her photographic career in Paris, assisting Man Ray. Two years later she had her own thriving portrait studio. In 1928 she participated with André Kertész, Germaine Krull, Man Ray and others in the First Independent Salon of Photography. Her sitters comprise a virtual catalogue of the artistic and intellectual life of the time.

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After returning to New York in 1929, Abbott witnessed huge transformations physically and socially within the city. Inspired by the Parisian photographer Eugene Atget she purchased an 8 x 10" view camera in 1932, and with the aid from the Federal Art Project of Works Progress Administration, Abbott began her "Changing New York" survey. Three years later, she had amassed over 300 negatives. In 1937 her solo exhibition at the Museum of the City of New York was unveiled and in 1939 her book of the same title was published. As of today, more than half of the places Abbott photographed on this project have been demolished.

In the mid-1950's Abbott began another huge project – this time for the Physical Science Study Committee of Educational Services. Photographs of physical phenomena or her "Science" images were produced at that time.

Through out Abbott's photographic career – she has exhibited in countless museums, and galleries, has published numerous books and has inspired scores of artists. She remains today one of the most important figures in 20th century photography.

For further information, or to request visuals for press,
contact Karen Marks at 212 334 0010 or karen@howardgreenberg.com
Starting September 14, the exhibition can be viewed at www.howardgreenberg.com