Paris Photo 2024: 10 unmissable stands

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Inès Boittiaux 7 novembre 2024

IN PICTURES

From cult images to discoveries, 10 unmissable stands at Paris Photo

By Inès Boittiaux • the November 7, 2024 at 5:22 p.m.

A real highlight of the fall, Paris Photo returns from November 7 to 10 under the majestic nave of the Grand Palais, recently restored. With 195 galleries, 45 publishers, new sectors and events, this 27th edition has done things in a big way. The proof in 10 favorites. An unmissable event in November, Paris Photo is back in the Grand Palais, which has just been restored and is more beautiful than ever! 195 galleries and 45 publishers have answered the call for this 27th edition, which also includes a new sector, "Voices", entrusted to guest curators, and an educational space, also new, dedicated to children's photo books. Also not to be missed: the exceptional projects in the "Prisms" sector, the new talents in the "Emergence" sector, as well as an exhibition dedicated to Lithuanian photography... All under the patronage of filmmaker Jim Jarmusch, who, for the occasion, has designed a route through the fair (the works concerned are indicated by specific labels).

You will have understood: this year, Paris Photo saw big and dazzled us with proposals that were sometimes dazzling, funny, surprising, overwhelming, hyper stimulating! A dizzying dive into ^{20th} century Germany with August Sander (Julian Sander gallery), the irresistible doggies of William Wegman (Georges-Philippe and Nathalie Vallois gallery), the jolts of the world in the infallible eye of photojournalist Gilles Caron (Anne-Laure Buffard gallery)... We are moved, we smile, we shiver: selected pieces.

1. 600 20th Century Portraits by August Sander at Julian Sander



August Sander at Julian Sander's booth , 2024



If there was only one good reason to go to Paris Photo this year, this would be it. For the first time in Europe, **the entire body of work by August Sander** (1876–1964) is brought together and exhibited on the Julian Sander gallery stand – **more than 600 portraits** that immediately catch the eye at the entrance to the fair. Rigorously hung side by side, these black and white photographs form a **large historical and social fresco** of Germany in the first half of the 20th ^{century}, embodied in turn by a seamstress, student workers, a secretary, a philosopher, a foreign worker... But also a National Socialist in his SS costume, and dozens of "persecuted" people (Jews, political prisoners, etc.). Through the photographer's **humble and meticulous gaze**, a whole page of history is written before our eyes. Absolutely dizzying.

→
Julian Sander

A25

2. JD 'Okhai Ojeikere, a photographer who rocks at Magnin-A



JD 'Okhai Ojeikere on the Magnin-A stand, 2024



It was by following the wise advice of his neighbor that **the Nigerian JD 'Okhai Ojeikere** (1930–2014) took his first steps as a photographer. At the end of the 1960s, after a brief career as a journalist at the Nigerian Ministry of Information, he embarked on his magnum opus: **the series "Hairstyles"**. Convinced of their cultural and social importance, he began to methodically photograph and collect **the characteristic hairstyles of his country**. The process is well-established: JD 'Okhai Ojeikere finds out about the origin, meaning, name and history of his model's hairstyle, which he photographs from the front, back and profile. Braids mounted in a pyramid or gathered in hyper-sophisticated buns...: the photographer **testifies to the beauty and wild inventiveness** of these hair sculptures that can be admired on the stand of the Magnin-A gallery.

→ Magnin-A

A16

3. Hockney, Herzog: two giants at Equinox



Fred Herzog and David Hockney on the Equinox stand , 2024

On one side, an immense Canadian photographer, who has never stopped walking the streets of Vancouver, capturing scenes of life that are sometimes poetic, vibrant, silent. On the other, the most American of British painters, a champion of Californian hedonism, who now lives peaceful days under the changing skies of Normandy. Fred Herzog (1930–2019) and David Hockney (born in 1937) return the favor on the Equinox gallery stand. While we are familiar with the latter's painting, we are delighted to discover here a small glimpse of his photographic work, more confidential but nonetheless colossal. Between the early 1960s and the late 1990s, Hockney took more than 30,000 photos! We have fun recognizing some recurring motifs in his art: the turquoise water of a swimming pool, a bouquet of tulips, a pretty pair of rounded buttocks... Everything to counter the gloom of the Parisian autumn!

→ Equinox Gallery

B07

4. An intimate bubble at This is no fantasy



Haji Oh on the This is no fantasy stand

Retracing the trajectory of her uprooted family, honoring the memory of her loved ones and, ultimately, finding herself: this is **Haji Oh** 's ambition. Of Korean origin, her family immigrated to Japan, where the artist was born. Haji Oh, who now works in **Australia**, revisits her personal story through her practice, which, on the stand of the This is no fantasy gallery, takes on a universal turn. **Weaving**, but also **cyanotype**: she seizes ancestral know-how to create a real bubble where **her intimate stories mingle** with the **collective**, and where the image proliferates sometimes on long stretched threads, similar to curtains, sometimes on a vast white cloth inherited from her grandmother... Beautiful, delicate and deeply moving.

→ This is no fantasy

C15

5. Doggie for William Wegman at Georges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois



William Wegman at the Georges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois stand , 2024

How chic these dogs are! And funny too, squeezed into their tight designer dresses, or posing with their noses held high next to their sculpted double. We can clearly see the "touch" of dear **William Wegman** (born in 1943), who at over 80 years old has definitely not finished showing his love for man's best friend in general, and for his **Weimaraners** in particular! It must be said that the artist is at the head of a long line: Man Ray and Fay Ray will be followed by their descendants - Battina, Chips, Bobbin, Candy, Crooky, Topper and others... All of them have, for their master, bravely posed, sporting **sophisticated outfits** in the most comical stagings. On the Georges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois gallery stand, **giant Polaroids dating from the 1980s–1990s** are gathered around the theme of "agility", a famous canine sport... A real highlight!

→ Georges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois

B32

6. Vintage Paris at Gilles Peyroulet & Cie



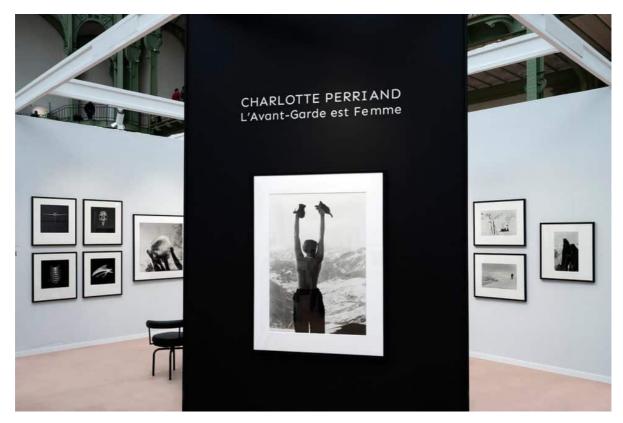
Paris in the 1920s–1930s at the Gilles Peyroulet & Cie stand , 2024

"Paris is a Party": Ernest Hemingway's famous autobiographical tale (1964), recounting his youth, debauchery and extreme precariousness in the capital, gave its title to the beautiful exhibition proposed by the Gilles Peyroulet & Cie gallery. On the walls, splendid *vintage* prints by Ilse Bing, Germaine Krull, Eli Lotar, and many others, tell us about **Paris in the 1920s and 1930s**. In this portrait of the city in chiaroscuro, the unchanging images – masterpieces of the Louvre, the Seine, the bridges – rub shoulders with poverty – sticky corners, sleeping tramps... Here, one would be tempted to add to Hemingway's words those of Henry Miller, Blaise Cendrars or Philippe Soupault, author of the dark *Last Nights in Paris*.

→ Gilles Peyroulet & Co.

D29

7. A little-known side of Charlotte Perriand at M77



Charlotte Perriand at the M77 stand , 2024



A key architect and designer of the 20th ^{century}, collaborator of <u>Le Corbusier</u> and Pierre Jeanneret, <u>Charlotte Perriand</u> (1903–1999) was also an accomplished photographer. It is this little-known facet of her work that the Milanese gallery M77 is showcasing. Entitled "The Avant-Garde is Woman ," this wildly elegant hanging demonstrates Perriand's interest in pure forms gleaned from nature —the hypnotic swirl of veins in a tree trunk, the sinuous curves of a rock, the abstract beauty of animal bones, etc. We also find, of course, the architect's passion for the mountains , having roamed snowy peaks throughout her career. The portrait of a creator curious about everything, her eyes wide open to the world, is emerging.

 \rightarrow M77

B47

8. Palermo in blood and tears at Alberto Damian



Palermo in the 1970s–1980s at Alberto Damian's stand

A man lies on the ground, his body riddled with a hundred bullet holes. Further away, another – a journalist – is also lying next to a pool of blood... Among these **sordid scenes**, there is also **the laughter of** street urchins, **the tears** of the bigoted processionaries... On the stand of the Alberto Damian gallery, these **raw black and white images** give us a fascinating portrait of the city of Palermo in the 1970s–1980s. Palermo the violent, the pious, the decrepit, the magnificent – the scene of dramas and daily joys magnificently captured by **a whole generation of Italian photographers and photojournalists**, to whom the gallery pays tribute here: Giovanna Borgese, Franco Zecchin and Letizia Battaglia... Note that the latter will be on the bill for the next exhibition at the Château de Tours, starting on 5 December.

→ Alberto Damian

D55

9. The world according to Gilles Caron at Anne-Laure Buffard



Gilles Caron at Anne-Laure Buffard's stand , 2024

His eye has seen it all: the Six-Day War, the Vietnam War, the May 1968 uprisings, the riots in Northern Ireland, the Prague Spring... A legendary photographer who disappeared in mysterious circumstances in Cambodia at just 30 years old in 1970, Gilles Caron was the infallible and daring chronicler of an "imperfect world", prey to the violence of men. For its first participation in Paris Photo in the main sector, the Anne-Laure Buffard gallery presents a remarkable collection of implacable images, which bear witness to the photographer's unwavering commitment. The war photographs are matched by a sumptuous portrait of Brigitte Bardot as an ingénue, among other yéyé icons... A world that is certainly imperfect, but where everything cannot be totally black.

→ Anne-Laure Buffard

C52

10. Anatomy of a Disaster on the Hangar Stand



Alice Pallot on the Hangar stand , 2024

We cannot conclude this selection without taking a detour through the "Emergence" sector and its young shoots, where we were captivated by the enigmatic images of Alice Pallot (born in 1995) on the stand of the Brussels art center Hangar. A major public health problem, the proliferation of toxic algae on the coast (particularly in Brittany) inspired the young artist to create this project entitled "Cursed algae". Surrounded by a team of scientists from the CNRS, but also activists from an environmental association, she meticulously studies this dramatic phenomenon, which translates into images by visions as if straight out of a science fiction film, where the sky is tinged with blood red and bodies with luminescent green. For the last stage of this long-term project, the artist immersed her photographs in contaminated water for several weeks. Result: the mutant algae have nibbled at the images, causing enigmatic shapes to appear on their surface, with a deadly beauty ...

 \rightarrow Shed

M09

Paris Photo 2024

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