

PHOTOGRAPHS

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Press Release

children of summer

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Deborah Bell Photographs is pleased to announce its summer exhibition, now on view.

Consisting of selections from the gallery's inventory, *Children of Summer* presents photographs from the early 20th century to the present, and in processes from black-and-white gelatin silver to chromogenic color and contemporary archival pigment prints.

Imagery ranges from the whimsical and delightful, as in **Mariana Cook's** photograph from 2006, "Rusty and His Ball" (the only non-human subject in the exhibition, Rusty is a small dog) to **August Sander's** elegantly posed sitters from early 20th century Germany – a young bride, a girl in a travelling circus, and a pensive baby perched atop an adult's bicycle, his trusty canine companion alongside him as guardian.

The Norwegian **Dag Alveng** (b. 1953) shows us his father and toddler son on a sunny beach, engaged in the typical Nordic-summer activity of examining a tiny crab that fits in grandfather's hand.

Helen Levitt, Sid Kaplan, Esther Bublely and Louis Faurer reveal how young city tykes amused themselves in the 1930s-70s with summer games of their own invention: fencing with wooden swords fashioned from milk crates; wandering alone into the midst of a uniformed brass band; performing acrobatic jumps in and out of the backs of parked delivery trucks; and one young lady, not yet old enough to read, busying herself with a copy of BOY Magazine at the bus station, her family's summer-vacation luggage piled beside her.

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Gundula Schulze Eldowy (German, b. 1954) captures child's play in Leipzig – a colorful scene in which a little girl has donned an animal mask while an adult presence hovers over her, out of focus, in the foreground, while **Gösta Peterson** (Swedish, b. 1923) depicts pre-teen Cub Scouts peering through sunglasses painted with crazy geometric designs that conveniently distract them from the two young girls in their midst who model the latest in back-to-school fashions of 1966.

Edward Graza (American, b. 1947) presents us with two pairs of children, each holding hands, in the bright sunlight of Chiapas, Mexico, their strong forms outlined against the distant mountains.

Susan Paulsen (American, b. 1957), a former painter, depicts the colorful delights of summer life in her pictures of youngsters' Scrabble game "al fresco," and a flower girl, clad in pink, setting off from her porch with bouquet in hand.

Featured in addition is a recent acquisition by the Photo League photographer **Sid Grossman** (American, 1913-1955): a dark, mysterious portrait of a pensive young girl, sea shells suspended before her, dated 1949.

For further details and high-res scans please contact us by phone at (212) 691-3883 or by email at deborahbell@rcn.com.

The gallery will be open by appointment or by chance during the months of July and August.

Please also visit our website, www.deborahbellphotographs.com.