

In pictures: the W* photography desk's daily digest of visual inspiration

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Ann Parker's 'Los Ambulantes'

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Ann Parker's 'Los Ambulantes' series – shown, with this exhibition, for the first time in New York since 1981 – was developed over the course of the 1970s in Guatemala.

As well as the portraits' sitters, Parker also took a step back to capture the itinerant Guatemalan photographers with their anachronistic equipment. She was fascinated both with her

own position as a 'spokesman' for these idiosyncratic artists, and the intensity of the photographic experience for indigenous Indian members of Guatemalan society.

'In our society, where it is not uncommon for people to be photographed hundreds of times, the psychological impact of facing a camera is greatly diminished,' she said. 'Many of the people [...] were typically appearing before a camera for the first and perhaps only time. The casual snapshot plays no part in their existence, and the rarity of coming before [the] lens is reflected in the portraits.'

['Ann Parker / Los Ambulantes: The Itinerant Photographers of Guatemala, Vintage Photographs from the 1970s'](#) is on view at Deborah Bell Photographs until 30 April.

Pictured: Photographer directing pose, Santa Cruz del Quiché, by Ann Parker, c. 1970s. Photography copyright the artist. Courtesy Deborah Bell Photographs & Paul M Hertzmann, Inc.

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