

**SCARLET MUSE**  
**Photography and Prostitution**

For Immediate Release: May 12, 2016  
Exhibition Dates: June 9 – July 22, 2016

**Scarlet Muse** is an alluring look at the intimate relationship between photography and prostitution. Since the invention of photography the purveyors of prostitution have served as inspiration and muse for the creation of memorable, compelling imagery. The exhibition traces this unlikely romance from its beginning to current day and features over 20 photographers.

At first glance the study of such a topic might seem like an exploration of otherness in an illicit and seedy world but it is quite the opposite. The images included in the exhibition frequently reveal deep personal connections and great affection in ultimately loving relationships. While many of the photographs provide a glimpse into the most intimate activities they also tell stories of the individuals pictured and open a door to countless insights of human behavior.

In a wonderful example of early photographic shenanigans we view a stereo daguerreotype (c.1850's) of a young woman with white leggings, gown lowered below the shoulders demurely posing with heavily rouged cheeks coyly revealing her nether regions. Moving into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century we see **E.J. Bellocq's** tender formal portraits of prostitutes living in the brothels of Storyville, New Orleans' notorious red light district. A few years later we have **Atget** and **Brassai** photographing ladies of the evening in Paris. Mid century Paris brings us **Christer Stromholm** picturing his young transsexual friends of Place Blanche.

**Benjamin Fredrickson** revels in his dual role as artist/hustler with his provocative Polaroid self-portraits made while servicing clients. Punk rock legend **Danny Fields** shares his intimate living room snapshots of young Greenwich Village "Richies" in action circa mid 70's. **Anthony Friedkin's** selection from "The Gay Essay" documents gay life in gritty San Francisco at the dawn of gay liberation. Artist's **George Awde, Philip-Lorca diCorcia, Jane Hilton** and **Malerie Marder** add a sophisticated contemporary perspective on the subject.

For more information please contact us at 212 255 8158 or dan@danielcooneyfineart.com

Exhibiting Artists:

Merry Alpern	Larry Clark	Danny Lyon
Chris Arnade	Jeff Cowen	Malerie Marder
Eugene Atget	Philip-Lorca diCorcia	Bob Mizer
George Awde	Danny Fields	Pedro Slim
Amos Badertscher	Benjamin Fredrickson	Scot Sothorn
Auguste Belloc	Anthony Friedkin	Christer Stromholm
E. J. Bellocq	Jane Hilton	
Brassai	Leon Levinstein	

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