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Here Is New York: A Democracy Of Photographs



Synopsis

Here is New York was founded in response to the events of September 11, and to the flood of images that resulted from it. The idea was simple: to present images of the event by as many different people and from as many different perspectives as possible. In the days following September 11, the organizers asked for pictures and were inundated with slides, negatives, prints, and digital files from photographers of every description, not only top photojournalists and other professionals, but rescue workers, firemen, police officers, school children, and amateurs of every kind. In order to underline that it was the images themselves that mattered, rather than their makers, the photographs were all digitally scanned, printed out in exactly the same format, and hung from wires without attribution or frames in a Soho storefront in downtown Manhattan. The book Here is New York will be the most comprehensive and authentic document of what occurred. It will bear witness to what seemed unimaginable, memorialize the people who perished and the rescue workers who served so heroically. Most of all, the book will be a testimony of people speaking directly to each other about their fears, their emotions, and their desire for community. This desire is one of the strongest by-products of the horrible events of September 11. It is also what distinguishes Here is New York from any and all other books about the event. Proceeds from the sale of the images and the book benefit The Children's Aid Society's WTC Relief Fund. To date, Here Is New York has donated over \$600,000.00 to the Society. The democratic nature of the exhibiton has allowed it to expand to simultaneous exhibitions including shows at The Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, Chicago; and The Daytona Beach Community College's Southeast Museum of Photography. To continue to express the magnitude of this event and expound upon the democratic message of this project, exhibitions will be mounted simultaneously throughout the world this summer and fall to memorialize September 11th. The exhibitions will open in London, Tokyo, Zurich, Arles, as well as several other American locations including Washington, D.C. The pictures communicate where words are insufficient, each tells one part of this tragic story. The Here Is New York exhibition has been featured in all of the major New York newspapers and by many local and national television networks, including CBS, PBS, NBC, ABC, CNN, and National Geographic, Oprah Winfrey, Rosie O'Donnell, Dateline, and 60 Minutes . International press from the following countries have covered the exhibition: the United Kingdom, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, The Netherlands, and Japan. The book Here is New York will receive extensive press coverage as well. Slipcased hardcover with dust jacket, 864 pages, 12 x 8.25 inches, 720 color and 160 duotones

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is it. At this writing (August 26 2002), "Here is New York" is the book that best captures the 9/11 attack on the U.S. at the World Trade Center and the immediate and ongoing effects on those of us in New York City. This book is not a souvenir. It is not an editorial summary. It is not an exploitation. It is shattered glimpses of the reality that we New Yorkers lived, simply presented. This is what was and is. Except for an introduction describing how the photographs were collected, the entire book is just photographs. Just photographs. And the book is as thick as a Manhattan phonebook. Each photograph is given an entire page or double page spread. Each is meticulously reproduced so that you can study the details of what is going on. You can read the faces of people in them. There are no captions. The photos speak for themselves. Virtually every one of them is profound. After all, there really are no words for this. Look at the details. There are no ordinary photographs here. If you think a photograph is ordinary, you are missing something important; look again. There are nearly a thousand photographs, most never before published. They communicate an intimacy of meaning that I have seen nowhere else. The whole project is stunning; the order and format of the photographs in this book offer a depth of experience that cannot be duplicated in other media. Please know: the wreckage photographs are the best I've seen, yet even at the size of a full page they cannot convey the scale and depth and constant danger of "Ground Zero."

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