

PHOTOGRAPHS

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Press Release

SID KAPLAN: URBAN STONEHENGE

Summer 2009

Opening reception Thursday, June 4, 6-8pm

Deborah Bell Photographs is proud to announce the gallery's second exhibition of photographs by **Sid Kaplan** (American, b. Bronx 1938). Entitled **URBAN STONEHENGE**, the exhibition will feature dramatic images from an ongoing series begun in the 1980s depicting the monumental canyons of New York City's streets at sunset.

Kaplan's eye is distinguished by graphic plays of light and dark tones, sharp angles and a tendency toward high-contrast images. His pictures are arresting in their formal arrangement, and exciting for their visceral qualities of light and dark as rendered in traditional gelatin silver prints.

Kaplan, a master photographer and printer, has been on the faculty of the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan since 1972. His legendary career and influence as a printer for other photographers, and as a teacher, is well known. Kaplan's own work, however, has been seen only in intervals over the last few decades.

Kaplan has been called "the greatest printer in the world" for good reason. Not only does this accolade manifest itself in his own work, but it refers to his long reputation as a photographic printer for Robert Frank, Weegee, W. Eugene Smith, Ralston Crawford and Allen Ginsberg, among many other artists and photographers.

Gallery hours for the exhibition **URBAN STONEHENGE** are **Tuesday through Saturday, noon-6 pm, from June 5 through July 11** (and by appointment through August). For further information and high-resolution scans please contact Deborah Bell or Adam Bezer at (212) 691-3883 or at

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OF ADDITIONAL NOTE...

Concurrent with **URBAN STONEHENGE**, earlier images by Kaplan can be seen in the exhibition **ALL ABOARD TO THE PAST: THE QUEENSBORO TROLLEY AS PHOTOGRAPHED BY SID KAPLAN**, on view through July 5 at the Roosevelt Island Visitor Center. Organized by the Roosevelt Island Historical Society, this exhibition commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Queensboro Bridge and features photographs never before seen that Kaplan took in 1957 at the age of 18 of the Queensboro Trolley, its passengers, drivers, ticket kiosks and the bridge itself during the final season for the last trolley car in New York City.