

PHOTOGRAPHS

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Press Release

G. P. Fieret: Women + Self-portraits

December 1-22, 2010

Opening reception: Wednesday, December 1st

Deborah Bell Photographs is pleased to announce the gallery's fourth exhibition of photographs by the enigmatic artist **Gerard Petrus Fieret (Dutch, 1924-2009)**.

Fieret is widely renowned for his fresh, innovative, informal portraits and alluring nudes of the 1960s and 1970s. His prints are liberally appointed with his copyright stamps and signed in a celebratory flourish of penmanship. The robust energy and private narrative of each of Fieret's pictures make his work as fresh and relevant today as it was thirty and forty years ago.

The visceral qualities of Fieret's gritty and unorthodox black-and-white vintage prints, made from 35mm negatives, reveal that he operated completely by instinct in the darkroom as well as through the camera. Though trained in graphic design, he dismissed perfection and consistency for innovation and experimentation by solarizing film & paper; sandwiching negatives; re-photographing images in another setting; cropping his compositions in surprising ways; fogging the paper; and taking advantage of accidents in the darkroom that worked out to his great delight. The results are never repetitive or pretentious.

Working freely in the 1960s and 1970s, when the market for photography was almost nonexistent, Fieret rarely made duplicates of any one image. His quest was "art for art's sake," and the darkroom was an exciting part of his adventure.

Fieret's photographs are in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Fotomuseum

of The Hague, Holland; the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; and numerous private collections worldwide.

**For additional information or high-res scans, please contact Deborah Bell
Photographs by phone at 212-691-3883 or by email at deborahbell@rcn.com.**