

PETER FETTERMAN GALLERY

Santa Monica, CA – March 8, 2013:

Peter Fetterman Gallery is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibitions: *Georges Dambier (1925-2011)*, a solo exhibition of significant 1950's fashion photography and *Paris in the Springtime*, a group exhibition featuring classic masterpieces of humanist photography. Both exhibitions open simultaneously with a reception on Saturday, March 23rd from 4-7pm and are on view through June 8, 2013.

Georges Dambier (1925-2011) began his career in post-war Paris as a photojournalist with a background in graphic design and portraiture before he began photographing for fashion magazines in the 1940s. Although often overlooked in the history of fashion photography, Dambier was a contemporary of Irving Penn and Richard Avedon and became the key photographer for French Elle after receiving his first job from director Helene Lazzareff. The photographs on display, most of which have never been exhibited, are from a period of the 1950s at the height of his career photographing legendary models including Suzy Parker, Bettina, Barbara Mullen, Brigitte Bardot, Capucine and Sophie Litvak. The artist's close friendship with many of his models produced uniquely humble fashion imagery showing chic feminine style at ease in everyday situations; the models are confident yet still delicate while in action on city sidewalks, beaches and in hotels. This is the first west coast exhibition of Dambier's work and consists of over thirty prints that display his masterful use of lighting and focus to create arresting images of style and femininity.



© Georges Dambier, *Suzy Parker Hydranger*, 1953



© Georges Dambier, *Sophie Litvak and little dog Magazine Elle*, 1952

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Paris in the Springtime exhibits photographs documenting daily life in the French capital during the mid-20th Century by legendary photographers of the era. As Peter's favorite city, Paris has always been a consistent theme of the gallery's collection specializing in French humanist photography. As a close friend and collaborator, legendary photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson was instrumental in introducing many of his contemporaries to the gallery including several of the exhibited artists such as Willy Ronis, Martine Franck, Edouard Boubat, Louis Stettner, Melvin Sokolsky and more. Iconic photographs and rare gems from thirty years of collecting fine classic photography display the essence of the City of Light through the eyes of some of its greatest historical spectators.



© Elliott Erwitt, *Paris, France*, 1989



© Foundation of Henri Cartier-Bresson, *View from Notre Dame, Paris*, 1953