

Press Release

Oct 2015

CIRCUS

Paul Vickery



Curators Coffee Gallery

51 Margaret Street,
London W1W 85G

Opening Reception

Tues 27th Oct - Sun 6th Dec

Show Times

Exhibition Dates

Thurs 5th Nov 7:00 - 9:00pm

Mon-Fri 7:30am - 6:30pm
Sat-Sun 9:00am - 6:00pm

London-based photographer Paul Vickery showcases his **CIRCUS** project at Curators Coffee Gallery, W1 on Thursday 5th November 2015.

Featuring images of circus performers; acrobats, aerialists and martial artists, the exhibition marks the latest venture in Vickery's intimate and highly personalised approach - something which has become a trademark style.

"I was given extraordinary access to these performers who trusted what I wanted to achieve with my images" says Vickery.

An introduction by one of the martial artists Vickery had been photographing paved the way for the project.

"I wasn't sure what to expect when I was invited to meet the performers. Backstage I quickly realised there was more to the story than simply their front of house stagecraft."

Shot in London entirely on film over a ten day period, **CIRCUS** captures moments of beauty, intensity and truth both on and off stage.

"It's always exciting and a privilege to be let in to a subject's private world. The circus performers understood my need to work very closely with them. It's something I do with all my subjects. Their openness allowed me to produce a body of work that is honest, revealing and sensitive."

"Behind the scenes there's a lot of trust involved and with that trust comes responsibility. You have to be honest and attempt to produce images that tell 'the story'. Often that story may be different to what you expected. It's my own interpretation so the work is always going to be subjective."

For Vickery **CIRCUS** was about capturing moments of truth both on and off stage - something that gives the project its authenticity;

"The performance is exactly that - a performance. As a photographer I witness moments of intense beauty on stage. But it's the quiet poetic moments off stage that give the story gravitas."

Attention to detail is a key element in Vickery's work and something he responds to in others; "It's always terrific working with professionals. They really understand that detail is everything - it's what separates them from everyone else."

At the post-production stage, Vickery worked closely with *Master Printer* Peter Guest at The Image. The contribution of his printer was key.

"I've worked with Pete at The Image for many years. He is the best in the business. He knows exactly how I want my prints to look and feel. The relationship between photographer and printer is often undervalued. It's really the final ingredient required to showcase a killer image that collectors seek."

Since graduating from Central Saint Martins, Paul Vickery has built a reputation for producing compelling imagery combining Documentary, Portraiture, Fine Art and Style genres.

His work has been exhibited in London and New York, appearing alongside eminent photographers Rankin, Perou and Uli Weber. Collectors include Peter Paul Hartnett and international gallerists Meryl Messineo and Helene Greenberg Wyman (Messineo Art Projects & Wyman Contemporary NYC).

Paul Vickery's work has featured in **Arena Homme Plus**, **HERO**, **125**, **Professional Photographer**, **Black and White**, **GUP**, **Jock&Nerds**, and the Hip-Hop bible **Viper**.

Paul Vickery is represented by Rebecca Hossack (Rebecca Hossack Gallery) and PYMCA Archive.

Jamie Brett of PYMCA comments:

"Paul's work is laced with a rare authenticity that feels timeless and unconstrained by era. His ability to discover corners of youth expression in both the UK and US makes for a rare glimpse into a world of extreme lifestyles, passionate subcultures and fascinating characters. Coupled with a poetic aesthetic and a meticulous approach to his practice, Paul's work is highly collectible and very much one of a kind."

CIRCUS is exclusively hand-printed on archival fibre-based paper.

This exhibition is dedicated to Barry Kamen

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