

Press Release



March 2016

***Who Shot Sports: A Photographic History, 1843 to the Present* opens at the Brooklyn Museum July 15, 2016**

The finest sports photographers, their skills honed from years of practice, are capable of capturing and making a fleeting moment memorable, often from a surprising or revealing vantage point. Driven to freeze action and portray what the naked eye alone cannot see, these photographers have played a leading role in elevating sports' universal appeal and a crucial part in the evolution of camera and film technology.



Ken Geiger (American, born 1957). *Nigerian Relay Team, Olympics, Barcelona, 1992*, printed 2016. Inkjet print, 17 ²/₈ x 19 ⁵/₈ in. (44.3 x 49.8 cm). Courtesy of Ken Geiger/The Dallas Morning News

From July 15, 2016, through January 8, 2017, the Brooklyn Museum will present *Who Shot Sports: A Photographic History, 1843 to the Present*, the most comprehensive survey of the art of sports photography ever produced, highlighting the aesthetic, cultural, and historical significance of these images and artists in the history of sports. The exhibition will include approximately 230 photographs by more than 170 photographers ranging from daguerreotypes and salted paper prints to more than 220 digital images showcasing a variety of different sports from nations around the globe.

Who Shot Sports: A Photographic History, 1843 to the Present includes work by Richard Avedon, Al Bello, David Burnett, Rich Clarkson, Georges Demeny, Dr. Harold Edgerton, Rineke Dijkstra, Brian Finke, Toni Frissell, Ken Geiger, LeRoy Grannis, David Guttenfelder, Ernst Haas, Charles "Teenie" Harris, Walter looss, Jr., Heinz Kleutmeier, Stanley Kubrick, Jacques Henri Lartigue, Neil Leifer, Étienne-Jules Marey, Bob Martin, Martin Munkacsi, Edward Muybridge, Catherine Opie, Gérard Rancinan, Leni Riefenstahl, Robert Riger, Alexander Rodchenko, Howard Schatz, Flip Schulke, George Silk, Barton Silverman, Andy Warhol, and many others whose pictures may be celebrated but whose names are unknown.

Brooklyn Museum

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The exhibition is organized by the Brooklyn Museum and Gail Buckland, who returns as guest curator after the seminal 2009 exhibition *Who Shot Rock & Roll: A Photographic History, 1955 to the Present*.

"Sports are beauty in motion with a powerful competitive edge. The ancient Greeks celebrated their athletes, and the finest artists of antiquity preserved those athletes' achievements. Today, it is the photographers who give sports its indelible image," said Buckland. "Seeing athletic greatness, we both recognize our personal physical limitations and delight in bodies and minds taken to new heights. To play and to watch is to be in the moment. Still photographers are masters of moments."

Who Shot Sports will be presented in thematic sections exploring different subjects within the field, including: The Beginnings of Sports Photography, which features an early salted paper portrait from 1843 of a court tennis player by masters David Octavius Hill (Scottish, 1802–1870) and Robert Adamson (Scottish, 1821–1848); The Decisive Moment, including Henri Cartier-Bresson's image of a cycling race; Fans and Followers; Portraits; Off the Field; Vantage Point; In and Out of the Ring; For the Love of Sport; and The Olympics, featuring images from the first modern Olympics in 1896 to the London Olympics in 2012.

Who Shot Sports is a ticketed exhibition. The cost is \$16 for adults, \$10 for students with valid ID and adults 62 and over, and \$10 for corporate Members. The exhibition is free for Individual Members and above, and for youth aged 19 and under. On *Target First Saturdays* and *Squarespace Thursdays*, admission to *Who Shot Sports* will cost \$10. Tickets, which also include general Museum admission, will be available at www.brooklynmuseum.org and at the Admissions Desk in the Museum's lobby.

Who Shot Sports: A Photographic History, 1843 to the Present will tour to the Grand Rapids Art Museum, February 3–April 30, 2017; the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, Switzerland, May 26–December 10, 2017; and other venues to be announced.

A companion book of the same title, published by Alfred A. Knopf, will accompany the exhibition.

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GENERAL INFORMATION**Admission:**

Contribution: \$16; students with valid I.D. and seniors \$10. Ages 19 and under FREE. Also FREE: Thursday nights, 6–10 pm, and first Saturday of the month (except September), 5–11 pm. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B41, B69, B48.
On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday and Friday, 11 am to 6 pm; Thursday 11 am to 10 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 6 pm; first Saturday of each month (except September), 11 am to 11 pm. Closed Monday, Tuesday, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.