



DANNY LYON
Prints and Photographs 1963 - 2023



Artist Reception: December 8, 5-7pm

Exhibition on view December 8, 2023 - January 13, 2024

Following Danny Lyon's extensive retrospective New Mexico exhibition *Journey West* at the Albuquerque Museum this Summer, Obscura Gallery is thrilled to present *Danny Lyon: Prints and Photographs 1963 – 2023*, featuring the seminal documentary photographer's 60-year career of exploring people, places, and land through photographs and montages. Also included will be a selection of new works that capture New Mexico's diverse landscapes, seeking to raise awareness of fires, drought, and climate change. Other featured works span Lyon's career photographing the Civil Rights Movement, the Chicago Outlaw Motorcycle Club, the Texas Prison System, protests, and more.

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DANNY LYON. *Navajo Pool Room, Gallup, New Mexico, 1970, 8.75 x 12.75"*, gelatin silver print.

A long-time resident of Bernalillo, New Mexico, Lyon has spent decades photographing his friends, family, and neighbors, creating a reverent and empathetic portrait of the community.

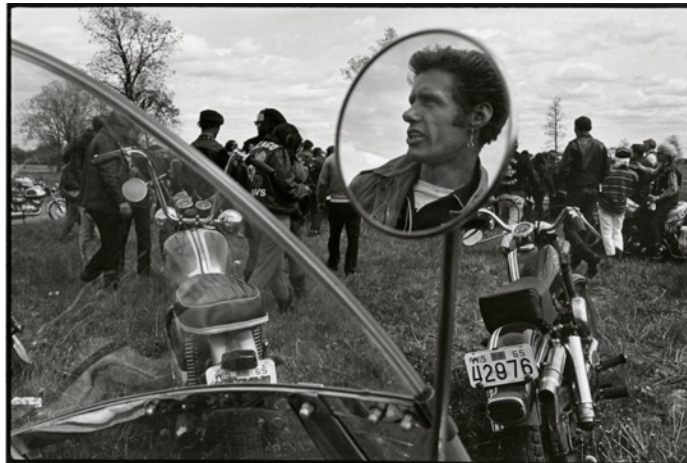


DANNY LYON. *Llanito, New Mexico, 1970, 8.5 x 13"*, gelatin silver print.



DANNY LYON. *From Lindsey's Room, Louisville KY, 1966, 8.5 x 13", gelatin silver print.*

In addition, Lyon became internationally known through his photographs of the Civil Rights Movement and the Chicago Outlaw Motorcycle Club. The latter culminated in his seminal book, *The Bikeriders*, a landmark of modern photojournalism that collected interviews and photographs, documenting the abandon and risk implied in the name of the Chicago Outlaw Motorcycle Club. A feature-length film by Jeff Nichols, *The Bikeriders*, is based on Lyon's book of the same name and will be released in December 2023.



DANNY LYON. *Cal, Elkhorn, Wisconsin, 1966, 6 x 9", gelatin silver print.*



DANNY LYON, *Shakedown, Ellis Unit, Texas, 1968, 12.5 x 18.5"*, gelatin silver print.

Many of Lyon's portraits are based on the complex stories of the portrayed individuals. He spent time getting to know the people he photographed, hearing their stories and their struggles, and often maintaining friendships for many years. Lyon spent two years documenting the treatment of inmates in the Texas penitentiary system. Photographs of prisoners on chain gangs working in the fields, unconscious from heat exhaustion, and stripped bare for shakedown searches all present pointed commentary on mass incarceration photographing the Texas prison system.

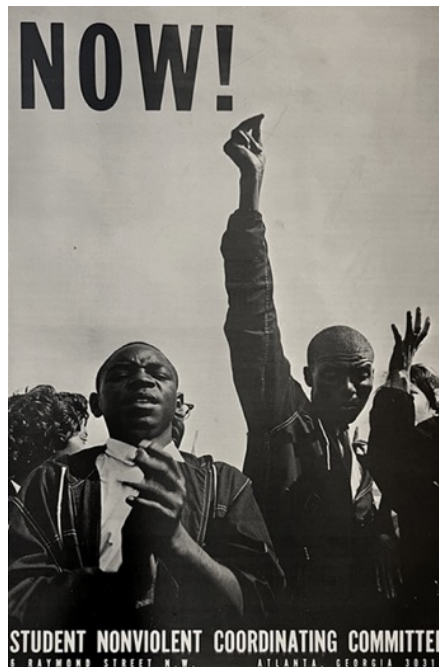


DANNY LYON, *Women Wait to Plant a Field above Jacmel, Haiti, 1983, 15 x 15"*, gelatin silver print.



DANNY LYON. *Portrait of John Lewis, Age 24, Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, MI, 1964, 9 x 13", gelatin silver print.*

In 1962, Lyon was hired as a photographer for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and spent years immersed in the movement, documenting sit-ins, arrests, speeches, marches, and the great leaders driving the movement for freedom for Black Americans. Lyon documented major figures, including civil rights leader John Lewis, while also photographing and getting to know people who are often overlooked.



DANNY LYON, *NOW! Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, 6 Raymond Street N.W., Atlanta Georgia 30314, 1963, 15.75 x 10", vintage poster.*



DANNY LYON. *Remains of a ponderosa pine destroyed in the Los Conchas fire, New Mexico.* 2014, 40.25 x 14.75", gelatin silver print.

Lyon's more recent work explores southwest landscapes and the environment, documenting the impacts of extreme drought and fire on the land. Bleak but beautiful scenes of burnt forests show our new climate reality. Montages portray the vastness of the southwest landscape and the passage of geological time.



DANNY LYON, *The Rio Puerco Seen from South of Cabezon, New Mexico,* 2019, 6.25 x 18", archival pigment ink print.



DANNY LYON, *Uptown, Chicago*, 1965, 7 x 7", gelatin silver print.

Danny Lyon is internationally recognized as a major force in establishing new models for both documentary photography and the photography book. He has won numerous honors and awards in both photography and film, including Guggenheim Fellowships in both film and photography, and the 2015 Lucie Award for Achievement in Documentary Photography. Over the course of his career, he has published more than 20 books of photography and has been the subject of over fifty solo exhibitions. Lyon's work is in the permanent collections of The Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, American Museum of Art, Smithsonian Institute, the J. Paul Getty Museum, and many other public institutions.



DANNY LYON, *Tesca, Cartagena, Colombia*, 1966, 10 x 10", Cibachrome.