

UNSEEN: GUY BOURDIN – AN EXHIBITION OF EXCLUSIVE PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE ESTATE OF GUY BOURDIN TO BE ON VIEW AND FOR SALE AT PHILLIPS de PURY & COMPANY, LONDON

NOVEMBER 2 – 24, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

London – August 28 – Phillips de Pury & Company is pleased to announce an exhibition of work by the legendary photographer **Guy Bourdin**, to be on view and for sale at the company's premises at Victoria House, Bloomsbury Square, WC1. The show will be open from November 2 - 24 and feature forty-one works that have been printed exclusively for this show to include a selection of iconic images from Guy Bourdin's fashion photographs and work from his personal archive that has never been seen before.

This exhibition will be a rare opportunity to view and purchase work by the legendary photographer who remained relatively discreet, given the artist avoided exhibiting and selling individual pieces.

Each work on view and for sale will be printed in two sizes: a large unique print (approximate dimensions: 40 x 44 inches) and a smaller sized edition of three (approximate dimensions: 24 x 35 inches).

During the 1950's in an era when black and white photography was still the preferred medium in Europe, Guy Bourdin launched his career with fashion assignments for Vogue, Paris which employed colour photography to its maximum effect, creating dramatic accents with saturated colour and texture. While on the one hand employing formal elements of composition, Guy Bourdin sought to transcend the reality of the photographic medium with surreal twists to the apparent subject of his images and his unconventional manipulation of the picture plane.

The art of Guy Bourdin communicates an entirely different reality, challenging our perception and provoking our senses with his layered narratives. Clever juxtapositions of objects and body parts contribute to the formal abstraction of the image while at the same time revealing potent sensual details. The surrealist quality of the images is heightened by their unique sense of location—often views in undistinguished bedrooms, the beach, to the side of a road. The unusual dramas that unfold in these seemingly everyday scenes and ordinary encounters pique our subconscious and invite our imagination.

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PHILLIPS de PURY & COMPANY

Guy Bourdin's imagery not only changed the course of fashion photography but influenced a host of contemporary artists, photographers and filmmakers. It is without question, that Guy Bourdin's work for Vogue and his highly acclaimed print advertising for Charles Jourdan in the 1970s are now being seen in the appropriate context of contemporary art.

This exhibition which follows on from the critically-acclaimed 'A Message For You' exhibition at Phillips de Pury & Company, New York in March 2006 will be the first time work by Guy Bourdin will be presented to the public for sale.

The exhibition will be held at:
Phillips de Pury & Company
Victoria House
Bloomsbury Square
London WC1
Tel: + 44 20 7318 4028
www.phillipsdepur.com

10 am – 5 pm

Notes to Editors:

Phillips de Pury & Company represents the estate of Guy Bourdin for all sales.

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Contacts:

Ariel Childs

Phillips de Pury & Company

+ 44 20 7318 4028

achilds@phillipsdepur.com