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New to the Collection: Twentieth-Century Photographs
Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame
January 17 - March 13, 2016

Notre Dame, IN—November 1, 2016—This exhibition reveals the ongoing activity to build and refine the holdings of the Snite Museum’s permanent collection, meant for enjoyment and instruction of students now and in the future. For the art museum the chief objects of interest are creative photographs, made with aesthetic intent. During the twentieth century, however, photography is so prevalent and central to visual culture, that such distinctions blur.

This group of objects, acquired by the museum from 2013 to the present day, include portraits, photojournalism, fashion and advertising photography, as well as intention works of fine art. The images reflect the evolution of artistic styles over the course of the century, and the influences of Pictorialism, Modernism and abstraction, Futurism and Cubism, Regionalism and the American Scene, even Conceptualism and Earth Art can be seen in the images. Moreover, this group of photographs reveals an unintentional survey of the changing technology of photography, from platinum and silver developed out prints to photogravure. A range of color photography processes are also represented, some of them now almost extinct, including carbro printing, dye imbibation, and silver dye bleach printings. These make a fascinating comparison to the contemporary digital inkjet printing techniques.
An interesting group among them document the Civil Rights movement, including photographs by Danny Lyon, Ernest C. Withers, and Moneta J. Sleet, Jr., and Dan Budnik. There are also several images representing the landscape of the American Midwest, including works by Wright Morris, John Szarkowski, George A. Tice, and Terry Evans. Several of the photographs in the exhibition are important additions to the Snite Museum, intentionally acquired in anticipation of the forthcoming survey publications of the photography collection.


For additional images, contact Gina Costa at gcosta@nd.edu or 574-631-4720.

The Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame
The Snite Museum of Art is located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, near South Bend, Indiana. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays Noon–5:00 p.m. Admission is free. Museum information is available at 574-631-5466 or at the Museum’s website: sniteartmuseum.nd.edu. Driving directions and parking information are available at http://nd.edu/visitors/directions/.

The Snite Museum of Art provides opportunities to enjoy, respond to, learn from, and be inspired by original works of art. As a department of the University of Notre Dame, the Museum supports teaching and research, creates and shares knowledge, celebrates diversity through the visual arts, serves the local community, and explores spiritual dimensions of art.

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