

galerie **SIT
DOWN**

4, rue Sainte-Anastase
75003 Paris
tél. + 33 (0)1 42 78 08 07
info@sitdown.fr
www.sitdown.fr

PRESS RELEASE

Family Likeness
Tom Wood

From November 6th to December 14th 2019



Series *Mother, Daughters, Sisters. Red Head diagonale, 1984*
Analog dark room type print, size 55 x 65 cm, 2019
©Tom WOOD courtesy galerie Sit Down

After the great success of the exhibition *Mothers, Daughters, Sisters* this summer at the Rencontres d'Arles and the publication of the eponymous book by Les éditions Textuel, it's now with *Family Likeness*, that Tom Wood's work is honoured in this new exhibition at Sit Down gallery.

To the triangle of mothers, daughters, sisters is added that of father, son and in particular brothers. Some vernacular photos of the filial relation belonging to the personal collection of Tom Wood punctuate the hanging.

From the early seventies to the present day, Tom Wood has been photographing untiringly generations of Liverpool's citizens in the street, the bus, at work and at play.

Known as the "Photie Man" by Liverpoolians, Tom Wood transcends photographic practice, wishing to know and to connect with people; there emerges a true complicity with the photographer, a clear connection in their confident looks oriented toward the camera lens.

The philosopher Wittgenstein spoke of the understanding which consists of 'seeing connections'. "Just as we see a face differently when you look at it, first as an expression of happiness then as an expression of pride". He once admonished a friend, "you don't take enough notice of peoples faces... it is a fault you ought to correct"!

A real tribute to women, men, families and to human nature, Tom Wood demonstrates again and again, a truly human look on the human.

"So you look at these pictures slowly because he (and they) made them slowly. And you begin to see not just the family resemblances [...] You begin to see the unpredictable conflagration of the Real Thing that illuminates what is real in ourselves. And that is exactly what Wood has worked so hard, with feet and brain and eye, for you to see".

Francis Hodgson (afterword from 'Meres, Filles, Soeurs', les éditions Textuel).

BIOGRAPHY

For 45 years, Irish born Tom Wood (b. 1951) has photographed almost every day. Trained as a painter at Leicester Polytechnic from 1973-1976, he made his first exploration of lens-based media was through extensive viewing of experimental films.

Some of Tom Wood's works joined the collections of MOMA and ICP in New York, of the Art Institute of Chicago, and of Victoria & Albert Museum at London. He has also received the "Dialogue Awards of Humanity" at the "Rencontres d'Arles" in 2002.

Tom Wood was the subject of two documentary films: BBC4's documentary *What Do Artists Do All Day?* And *Five Days with Tom* by the French director Emmanuel Bonn.

His work is also included in the book by Mark Durden, *Photography Today: A History of Contemporary Photography* (2014), and in the revised edition of *Bystander: the History of Street Photography* (2017). His book *All Zones Off Peak* has been featured in *The Photo Book: A History vol.2* (2006) by Martin Parr and Gerry Badger.

In 2019, his works on women, *Mother, daughters and sisters* have been honored at the "Rencontres d'Arles" festival.

EXHIBITIONS (selection)

- 2019 *Mères, filles, sœurs*, Solo exhibition at Les Rencontres d'Arles festival, Arles, France
Tom Wood: The Shipyard, The Wind of Time, Lianzhou Festival, China
PHOTO LONDON fair, Solo Show presented by galerie Sit Down (Paris), London, England
- 2018 *Collecting Photography: From Daguerreotype to Digital*, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England
- 2017 *Tom Wood: Britain 1973-2012*, Ekaterina Cultural Foundation, Moscow, Russia
PARIS PHOTO fair, Solo Show presented by galerie Sit Down, Paris, France
- 2015 *Cynefin, Welsh landscapes*, galerie Sit Down, Paris France
- 2014 *Eyes Wide Open!*, Deichtorhallen Internationale Kunst und Photographie, Hamburg, Germany
- 2013 *Tom Wood: Photographs 1973-2013*, National Media Museum, Bradford, England
- 2011 *Les Années Liverpool*, galerie Sit Down, Paris, France
- 2010 *Facts of Life. Photography in Britain 1974-1997*, National Museum, Cracovia, Poland
- 2007 *How We Are: Photographing Britain*, Tate Britain, London, England
- 2007 *Shrinking Cities*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, USA
- 2007 *Centre of the Creative Universe : Liverpool and the Avant-garde*, Tate Liverpool, England
- 2006 *HyperDesign*, Biennale of Shanghai, China

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming titles :

- 101 Photographs: A Retrospective*, RRB Books, Bristol, England
The DPA Work (2 vol. : Rainhill Hospital/Cammell Laird Shipyard) Steidl Verlag, Gottingen, Germany
- 2019 *Mères, filles, sœurs*, éditions Textuel, Paris, France
2018 *Women's Market*, Stanley/Barker, London, England
2017 *Termini* with Paul Farley, GwinZegal, Guingamp, France
2015 *Looking for Looking for Love* (Special Edition), Sorkika, London, England
2013 *Men and Women*, Steidl Verlag, Gottingen, Germany
Every Man and Woman is a Star: Photographs by Martin Parr and Tom Wood, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, England
- 2011 *F/M*, Editions 205, Villeurbanne, France
2005 *Photie Man*, Steidl Verlag, Gottingen, Germany
2004 *Not Only Female...* (Exhibit Cat.), Schaden, Cologne, Germany
2001 *Bus Odyssey*, Hajte Cantz, Ostfildern-Ruit, Germany
2000 *Tom Wood* (Exhibit Cat.), Galerie im Buergerhaus Neunkirchen/Saar, Germany
1999 *People*, Wienand Verlag, Cologne, Germany
1998 *All Zones off Peak*, Dewi Lewis Publishing, Stockport, England
1989 *Looking for Love*, Cornerhouse, Manchester & Aperture, New York

AWARDS

- 2007 "Major Production Award", The Arts Council of Wales, UK
2002 Prix "Dialogue de l'Humanité" (Outreach Award), Rencontres d'Arles, France
2000 "Year of the Artist", Arts Council of England
1998 "Terrance Donovan Award", Royal Photographic Society
1996 "Artist Honorarium", International Centre of Photography, New York
1995 "Photography Publishing" Grant, Arts Council of England

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS (selection) :

- Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- International Centre of Photography, New York, USA
- Art Institute of Chicago, USA
- Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK
- National Museum of Photography, Copenhagen, Denmark
- British Council, London, UK
- Stadt Galerie Wolfsburg, Germany
- National Media Museum, Bradford, UK
- Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, UK

PRESS MATERIAL (available upon request)



Series *People*. *New Brighton Red Hair Clip*, 1985
Vintage gelatin silver print, size 28 x 35 cm
©Tom WOOD courtesy galerie Sit Down



Series *Mother, daughters, sisters, South Coast Sisters*, 1973
Analog darkroom print selenium-toned, size 40,5 x 50,5 cm, 2019
©Tom WOOD courtesy galerie Sit Down

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Series *New Brighton*. *Untitled*, 1980
Vintage gelatin silver print, size 24 x 30 cm
©Tom WOOD courtesy galerie Sit Down

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Series *Photieman, Gangolads*, 1992
Vintage gelatin silver print, size 20 x 30 cm
©Tom WOOD courtesy galerie Sit Down

SIT DOWN GALLERY

Established in *Le Marais* area in Paris, close to the Picasso Museum, SIT DOWN gallery was founded by Françoise Bornstein in 2005 and is a member of the French "Comité Professionnel des Galeries d'Art".

Since 2013 the gallery has been entirely devoted to photography, and its programming consists primarily of documentary and fine-art photography. The gallery aims to showcase young emerging photographers and support renowned international photographers such as Tom Wood, Yan Morvan, and Sacha Van Dorssen.

In addition to organizing personal exhibitions, Françoise Bornstein invites curators to participate in exhibition projects during special events or art fairs.

Through artists representation, SIT DOWN gallery has established itself as a major figure in documentary photography and opens its doors to the creativity of young photographers who bring new vision to this medium.

Françoise Bornstein is also a nominee for the Niépce prize and an expert at the Photo Folio Review of "Les Rencontres d'Arles".

REPRESENTED/INVITED PHOTOGRAPHERS :

Anne-France Abillon
Aurore Bagarry
Jean-François Bauret
Gilles Coulon
Olivier Culmann
Jean-Gabriel Lopez
Marie Maurel de Maillé
Sandra Mehl
Robert McCabe
Yan Morvan
Salvatore Puglia
Alisa Resnik
Myriam Richard
Florian Ruiz
Silvi Simon
Chantal Stoman
Sacha Van Dorssen
Laure Vasconi
Tom Wood
Charles Xelot

INFORMATION

Family Likeness

Photographs by **Tom Wood**
November 6th – december 14th 2019

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Visual press upon request

Press contact : galerie SIT DOWN
Tél : +33 (0)6 64 12 06 96 – email : info@sitdown.fr