

BIOGRAPHY

Artist

Elliott Erwitt

Elliott Erwitt was born in Paris to Russian émigré parents on July 26th, 1928. His formative years were spent in Milan. At the age of 10 his family moved back to Paris only to immigrate to New York a year later, then transferring to Los Angeles in 1941. While attending Hollywood High School he worked in a commercial darkroom processing “signed” prints for fans of movie stars.

In 1948 by good fortune while looking for work on exploratory trips to New York City, Erwitt met Edward Steichen, Robert Capa and Roy Stryker who liked his photographs and took a personal guiding interest becoming significant mentors. The following year he returned to Europe traveling and photographing in Italy and France thus marking the start of his professional career. Drafted in to the US Army in 1951 he continued taking photographs for various publications totally apart from his military duties while stationed in New Jersey, Germany and France.

In 1953 freshly decommissioned from military service, Erwitt was invited to join Magnum Photos as a member by its founder Capa. In 1968 he became President of the prestigious agency for 3 terms. To date he continues to be one of the leading figures in the competitive field of photography. His journalistic essays, illustrations, and advertisements have been featured in publications around the world for over half a century.

While continuing his work as a photographer, Erwitt began making films in the '70s. His documentaries include *BEAUTY KNOWS NO PAIN* (1971), *RED WHITE AND BLUE GRASS* (1973) sponsored with a grant from the American Film Institute, and the awarded *THE GLASSMAKERS OF HERAT* (1979). He also produced 17 comedies and special satire programs for Home Box Office in the '80s.

While actively working for magazine, industrial and advertising clients Erwitt devotes all his spare time toward creating books and exhibitions of his work.

Since the early '50s Erwitt has settled himself in New York, establishing his fundamental base of operations ...although ‘settling’ in Erwitt parlance means “where you are at the moment for as long as you don’t go somewhere else”. Flexibility and adaptation to the requirements of the profession and personal interests have kept him moving about the globe before returning to base.

Elliott Erwitt likes children and dogs.

**Exhibitions
(selection)****2022**

Found Not Lost, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Geneva, Switzerland

2021

Festival InCadaqués, Cadaqués, Spain

2018

The World of Elliott Erwitt, Kyoto Museum of Contemporary Art, Kyoto, Japan

2017

Paris - New York, La Hune, Paris, France

2016

Retrospective. Elliott Erwitt, Fort de Bard, Bard, Italy

2012

Personal Best, Casa dei Tre Oci, Venice, Italy

2011

Personal Best, International Center of Photography, New York, United States

2010

Personal Best, Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, France

2007

Personal Best, Art Museum, Portland, United States

2003

American Beauty: from Muybridge to Goldin, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

2002

EE 60/60. Fotografías de Elliot Erwitt, Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid, Spain
Elliot Erwitt, Spazio Oberdan, Milan, Italy

1999

Museums as Muse, MoMA, New York, United States
'Dogsdogs' Photography Exhibition by Elliott Erwitt, The Barbican, London, United Kingdom

1997

Elliott Erwitt, International Centre of Photography Scavi Scaligeri, Verona, Italy

1988

Elliott Erwitt, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

1978

Mirrors and Windows, MoMA, New York, United States

1977

Rencontres internationale de la Photographie, Arles, France

1974

Photographs by Elliott Erwitt, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, United States

Publications
(selection)

Found Not Lost, 2021
Elliott Erwitt's Scotland, 2018
Pittsburgh 1950, 2017
Cuba, 2017
Regarding Women, 2014
Elliott Erwitt's Kolor, 2013
Kids, 2012
XXL, 2012
Sequentially Yours, 2011
Angel Tree III, 2011
Elliott Erwitt's Paris, 2010
The Art of André S. Solidor, 2009
Elliott Erwitt's Rome, 2009
Elliott Erwitt's New York, 2008
Elliott Erwitt's Dogs, 2008
Unseen, 2007
Personal Best, 2006
Woof, 2005
Elliott Erwitt's Handbook, 2002
Snaps, 2001
Museum Watching, 1998
Dog Dogs, 1996
Between the Sexes, 1994
To the Dogs, 1992
On the Beach, 1991
Personal Exposures, 1988
The Angel Tree, 1984
Recent Developments, 1978
Son of Bitch, 1974
The Private Experience, 1974
Observations on American Architecture, 1972
Photographs and Anti-photographs, 1972
Eastern Europe, 1965