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Harold Feinstein Tribute at Griffin Museum Focus Awards

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The Griffin Museum of Photography is pleased to announce that at its forthcoming Focus Awards on Saturday, October 1, it will give a special tribute to photographer Harold Feinstein, honoring his legendary career. It will be presented by Jim Fitts — teacher, lecturer, curator, and noted photographer and mixed media artist.

Feinstein lives in Massachusetts and has exhibited at the Griffin Museum in the past. He turned 80 years old this year, has been published numerous times, and has exhibited all over the world.

Feinstein began his sixty-year career in photography in 1946 at the age of fifteen. By the time he was nineteen, Edward Steichen had purchased his work for the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art and exhibited his work frequently during his tenure at the museum. Although turning down Steichen's request to include him in The Family of Man exhibition, Feinstein quickly became a prominent figure in the vanguard of the early New York City photography scene. He exhibited at Helen Gee's Limelight Gallery in 1958, was part of the storied NY Photo League, and was a designer of historic Blue Note record covers.

Feinstein is best known for his six-decade love affair with Coney Island. Feinstein's 1990 show at the International Center for Photography in NYC entitled "A Coney Island of the Heart" evoked this comment from eminent photo critic and historian A.D. Coleman: "Here is New York School small-camera photography at its best -- humanistic, intimate, engaged, almost intrusive." He went on to call Feinstein "a true photographer's photographer."

While his Coney Island work is much celebrated, Feinstein's breadth and exposure is far greater. His black and white portfolios include photo essays from the Korean War, documentary street work, nudes, landscapes, and still life.

His extensive color work has been most recently celebrated in seven books published by Bulfinch Press including: One Hundred Flowers, (2000, now in its third printing), Foliage, (2001), The Infinite Rose, (2004), The Infinite Tulip, (2004), One Hundred Seashells, (2005), Orchidelirium, (2007), and One Hundred Butterflies (2009). These acclaimed books have spawned a virtual phenomenon in the world of popular art.

Feinstein's photographs have been exhibited in and are represented in the permanent collections of major museums including the Museum of Modern Art, the International Center of Photography, the George Eastman House, the Museum of Photographic Arts, the Musée d'Art Moderne, and the Museum for the City of New York. His portfolios, photo essays, and articles have been published in major periodicals around the world including, LIFE, Aperture, Audubon, Connoisseur, L'Illustrazione, Popular Photography and OPRAH Magazine.

For more information, please visit <http://www.griffinmuseum.org/index.htm> and <http://www.haroldfeinstein.com/>