

Eva Rubinstein

Elegies



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12.03.-12.05.2021

“Photography, more lucid than handwriting, and more permanent than dreams, can raise, and sometimes speak to, the most profound and fundamental questions of our lives. I have no doubt that photography, because of its ability to “take” information in hundredths of a second, and then to remain as a witness, is a unique instrument allowing us to see beyond the surface of our lives.” – Eva Rubinstein

Born in 1933 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, as Eva Rubinstein’s mother Aniela Mlynarska was accompanying her father, the concert pianist Arthur Rubinstein on his South American tour. When the family was not traveling, they lived mainly in Paris. With the outbreak of World War II in 1939, they emigrated to the United States. Eva Rubinstein made a career as a dancer and actress in New York on and off Broadway, including the original production of “Diary of Anne Frank”. Her marriage to Reverend William Sloane Coffin and three children had brought a whole new awareness of the “real” world, as contrasted with her previous life, and after the divorce she could never have returned to make-believe.

In photography she found a way to research her surroundings and what she calls “the third dimension” - the result of a fusion of outer reality as we perceive it, with our own deepest sensibilities and responses to that reality. This fusion produces a kind of interior landscape beneath the surface of the image, which we are free to explore, and try to understand, or, of course, to ignore.

Eva Rubinstein’s work has been exhibited internationally and is held in numerous private and public collections like The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (US), Kiyosato Museum of Photographic Arts, Hokuto (JP), Museum Ludwig, Cologne (DE).

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