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Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened.

ANATOLE FRANCE



# **The Twenty-Seven Series**

### EXHIBITION FIVE

An exhibition of fine art photography celebrating our ANIMALIA partners.

Т

July 22 to September 1, 2022

T juror

HENRY HORENSTEIN

### A SMITH GALLERY

JOHNSON CITY, TEXAS 2022

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### JUROR'S STATEMENT

Jurying an exhibition like this is a tricky matter. It's a cold critique, basically. For *Animalia*, there were 449 images entered, many of which were excellent, but only 55 included in the exhibition. As a juror, it's so hard to separate the images from the artist who created them. And I didn't know the artists. Thanks Amanda and Kevin again for giving me this great opportunity to view all these submissions and get to know the artists.

You should know this. If I picked your image today, maybe I wouldn't tomorrow. Sorry. But conversely, if I didn't pick it today, tomorrow is another day. Another chance. Jurors are humans, after all, and they have their good moments and their bad. Especially when they are Geminis. It's God's truth.

As for me, this work is in my wheelhouse. I photographed animals from 1995-2001 and made a book, also called ANIMALIA. All along I was trying to make unique images. Pretty tough given the billions of animal images over centuries—photos, drawings, paintings, etc. But I was always thinking, how can I make a unique image? Something people hadn't seen before. And in selecting the work in this exhibition, I was thinking the same. Did the photographer/artist succeed in making something I hadn't seen before? Some did and some didn't. Some just caught a kick-ass look, great background, rich color. Whatever. I probably chose these, too.

At a certain point, jurying becomes instinct and I just had to go with that. That said, I am very proud of the images I selected. So many serious photographers/artists when so many don't have to be. I expect most entrants have jobs that sustain them. My job is teaching and I am blessed to have it. And you are blessed to have a passion that drives you to excellence, whether you were chosen for this exhibition or not.

#### **HENRY HORENSTEIN**

Boston, Massachusetts

# ·JUROR'S AWARD·

1

The Last Leaves of Autumn Digital pigment print

RAJAN DOSAJ

Van Nuys, CA



### Astrid Wants Breakfast Arcival inkjet print

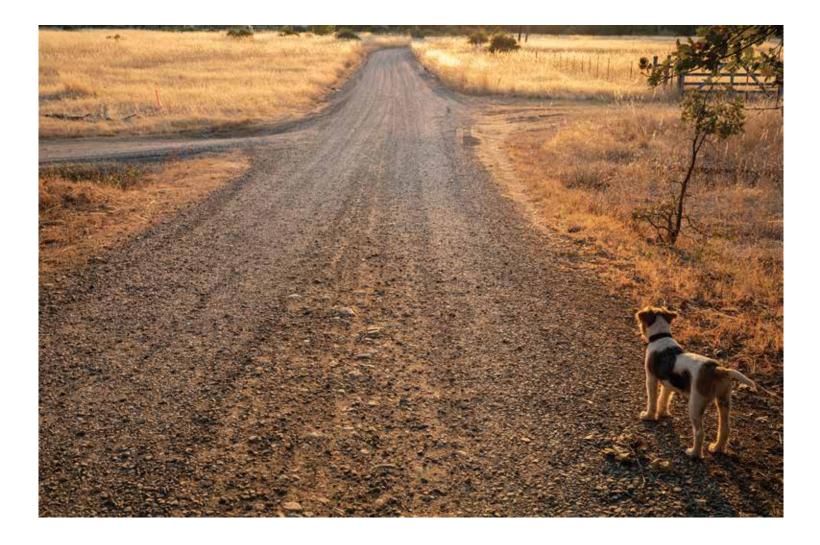
#### JUDY BROWN

Natick, MA



**Crossroads** Digital pigment print

MARCY TILTON Cave Junction, OR



### Baby Blue Metal print

#### CHRISTIE GOLDSTEIN

Katy, TX



Getting His Ducks in a Row, from the series Making Friends During the Pandemic Digital pigment print

CAROL SERUR

San Marcos, TX



Wildscape: Zebras-Botswana Archival inkjet print

NELL DICKERSON

Memphis, TN



The Egrets of San Antonio 36 Digital archive print

NED WALTHALL

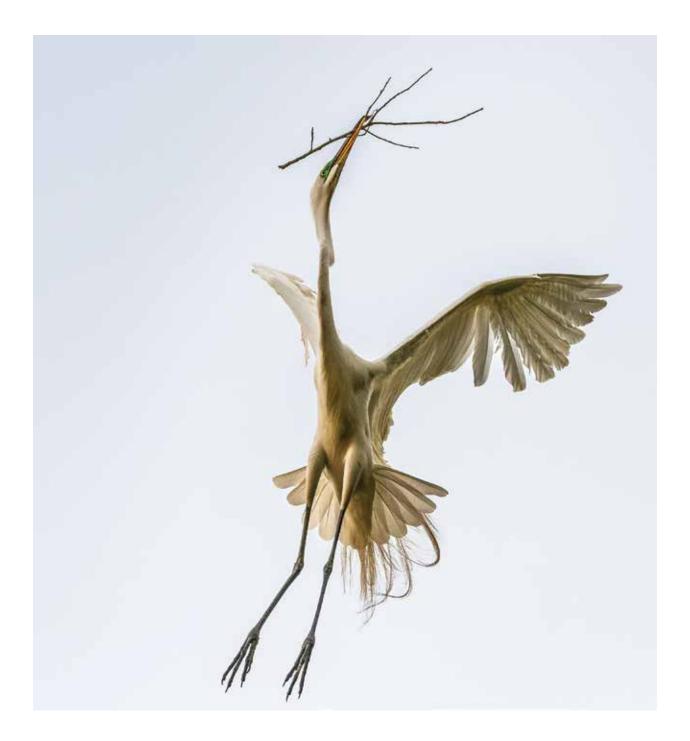
Lawrenceville, NJ



The Egrets of San Antonio 8 Digital archinve print

NED WALTHALL

Lawrenceville, NJ



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### Barn Owl Archival pigment print

#### DONNA WESLEY SPENCER

Hillsborough, NCy



### Secret World Digital pigment print

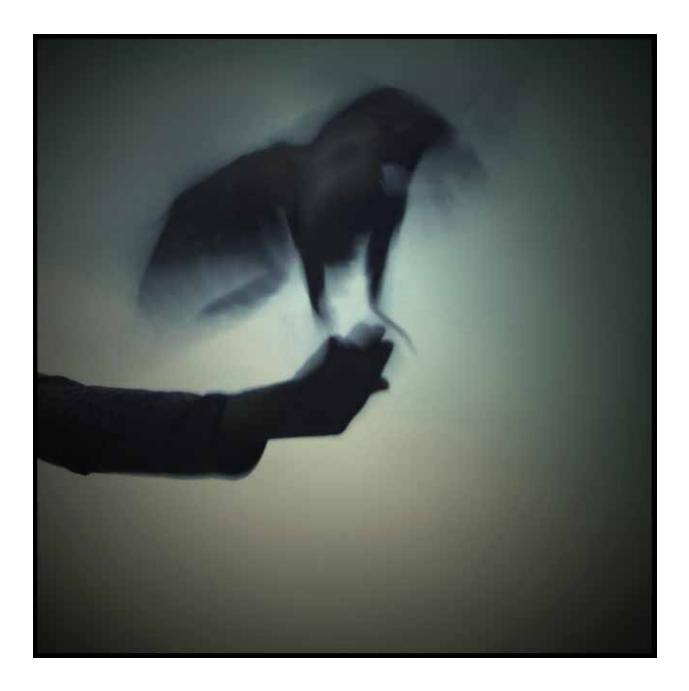
RAJAN DOSAJ Van Nuys, CA



Ania y su caballo volador Archival ink print

FAUSTINUS DERAET

Austin, TX



### Duality Archival inkjet print

#### LAWRENCE MANNING

Nampa, ID



# ·DIRECTORS' AWARD·

### 13

A Portrait in Blue Metal print

CHRISTIE GOLDSTEIN Katy, TX



### Dreaming of Paedo Archival inkjet print

#### VICKY STROMEE

Tucson, AZ



### Family Portrait Digital inkjet print

#### DAVID PELLEGRINI

Oxford, MD



Sky Rats 12 Inkjet print

ELLEN MITCHELL Ortley Beach, NJ



#### Pony Express Digital pigment print

#### LEANNE TRIVETT S.

Johnson City, TN



Spots on the Mirror Archival pigment print

CHRIS WALKER

Rancho Santa Fe, CA



#### Beautiful Girls Archivall pigment print

### SANDRA DALTON

Westcliffe, CO



#### Elephants Inkjet print

BORIS KELLER Rochester, NY



Sleeping Sea Lions / Galapagos Inkjet fine art print

RENEE S. ELKIN

Chicago, IL



*Turtle Time* Digital archive print

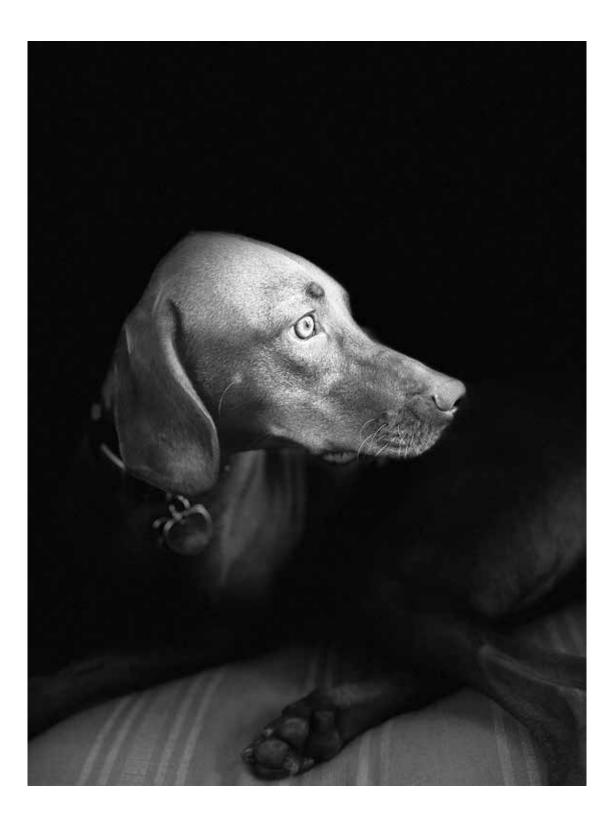
> JO FIELDS Nashville, TN



#### Golden Eye Digital pigment print

#### **BRANSON PFIESTER**

Austin, TX



*Titan* Digital pigment print

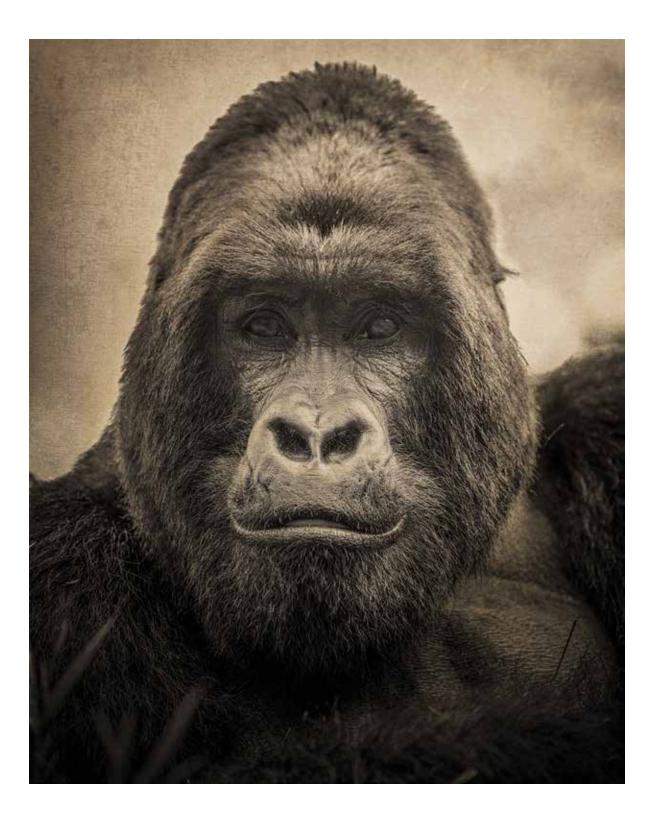
SALLY FULLER Dade City, FL



Wild Eyes: Gorilla-Rwanda Archival inkjet print

NELL DICKERSON

Memphis, TN



Tiger Portrait, Domain Digital pigment print

WILLIAM HORTON

Boulder, CO



*Majesty* Archival pigment print

**CHRIS WALKER** Ranch Santa Fe, CA



#### THE STORY

"It stood by the front door. There were two umbrellas, a walking cane with an ivory carving of a lion, stalking, two old persimmon drivers and a generously carved oosik, the penis bone of a walrus, standing in it. The umbrellas not for sale. The large grey and wrinkled elephant foot, taxidermied precisely for the purpose of holding umbrellas and walking sticks. A wonderfully dressed and coiffed middle-aged woman asked a sour looking older man behind a glass counter, holding Nazi memorabilia, miscellaneous jewelry, vintage playboy magazines and various pocketknives how much the elephant foot cost. He pretended not to understand her, taking all about her in, throwing numbers back and forth in his mind, noticing her shoes. She asked again.

Standing, he asked her if she could bring it to him. He of course knew she couldn't. Picking up the receiver of a red telephone on the counter, that was connected to the shop's PA, he requested Derek, twice, to come to the front. Derek arrived, very tall, wearing a coonskin cap and an elk hide vest with a beaver tooth neckless around his neck. The old man asked Derek to bring the elephant foot to the front desk. Derek groaned, complaining about back pain. Once the elephant foot was at the glass case the old man asked the woman if there was a price tag on it. Moving the walking canes and golf clubs around, she found it.

"One thousand fifty dollars," she said.

"Umm," said the old man, "If we take all the rest out...nine twenty-five."

"Ok, she said, "I'll take it."

Derek carried the elephant foot out to her SUV. She opened the back hatch and asked him to put it next to a stuffed coyote. Placing it in the vehicle he also noticed an elephant tusk, a mounted wood duck, two worn largemouth bass on driftwood and a small squirrel under glass.

Thanking Derek she said, "I take them to a place where they are loved and respected."

Derek returned inside and told the old man what the woman had said.

"Damn, I should have stuck with the price on the tag," said the old man.

Derek removed the coonskin cap, scratching his reddened, exposed scalp..."

FROM THE ANTIQUE AND JUNK STORE CHRONICLES BY

FRANKLIN CINCINNATUS

### DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

First, we want to thank Henry Horenstein for selecting a compelling group of images. This theme is a difficult one for a juror. We have all had a favorite pet or three. Built into the moment of looking at the images is the constant pulling of heart strings. It becomes difficult to overcome what Jung called "the collective unconscious," our common memories and emotions surrounding our common bond with animals, whether for protection or as companions. So, to have an honest exhibition of animalia isn't it imperative to include some images of our buddies? Of course it is. Henry chose a captivating group of images, from domestic and wild to mystical.

Branson Pfiester's image of his dog, "Golden Eye," Sandra Dalton's "Beautiful Girls" and Judy Brown's image, "Astrid Wants Breakfast" of a talkative sheep, all serve as a counterpoint to Ned Wathall's "The Egrets of San Antonio" and Nell Dickerson's "Wild Eyes: Gorilla-Rwanda." Lawrence Manning's image "Duality," courts the mystical and metaphysical. Faustinus Deraet's "Ania y su caballo volador" is possibly a spiritual exploration. Vicky Stromee's "A Night Alone" combines whimsy with a touch of the mystical..

We chose Christie Goldstein's image "A Portrait in Blue" as our Director's Award. It is always hard to make this choice. Her image made the task a bit easier. It shone from the screen, jewel-like. A beautiful portrait in blue.

Thanks again to all that entered. Until next time.

#### AMANDA SMITH & KEVIN TULLY

Johnson City, Texas

HENRY HORENSTEIN has been a professional photographer, filmmaker, teacher, and author since the 1970's. He studied history at the University of Chicago and earned his BFA and MFA at Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), where he studied with legends Harry Callahan and Aaron Siskind.

Henry's work is collected and exhibited internationally and he has published over 30 books, including several monographs of his own work such as *Honky Tonk*, *Histories*, *Show*, *Animalia*, *Humans*, *Racing Days*, *Close Relations*, and many others. His next monograph *Speedway72*, which features photographs made 50 years ago, will be published by Standley/Barker (UK) in the fall. He has also authored *Black & White Photography*, *Digital Photography* and *Beyond Basic Photography*, used by hundreds of thousands of college, university, high-school, and art school students as their introduction to photography. His *Shoot What You Love* serves both as a memoir and a personal history of photography over the past 50 years.

In recent years, Henry has been making films: *Preacher, Murray, Spoke, Partners, and Blitto Underground*, which premiers in 2022. He is currently in production on *Marksville, LA*, a film about Cajun Louisiana.

Henry is professor of photography at RISD and lives in Boston

ABOUT THE GALLERY Established in May, 2010, A Smith Gallery is located in Johnson City, Texas. The gallery exhibits the work of both amateur and professional photographers through juried and invitational exhibitions. As a fine art photography gallery, A Smith Gallery's mission is to promote the photographic arts through exhibitions, workshops, and the facilitating of an active, vibrant community of photographers. The gallery celebrates photography in all of its manifestations: analog, digital and alternative. Amanda Smith and Kevin Tully are the gallery directors. *Creativity is encouraged* !

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#### THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO

IZZIE, THE GALLERY CAT

This catalog, TWENTY-SEVEN SERIES : EXHIBITION FIVE was published in January, 2023, by A Smith Gallery in Johnson City, Texas. Project design and production assistance from Jace Graf. Printing by Austin Digital Printing. Binding by Cloverleaf Studio, in Austin. In an edition limited to fifty copies, plus four artist proof copies,

THIS IS BOOK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_.

HENRY HORENSTEIN

AMANDA SMITH

KEVIN TULLY