

# Richard Avedon 1923 - 2004

Paris Art Studies

Richard Avedon

1923. Born son of Russian-Jewish garment shop owner in New York City.

Attends PS6 De Witt Clinton High School and Columbia University.

Given Rolleiflex camera as gift on leaving home by his father.

1937-40. co-editor with James Baldwin of The Magpie (the De Witt Clinton high school magazine). Poet laureate NYC high schools.

1942-44. Served in US Merchant Marine. In charge of taking crewmen's ID photos.

1944. Married Dorcas Nowell, who later became a model and was known professionally as Doe Avedon. Will divorce in 1949.

Studied with Alexey Brodovitch (art director of Harper's Bazaar) at the

Design laboratory, New School for Social Research, NY.

1949. Commissioned by Life magazine to photograph NYC street scenes. In the end returns \$ 25000 advance and won't show pictures until published in autobiography in 1992.

1945-65. Staff photographer for Harper's Bazaar.

1947-84. Photographs Paris fashion collections.

1950. Art Directors Club, NY, Highest Achievement award.

1951. He married Evelyn Franklin; their marriage produced one son, John. Avedon and Franklin also later divorced.

1957. Visual consultant for Stanley Donen movie Funny Face with Audrey Hepburn. His own role is played by Fred Astaire.

1959. Publication of book Observations, photos by Avedon, text by Truman Capote, designed by Brodovitch.

1962. Exhibition Richard Avedon, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC.

1966-88. Staff photographer for Vogue.

1969. Photographed the anti-war movement across America.

1971. Visits Vietnam.

1974. Exhibition Jacob Israel Avedon, portraits of his father at MOMA.

1976. Publication in Rolling Stone magazine photos of American political and financial Establishment figures, The Family, in special Bicentennial issue.

1985. Exhibition In the American West, Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas.

1989. Photographs New year's festivities at Brandenburg Gate in Berlin.

1992. First staff photographer for The New Yorker magazine.

1994. Retrospective at Whitney Museum of American Art, NY: Richard Avedon Evidence 1944-1994.

1999. Publication Avedon The Sixties. Photos by Avedon, text by Doon Arbus.

2002. Portrait retrospective at Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY: Richard Avedon Portraits.

2004. Dies of cerebral haemorrhage while on assignment for New Yorker in San Antonio, Texas.

2005. Richard Avedon Foundation is established.