





Sex Pistols, John Lennon Mick Jagger, Led Zeppelin

Bob Gruen - Rock and Roll Photographer - Biography - 2018

Bob Gruen is one of the most well-known and respected photographers in rock and roll. From John Lennon to Johnny Rotten; Muddy Waters to the Rolling Stones; Elvis to Madonna; Bob Dylan to Bob Marley; Tina Turner to Debbie Harry, he has captured the music scene for over forty years in photographs that have gained worldwide recognition.

Shortly after John Lennon moved to New York in 1971, Bob became John and Yoko's personal photographer and friend, making photos of their working life as well as private moments. In 1974 he created the iconic images of John Lennon wearing a New York City t-shirt and, standing in front of the Statue of Liberty making the peace sign - two of the most popular of Lennon's images.

Bob has worked with major rock acts such as Led Zeppelin, The Who, David Bowie, Tina Turner, Elton John, Aerosmith, Kiss & Alice Cooper.

As chief photographer for Rock Scene Magazine in the '70s, Bob specialized in candid, behind the scenes photo features. He toured extensively with the emerging punk and new wave bands including the New York Dolls, Sex Pistols, Clash, Ramones, Patti Smith Group and Blondie.

His "Sid Vicious with Hot Dog" photo was acquired in 1999 by The National Portrait Gallery, London, for their permanent collection.

In June 2004 Bob was presented with MOJO Magazine's prestigious Honours List Award for Classic Image in London.

"All Dolled Up," a DVD documentary made by Bob Gruen and Nadya Beck of their early '70s video footage of the New York Dolls, was released in 2005. This was followed in 2007 by another New York Dolls video "Lookin Fine On Television" and in 2012 "Ike and Tina Turner On The Road – 1971 – 72.

In the spring of 2007 FAAP University in Sao Paulo, Brazil presented an exhibition of Bob Gruen's work. Titled 'Rockers', the exhibition attracted 40,000 visitors, and in June 2013 Gruen's 'Rock Seen' exhibition in Buenos Aires, Argentina attracted over 440,000 visitors!

The ROCKERS exhibition was also shown from April to July 2008 at Morrison Hotel Gallery on the Bowery in New York City.

In November 2010 Bob was inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame. For his many charitable contributions, Bob received the first ever John Lennon Real Love Award in December 2014 at the 32nd Annual John Lennon Tribute Concert.

PHOTO EXHIBITS include:

Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn – "David Bowie Is" – 2018 Pendulum Gallery, Vancouver – 2017
Parko Ikebukoro, Tokyo – 2017
Pearlstein Gallery, Philadelphia – 2017
Blender Gallery, Philadelphia – 2017
Blender Gallery, Sydney – "Because The Night" – 2017
Beit Hatfutsot Museum, Tel Aviv – "Forever Young: Bob Dylan At 75" – 2016
Saatchi Gallery, London – "Exhibitionism" – 2016 Sotheby's S/2 Gallery, London – 2015 The Beatles Story Museum, Liverpool – 2015 Kaapeli, Helsinki - 2015 Huntingdon Gallery, London - 2014 Pop Gallery, NYC - 2014 Fort Napoleon, Belgium - 2013

Recoleta Cultural Center, Argentina - 2013 Oca, Sao Paulo, Brazil - 2012 Centro Cultural Borges, Argentina – "Rock Seen" – 2011 Fahey/Klein Gallery, Los Angeles – 2011 Liss Gallery, Toronto, Canada – 2008 & 2011 Folkwang Museum, Essen, Germany - 2010 Amerika Haus, Munich, Germany – 2010 MoMA – Museum of Modern Art, New York – "Looking at Music – Side 2" - 2009 Brooklyn Museum of Art – "Who Shot Rock & Roll?" – 2009 Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, Monterrey, Mexico – 2008 Morrison Hotel Gallery, New York & Los Angeles – 2008 Auditorio Nacional, Mexico City, Mexico – 2008 V!P Gallery, Rotterdam, Netherlands - 2007 FAAP University Museum, Sao Paulo, Brazil – 2007 Blink Gallery, London, England – 2006 Morrison Hotel Gallery, La Jolla & Tokyo, Japan - 2005 A Gallery for Fine Photography, New Orleans – 1997 & 1999 The Govinda Gallery, Washington, DC – 1995

Bob receives numerous invitations to give LECTURE/SLIDE SHOWS, he has presented at:

Oca, Sao Paulo, Brazil Annenberg Space for Photography, LA Centro Cultural Borges, Argentina Brooklyn Museum of Art Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH Heckscher Museum, Long Island Worcester Museum of Art, MA Princeton University New York University Savannah College of Art and Design Hawaii Pacific University The City University of New York Tokyo Communications College The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Eastman Kodak New York headquarters The Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC

Gravity Free Convention – 2008 Chicago - Museum of Science and Industry Gravity Free Convention – 2011 San Francisco - Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Stevenson University, Stevenson, MD

BOOKS by Bob Gruen

"See Hear Yoko" - Bob Gruen and Jody Denberg (Harper Collins, Spring 2015)

"Rock Seen" – Bob Gruen (Harry Abrams, Inc, Fall 2011)
"New York Dolls – Photographs by Bob Gruen" (Harry Abrams Inc, 2008)

"ROCKERS" (Cosac Naify, 2007)
"John Lennon – the New York Years" (becker & mayer!, 2005)

"The Clash, Photographs by Bob Gruen" (Music Sales, 2004)
"Crossfire Hurricane, 25 Years of the Rolling Stones" (Genesis, Signed, Numbered Edition, 1998)

"Sometime in New York City" with Yoko Ono (Genesis, Signed, Numbered Edition, 1995)

"Chaos, the Sex Pistols" (Music Sales, 1991)

More recently he has also has photographed Green Day, The Strypes, Longshot and other new popular acts.

Updates of his current work and events can be found on his website, bobgruen.com.