

# News Release FROM THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

MICHIGAN AVENUE AT ADAMS STREET, CHICAGO 3, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:  
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THE PERSONAL EYE: an exhibition of photographs by Clarence John Laughlin opens in the Gallery of Photography, The Art Institute of Chicago, Friday, December 9, and runs through Sunday, January 15, 1961.

Clarence John Laughlin, who has had more than 80 one-man shows throughout the United States, has devoted much of his time since 1936 to photographing the historic homes and plantations of his home state. (He was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana, now lives in New Orleans.) His book, "Ghosts Along the Mississippi" (Chas. Scribner's Sons, N.Y.C., 1948), was received with wide acclaim.

Laughlin has long been fascinated with the mystery and magic of light and believes that "the camera can use an object as a stepping-stone to a realm of meaning beyond the object, that it can become an instrument to explore the mind of man, that used in this way the camera is no longer a recording mechanism but is a direct extension of the luminous and supersentient eye of the creating imagination...a third eye."

Laughlin's work consists of more than 13,000 negatives which the photographer divides into 20 groups, including: Early Industrialism, The Louisiana Plantations, Magic of Objects and Mystery of Space, Weird Houses: The Beauty of the Ugly.