

News Release FROM THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASEFOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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Thirty-eight photographs in black and white by Chicagoan Aaron Siskind will be on display at The Art Institute of Chicago from Saturday, March 14 through Sunday, April 19, 1964.

Using as subject matter rough-textured walls, peeling paint, fragments of paper, rusting signs, and lichened rocks, he explores the reality of the photographed object. Non-geometric patterns and abstract forms abound in his work. Also included in the current exhibition are several of Siskind's close-ups of feet, and four photographs of leaping figures.

"I stand still or move slowly," Siskind has said, "feeling things like the impulse of shapes, the direction of lines, the quality of surfaces. I frame with my eye, sometimes with my hands ... Nothing that one could reasonably call thinking is taking place at this stage. The condition is total absorption; the decision is spontaneous..."

Born and educated in New York, where he taught English in the public schools for twenty years, Aaron Siskind says he has "a spiritual attachment to the place." His first documentary photographs, aspects of New York life taken in 1935, have been widely exhibited and reproduced. Mr. Siskind has had many one-man shows in private galleries and museums (including a 1955 exhibition at the Art Institute). He has been represented in major exhibitions organized by the Museum of Modern Art, the American Federation of Arts and the United States Department of State. His work has been reproduced in many photographic and architectural periodicals in this country and abroad, and in such books as Masters of Modern Art and Picture History of Photography.

Since 1951 Aaron Siskind has taught photography at the Institute of Design, Illinois Institute of Technology. Now head of the Department of Photography, he has been a strong influence in the development of many young photographers.