

September 16, 1969  
Mr. Robert Delpire  
c/o Delpire  
9 - 11 rue Georges Pitard

Paris, XV  
France

Dear Mr. Pitard:

I am happy indeed to have heard from you. First of all, the Delpire publications have always given me pleasure and satisfaction; then, several years ago, I had a brief and delightful interchange of letters with Miss Dominique Sacoul-Duval of your firm. Now comes the good news that you are planning an exhibition devoted to cars and photography.

At present, we have two shows in this museum which are related to the subject of your exhibition. One is very large (642 photographs) and is called Man in Sport, organized by Robert Riger for The Baltimore Museum of Art last year. In 1962 we had an exhibition of Mr. Riger's photographs of professional football and this was the introduction of his work to museums. He is a brilliant authority on all sports and is at present producer-director of ABC Wide World of Sports, the most lively and interesting of American television presentations from the visual standpoint. Under separate cover I have mailed you a copy of the catalogue of Man in Sport. I wish you could see this large exhibition as the automobile pictures are handsome and of much interest. Many are by Horst Baumann whose work, of course, you know. Should you care to write Mr. Riger, he may be addressed at ABC Sports, 1330 Avenue of the Americas, New York City, New York.

It is quite likely Robert Frank was referring to both this show and another, a one-man exhibition, by Roger Vail, a young Chicago photographer in whose work I am much interested. Most of his subject matter is drawn from young Americans at auto shows, and portraits of the motors of drag racing cars they have decorated with their own personal tastes and nonconformity. These people do not belong to the over-publicized "hippy" set, but to that vast American society of the new middle class which is sadly neglected by our present day writers and artists. They are our true "moderns" who have created the environment the others complain about so much - and they live in it very well. I believe you would like Roger Vail's photographs and you may reach him by addressing him as follows: Roger Vail, 8316 Kedvale Avenue, Skokie, Illinois. I am enclosing a copy of the announcement of his exhibition - I wish I had more than one reproduction to send you.

There are three other photographers I should like to call to your

attention. George Gardner, 2316 North Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware, has made some memorable photographs of large transport trucks (my special passion) on the road, and these you must see. Ann Treer, 715 Carroll Street, Brooklyn, New York, has treated the same subject from another viewpoint, but with as much success. Also, her views taken through the windshields of cars on long trips across the United States are very impressive and unlike anything in European photography. Her husband, a writer on photography and one of the editors of Popular Photography, has produced some fine pictures of cars in traffic and on the road.

I believe all these people could add much to exhibition and if you get in touch with them, I hope you find them of interest. It was good to hear from you and good also to hear through Robert Frank. I shall always be grateful for his book which I found in 1959 in a Greenwich Village book store and which kept me up all night in the old Henry Hudson Hotel. That was one of my greatest experiences with photography and always gives me new and delightful insights into the world of photography. I had a prize and delightful introduction to your firm. Good news that you are planning an exhibition devoted to cars and photography.

**Hugh Edwards, Curator of Photography.**

At present, we have two shows in this museum which are related to the subject of your exhibition. One is very large (400 photographs) and is called Man in Sport, organized by Robert Riger for the British Museum of Art last year. In 1962 we had an exhibition of Mr. Riger's photographs of professional football and this was the introduction of his work to museums. He is a brilliant authority on all sports and is at present producer-director of ABC wide world of sports, the most lively and interesting of American television presentations from the visual standpoint. Under separate cover I have mailed you a copy of the catalogue of Man in Sport. I wish you could see this large exhibition as the automobile pictures are handsome and of much interest. Many are by Horst Hamann whose work, of course, you know. Should you care to write Mr. Riger, he may be addressed at ABC Sports, 1330 Avenue of the Americas, New York City, New York.

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