

October 20, 1965.

Mr. Duane Michals,
27 West 9th Street,
New York City, New York. 10011

Dear Duane Michals:

Thank you for the announcement of an exhibition of your work at the Underground Gallery in New York. I am disappointed I shall not be able to see it for I have thought about you many times since that well-remembered day when DU arrived and I first saw your work. I was greatly impressed by those photographs which expressed so many of my own predilections and they have remained fresh and very much alive in my mind.

I found you in the New York telephone directory a long time ago and as I may be in New York for a week at the end of November, I may call you.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Edwards, Curator of Photography.

January 6, 1966.

Mr. John F. Mathias,
John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation,
90 Park Avenue,
New York City, New York. 10016

Dear Mr. Mathias:

I am sending herewith the reports on the work of Rudolph Janu and Duane Michals and within the next day or so will mail the remaining report for Ray Metzker. We have had a great number of visitors and unexpected work during the last week and I regret very much that I have not been able to have these statements reach you sooner. I rewrote the Duane Michals report and it is not sent you on your usual form sheet. I hope this does not inconvenience you too much.

I am very grateful to you for your patience and trust I am not too late with these statements. I am much interested in the work of each of these three candidates and am glad to have had this opportunity to recommend it highly.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh Edwards, Curator of Photography.

Metzker report sent. 1-7-66

Requested of:

Hugh Edwards,
The Art Institute of Chicago,
Michigan Avenue and Adams Street,
Chicago, Illinois. 60603

Name of Candidate:

Mr. Duane Michals (4)

REPORT: Since the publication of his photographs in DU sometime ago, the work of Duane Michals has been of much interest to me. That selection of photographs was an early and welcome example of a new photographic approach which set out on new ways of freedom from many of the sentimentalities of "involvement" and by-passed the tiresome (often ridiculous) repetitions of naïve social ideas. The human and acute sophistication of his attitudes brings us to single individuals and not types. The anecdote - one of photography's most common temptations - is entirely absent from his work and he does not try to create an illusion of profundity by photographically plagiarizing painting and other arts. His photographs are honestly photographs and since they employ those abilities which are unique to photography, they are examples of the art of photography. The possibilities of his special objectivity were brilliantly displayed in the series of "fashion" portraits in the December 1965 issue of Esquire. These prove a commercial assignment can result in observations which are deeply revealing and impressive with sharp meaning. Mr. Michals does not have to shout from housetops, incite riots or preach shallow metaphysics to make his truthful observations persuasive and convincing. It is good to hear he plans to photograph places without people and have the promise that he will show us interiors. Photographers, generally, have relied on exteriors and on people themselves to depict human expression, so Mr. Michals' difficult new project is commendable and provokes lively anticipation. After so much consideration of the exterior and the loneliness of man in society, one is impatient to see what a gifted young artist will show of the interiors and deserted places.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Position or Title _____

Address _____

March 14, 1968

Mr. Duane Michals
109 East 19th Street
New York City,
New York

Dear Duane:

I enjoyed talking with you by telephone and am happy you have agreed to have a show here. This is something I have wanted ever since I saw your photographs for the first time when they were reproduced in DU.

The dates I have fixed for the exhibition are June 9 through July 28 of this year and I believe this will allow enough time for selection and preparation without too much fuss and hurry. About 75 prints, most of them of the 11 x 14" size, will be needed. We will take care of matting, etc. here and I assure you it will be done carefully and satisfactorily.

I have planned to come to New York sometime in April and should like to make a selection with you. However, there is a cataloguing job I have to finish here and have in the press early in April which may delay my departure. I shall call you again soon and keep you informed about this. In any case there will be the month of May for making prints and sending them.

Ever since the few moments you spent here I have wanted to talk with you again, so I look forward to knowing more of you in the future. All good wishes now and more soon.

Sincerely,

Hugh Edwards, Curator of Photography.

DUANE MICHAELS
109 EAST 19 STREET
NEW YORK CITY 10003
473 1563

MAY 14, 1968

HUGH EDWARDS
CHICAGO ART INSTITUTE
MICHIGAN BLVD.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

DEAR HUGH,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR A MEMORABLE VISIT TO CHICAGO AND FOR SHARING YOUR FRIENDS WITH ME. I APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH. I HOPE YOU KNOW HOW PLEASED I AM THAT YOU ARE GIVING ME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW. IT MEANS A LOT TO ME. I THINK THAT WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER. MAYBE WE CAN SPEND MORE TIME TOGETHER NEXT TIME.

ENCLOSED ARE THE PRINTS THAT I OWE YOU PLUS SOME NEW PRINTS ON A FEW THAT I HAVE ALREADY GIVEN YOU. I THINK THAT THESE NEW PRINTS ARE AN IMPROVEMENT OVER THOSE. WOULD YOU PLEASE BE SURE TO SEE THAT THE NEW ONES ARE EXHIBITED AND NOT THE OLD PRINTS. THE COWBOY IN TEXAS IS FOR YOU. I'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR PERSONAL COLLECTION. IN THE FUTURE, IF I DO ANY PHOTOGRAPHS THAT I FEEL YOU MIGHT LIKE, I'LL SEND THEM TO YOU FOR YOUR OWN AMUSEMENT.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF I CAN BE OF ANY OTHER ASSISTANCE.

SINCERELY,

Duane

June 28, 1968

Mr. Duane Michals
109 East 19th Street
New York City
New York

Dear Duane:

I am sending herewith a set of photographs of the installation of your exhibition by Robert Pottinger who photographs all the shows for us. I thought you might like to have them and asked him to print an extra set to give you.

I did enjoy your being here on Saturday so much and hope to see more of you soon. I am leaving on Monday (July 1) for Kentucky and will be at Irving Cobb Hotel, Sixth and Broadway, Paducah, Kentucky, for three weeks. I hope you see the land of rivers someday. I'll send you a card while I am there.

All good wishes and thanks to you now.

Yours,

Dear Hugh!

Here is my list. Thank
you for the mailing.

Hope to see you soon!
Kim Novak never looked
better.

Marian

CARL F. ZAHN
BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

MR. & MRS. J.A. MICHALS
1010 HIGH STREET
MC KEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

DR. TIMOTHY MICHALS FAMILY
7304A HAMPTON BLVD.
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

MR. STEPHEN JARECKIE
WORCESTER MUSEUM
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

NATHAN LYONS
GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE
900 EAST AVENUE
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

NORBERT KLEBER
UNDERGROUND GALLERY
51 EAST 10 STREET
NEW YORK CITY

LEO LERMAN
GRAY FOY
205 WEST 57 STREET
NEW YORK CITY

BOB EWING
THE MUSEUM OF NEW MEXICO
SANTE FE, NEW MEXICO

MIKE SELIG
301-B GRANITE N.E.
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

ROGER SCHOENING
MADEMOISELLE MAGAZINE
420 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

MILTON ACKOFF
48 EAST 58 STREET
NEW YORK CITY

ELTON ROBINSON
ART IN AMERICA
635 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY 10022

ALLAN HURLBURT
LOOK MAGAZINE
488 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

EDWARD W. WARWICK
N.W. AYERS & SON, INC.
WEST WASHINGTON SQUARE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106

Michals: list of names to whom
announcements should be sent
TOM GARVER
ROSE ART MUSEUM
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

BOB IVERS WORKS
CORNING GLASS WORK
CORNING, NEW YORK

VAN DEREN COKE
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

RICHARD LEBOWITZ
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

JACOB DESCHIN
THE NEW YORK TIMES
227 WEST 43 STREET
NEW YORK CITY

MILTON GLASER
PUSH PIN STUDIO
207 EAST 32 STREET
NEW YORK CITY

CHARLIE REYNOLDS
INFINITY MAGAZINE
60 EAST 42 STREET
NEW YORK CITY

ART WARGO FAMILY
5906 LEPRECHAUN DR
BETHEL PARK
PENNA. 15102

LEE LOCKWOOD
240 WEST 15 STREET
NEW YORK CITY

MRS VALENTINE MIHAL
615 SO. FIFTH STREET
DUQUESNE, PENNA.

TRUMAN CAPOTE
870 UN PLAZA
NEW YORK CITY

ROY TAMURA
2643 CENTINERA #38
SANTA MONICA
CALIFORNIA 90405

BILL YOKEL
SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN MAGAZINE
415 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

RUTH ANSEL
BEA FEITLER
HARPER'S BAZAAR
572 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

CAROL & ANDY KNER
147 EAST 18 STREET
NEW YORK CITY

SAM ANTUPIT & FRIENDS
ESQUIRE MAGAZINE
488 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

WM REDDING FAMILY
721 VALLEY RD.
COLORADO SPRINGS
COLORADO

EL & ANDY VANYO
4043 SILVERDOLLAR DRIVE #5
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

MISS DUFFY
HOLIDAY MAGAZINE
641 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

MEL LIGHT FAMILY
8008 WASHINGTON ST. N.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN

MR. & MRS. STEPHEN MATIK
1012 HIGH STREET
MC KEESPORT, PENNA.

MR. GIBSON
MC KEESPORT
TECHNICAL HIGH
MC KEESPORT, PA

November 19, 1968

Mr. Duane Michals
109 East 19th Street
New York City
New York
10003

Dear Duane:

At a recent meeting, the Committee on Prints and Drawings approved the acquisition of fourteen of your photographs which I had selected from your exhibition. During one of our conversations, you stated you might give us a number of prints, when the choice had been made, should we care to purchase others.

Would it be agreeable with you if we sent you a check for \$ 200.00 and add the fourteen prints to the permanent collection of The Art Institute. Your show was very popular during the extended period it was up and even yet people inquire about it. I am delighted by the success of this event I had wanted to take place for such a long time.

When I have heard from you concerning the prints spoken of above, an Art Institute check will be sent you and the other prints returned by express.

I thank you again for your cooperation and the fine display you sent us to exhibit. Also, I assure you, if you make it possible for us to obtain the group of your prints, they will form a much needed addition to the collection and will be seen by many visitors to the print study room.

I shall write you again or telephone soon. Best regards now.

Sincerely,

Hugh Edwards, Curator of Photography.