

GALERIE CATHERINE & ANDRÉ HUG

Catherine & André Hug present :
Carte blanche à CLAIRbyKahnGallery

Erich Hartmann

" Erich Hartmann, the Poetry of Daily Life "

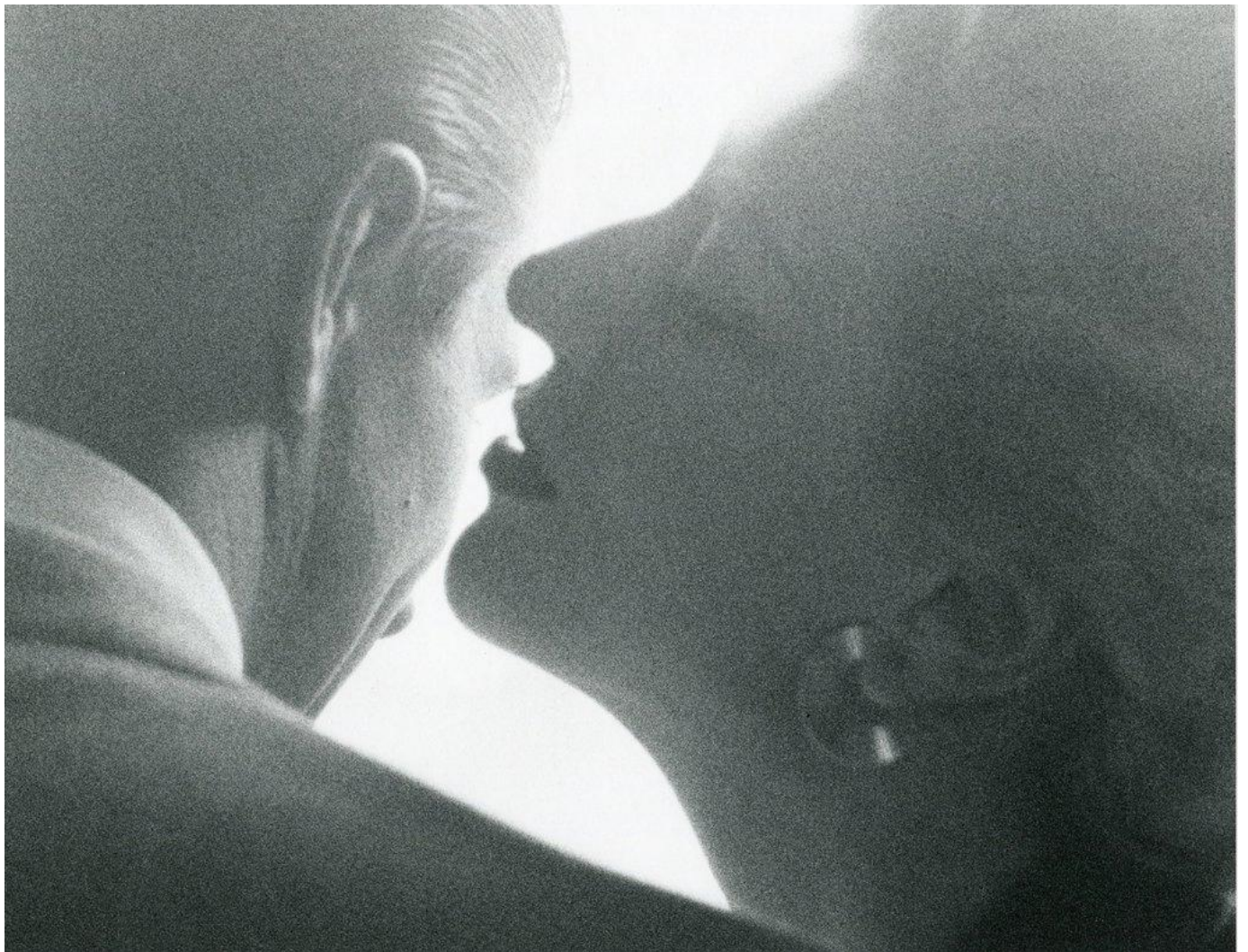
March 21 - May 4th 2019

Galerie Catherine et André Hug
40, rue de Seine / 2, rue de l'Échaudé
75006 Paris

www.galeriehug.com

Mardi au samedi : 11h à 13h et 14h30 à 19h

° **CLAIR** BY KAHN



The Kiss, ©ErichHartmann/MagnumPhotos/CLAIRbyKahn

The Erich Hartmann, *The Poetry of Daily Life* exhibition emerged from a chance meeting and an immediate enchantment. The meeting was between Anna-Patricia Kahn, who is the director of CLAIRbyKahn, and Catherine and André Hug, who are the renowned owners of their eponymous gallery in Paris. And the enchantment took place the instant Catherine and André were shown the Erich Hartmann oeuvre. Then and there, they decided to give a "carte blanche" for a Hartmann show to CLAIRbyKahn, the gallery which represents the photographer's archives. Hartmann (b. 1922 in Munich, d. 1999 in New York) is celebrated for the subtle, mysterious poetry that emanates from his photography, the play of shadow and light that is captivating yet respectful. He embraced places, objects, and people with his camera, never unsettling the moment, always capturing it in a way that allowed it to be rediscovered. The *Poetry of Daily Life* exhibition features 27 images by Hartmann that magnify the glory of the ordinary and the dignity of the routine. The photographs on display are all vintage prints that have the unique quality of being developed by Hartmann's own hand. This will be a momentous year for the Erich Hartmann archives as there will also be two major museum exhibitions consecrated to the legendary photographer: in Bale, Switzerland from February to July 2019 as part of a collective exhibition *Isrealities*; and then in November 2019, his Irish portfolio will be exhibited at the National Gallery of Ireland in Dublin.



Billboard, USA, 1976 © ErichHartmann/MagnumPhotos/CLAIRbyKahn

At the age of 16, Erich Hartmann fled Nazi Germany with his parents and immigrated to the United States. He first worked in textile factories and then enlisted in the American army where he served as a translator at the military trials shortly after the end of the war. After his service, Hartmann decided to become a photographer, beginning his career as a studio assistant and then going on to shoot portrait photography. In 1948, he entered the New School for Social Research. His meeting with Robert Capa in New York in 1952 was decisive as it led to Hartmann joining Magnum Photos. He became especially close to Inge Morath and Ernst Haas, and for his entire life he

considered the prestigious agency as a second family. Hartmann's first major exhibition was devoted to the Brooklyn Bridge and was shown at the Museum of the City of New York in 1956. His photo series *Our Daily Bread* was exhibited across the United States in 1962 and went on to be published as a book. Hartmann also used his photography to explore the work of writers such as James Joyce and Seán O'Casey, while producing portraits of musicians such as Leonard Bernstein, Arthur Rubinstein, and Gidon Kremer. Hartmann gained renown in industrial and technological circles such as IBM and Airbus for his meticulous and avant-garde photography of scientific and mechanical objects. For the last ten years of his life, Erich Hartmann devoted himself to a project that was dear to his heart: along with his wife, Ruth Bains Hartmann, he toured Europe and photographed the vestiges of concentration camps. The book *In the Camps* was published in 1995 and the photographs were exhibited in France, Germany, Italy, England, and the United States. When Erich Hartmann died suddenly in 1999, Ruth took over management of the archives. In 2015, she and Anna-Patricia Kahn oversaw the release of a new edition of *Our Daily Bread*. An accompanying exhibition was shown in Berlin and at the Swiss National Museum in Zurich.

°CLAIRbyKahn has been the exclusive representative of the Hartmann archives since 2009.