

Paul Oratofsky

Portraits

22 silver gelatin prints

September 28 – October 24, 2005

sponsored by

Ansonia Pharmacy
442 6th Ave. at W. 10th St.
New York, NY 10011

Paul Oratofsky Fine Art B&W Photography
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Portraits

The Prints

These are favorite portraits from my 37 years as a b&w photographer. They are all naturally lit; that is, no lighting was set up as in a studio. They are all silver gelatin prints — made in the darkroom by the photographer. For more information, visit my website: www.oratofsky.com → info.

9/2005

Portraits

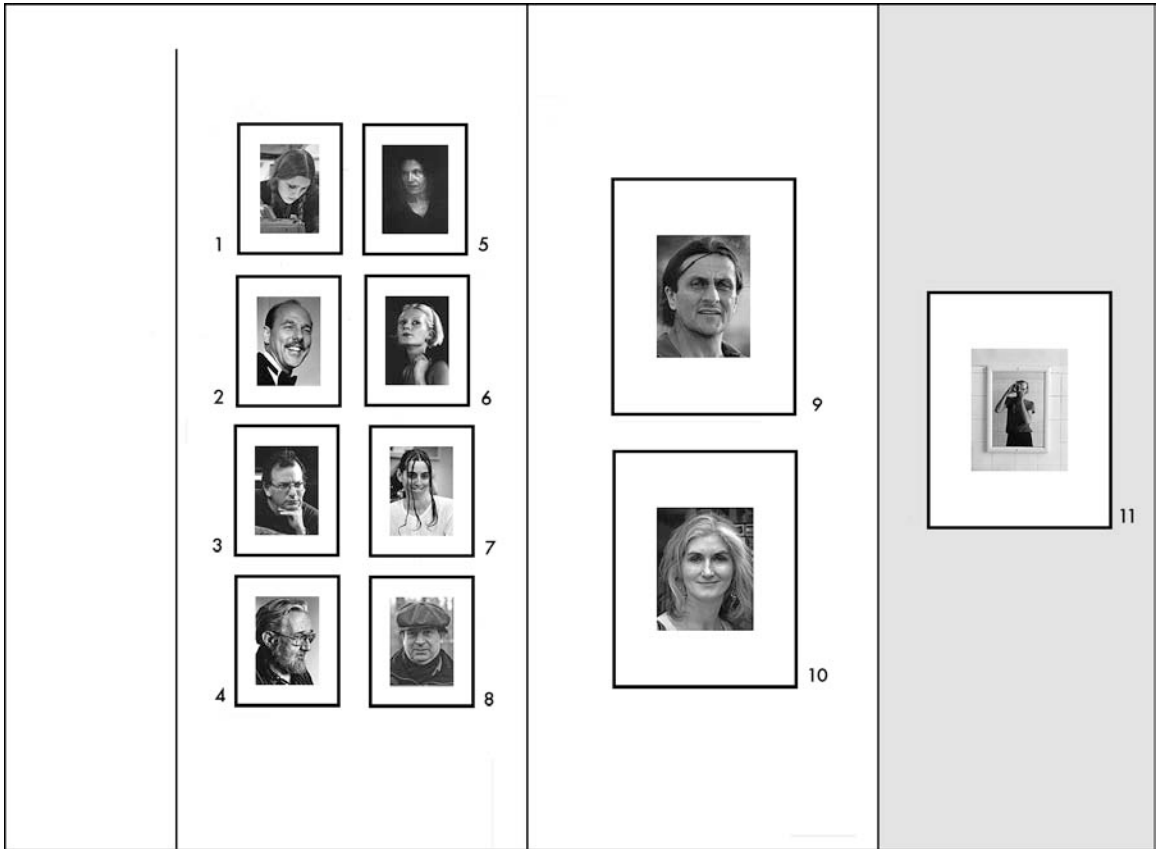
The People

Front Window

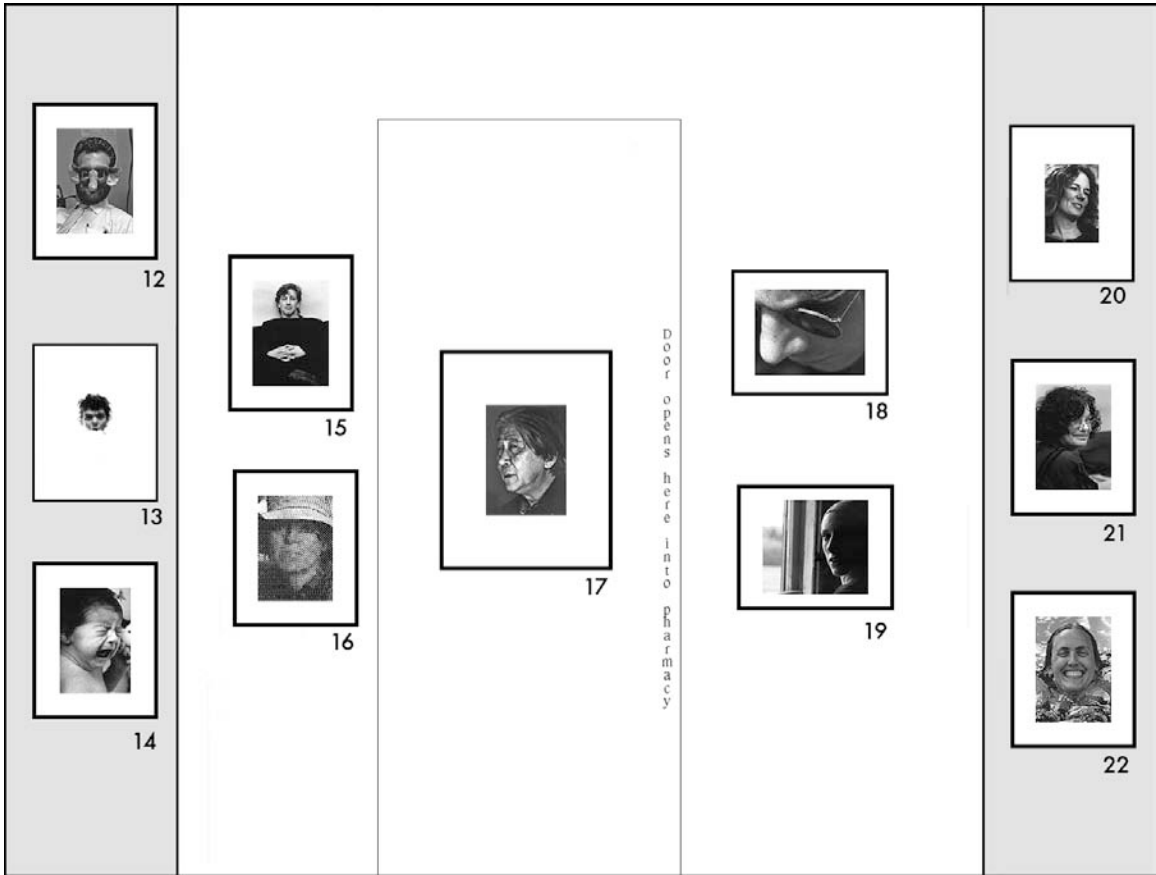
| | | |
|----|----|--------------------|
| 1 | MS | seamstress |
| 2 | PT | cabaret singer |
| 3 | MG | songwriter |
| 4 | DM | sculptor |
| 5 | FO | dancer |
| 6 | GG | wedding guest |
| 7 | RD | musician |
| 8 | JR | lawyer |
| 9 | IE | playwright |
| 10 | PW | research scientist |
| 11 | PO | photographer |

Side Window

| | | |
|----|-----|--------------------|
| 12 | MK | Wall St. executive |
| 13 | JL | psychologist |
| 14 | MR | baby |
| 15 | SS | librarian |
| 16 | RA | artist |
| 17 | JGV | poet & teacher |
| 18 | IB | fiddler |
| 19 | JK | mathematician |
| 20 | AK | research scientist |
| 21 | AL | pianist |
| 22 | BS | sculptor |

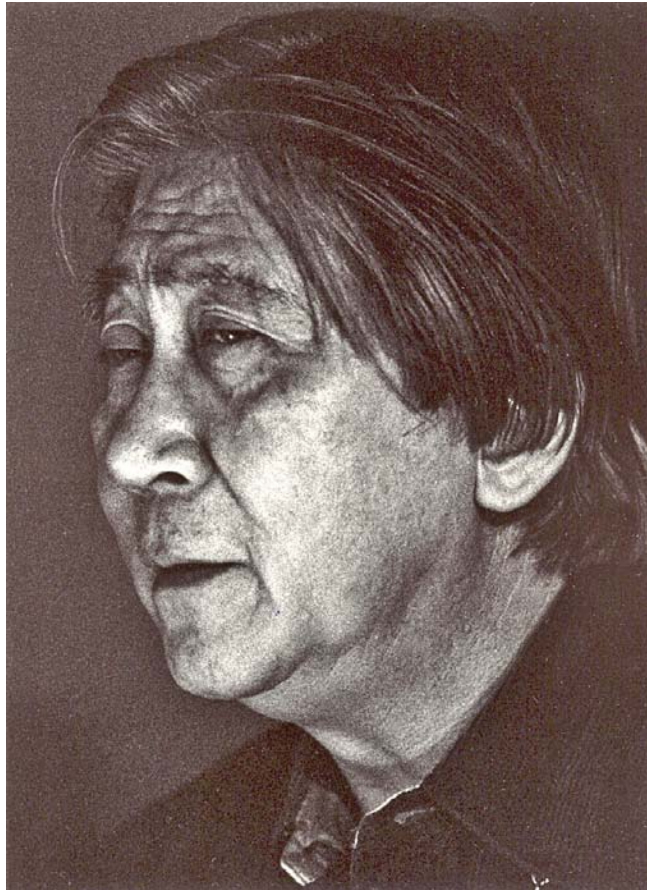


Ansonia FRONT Window (on 6th Ave.)



Ansonia SIDE Window (on W. 10th St.)

This show is dedicated to the memory
of Jose Garcia Villa — poet & teacher
extraordinaire . . .



. . . who taught me that life and art
proceed best by the poetic process.

Paul Orlowski



World wobiW

Sponsored by ANSONIA PHARMACY 448 6th Avenue at WJ 10th St., Greenwich Village, NYC

PAUL ORATOFSKY

In an ANSONIA PHARMACY Window Show

PORTRAITS

September 28 – October 24, 2005

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"PO, photographer", 1960's, 8" x 10" silver gelatin print

Paul Oratofsky
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Biography

I'm a self-taught fine art B&W photographer working in the field since 1968. I did commercial work for a few years, but my main interest has been trying to create works of art, which is all I currently do.

My subject matter covers a broad spectrum, from land-, sea- and cityscapes, to portraits, close-ups, animals, abstractions, water, and almost microscopic views of everyday items, like vegetation, food, fabrics, and other things.

Born & raised in Brooklyn, I've lived and worked in England, Morocco, and Maine. I've been living and working in Greenwich Village in New York City from 1979 to the present.

I strictly do black & white photography, and I do all my own processing, from developing the film to making the prints. I've learned from reading, comments from others, and experimentation — but mostly by doing it a lot.

Artist's Statements

All of my photographic work involves unposed and essentially unmanipulated images, except for the darkening or lightening of broad areas of the image (dodging and burning) — either to bring out occluded details, to esthetically balance the overall composition, or to prevent the viewer's eye from being pulled to irrelevant areas of it.

My main interest is in finding esthetic or interesting (or both) images from the world right around us. I'm looking for everyday scenes that have magic terrains and visually significant relationships "hidden" in them — that just need the right framing or the right treatment to bring them out. So photography, as I practice it, is more an act of discovering than creating.

I feel that any artwork requires a transformation of something from the real world — into the art medium. Black & white photography starts out with a major transformation — of the world of color into its black, white, & gray tones. This transformation, I feel, adds, rather than subtracts — by lending a mood or introducing a play of tones — that may not have been so readily noticed in the real world it came from, because of the complexities of color and three dimensionality. So my photowork consists of working with these transformations to locate and turn camera-sensed visual material into esthetic compositions.

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Photo Résumé

Group Shows

Salmagundi Club Annual Non-Members' Open, NYC, 6/2005, 1 print (prize); 6/2004, 1 print.
28th Annual NYU Small Works juried open, NYC, 1/2005, 2 prints.
Times Square Lobby Gallery, NYC; 9-12/2003; 3 prints.
Cornell Medical Associates, NYC; 9/2002-3/2003; 12 prints.
Nexus Gallery, NYC; 2/2002 3-person show "Shadows" 10 prints.
NYU Medical Center, NYC; 2-5/2002 6 prints; 5-8/02 6 prints.
PS Gallery, Litchfield, CT 6/2001 14 prints.
Witt Gallery, Pawlet, VT 7/2001 9 prints.
Ansonia window, NYC: 1/2001 2 prints; 11/00 3 prints; 3/00 3 prints; 11/99 3 prints; 10/99 4 prints; 4/99 3 prints; 8/98 2 prints.
Manhattan Bridge Club, NYC: 10/1999 4 prints.
Fakiris Gallery, Greenport, L.I., NY: 6/1998 26 prints.
Annual Greenwich Village invitational art auction, NYC: 5/1998 1 print.
Nexus Gallery, NYC : 3/1998 juried "Emerging Artists" 2 prints. Won "Best of Show."
Camden, Maine outdoor art exhibit, 1977.

Solo Shows

Mercedes-Benz showroom, Manhattan, 4/2005, 36 prints.
Franklin 54 Gallery, NYC; 5/2004 "WaterBeings" 37 prints.
Sid Kaufman & Associates, NYC; 3/2004, 8 prints.
Lafayette Grill, NYC; 3-4/2003 "West Virginia" 36 prints.
Chelsea Market, NYC; 2-4/2003; "NysCenes" 95 prints.
Manhattan Athletic Club, NYC; 6-9/2002, 64 prints.
Dag Hammarskjold Tower, NYC; 3-4/2002, 19 prints.
Lafayette Grill, NYC; 1/2002 "Retrospective" 45 prints.
Ansonia Window Show, Greenwich Village, NYC: 9/2005 "Portraits" 20 prints; 11/2004 "Clouds & Fog" 20 prints; 10/2003 "Candid Abstractions" 17 prints; 9/2002 "Windows" 15 prints; 10/2001 "Points of View" 11 prints; 9/00 "Light Variations" 15 prints; 9/99 "Silver Linings" 15 prints; 4/98 "Sourcesoflight" 18 prints; 4/97 "Crosscurrence" 32 prints; 6/97 Bath Salt Suite 5 prints.
Manhattan Bridge Club, NYC: 8/99 8 prints
Camden, Maine, 1976-8: 3 shows.

Permanent Displays

Bayerische Landesbank, NYC: 4/2000 7 prints for executive offices.
75 Bank St., NYC (Co-op apartment bldg): 4/99 12 prints for hallways & lobby.

Publications & Awards

Salmagundi Club, NYC, 2005 juried show. 7th place award (of 57)
Nexus Gallery, NYC, 1998 juried "Emerging Artists" show, "Best of Show" award.
"Black Bough", haiku periodical: 1994 3 photos, 2 on cover; 1993 2 photos, 1 on cover.
International Diamond-in-the-Rough competition, 1977. Photo won 1st prize for jeweler.
NY Times, 5/26/77: half page photo on cover of Home section.
Newsweek, 1977.
Down East Magazine, 1977.
Hard cover tenting book jacket, from work done for Moss Tents.

Commercial Work

Patrick Turbett, cabaret singer: 1993-2001: fliers, displays, tapes, CDs, website. Ansonia Pharmacy, 1997-2001 products, product settings, ads, website; Peter Westbrook Foundation, NYC: 1990-1994 portraits. Moss Tents, Camden, ME: 1977-9 brochures, catalogs, ads, books; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Architects, NYC: 1977. From 1976-8 in Camden, Maine: The Camden Herald, Camden Community Hospital, Heritage Savings Bank, Daryl A. Reif Jewelry (Diamond-in-the-Rough award winner), Camden Hotel, Advertising Agency, LL Bean's Catalog, magazine & newspaper ads, news, legal work, brochures, ceramics, sculptures, catalogs, people, portraits, architecture, milk.

Private Collections

My work appears in over 60 private collections.

































