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Frank Horvat *The Birth of a Photographer*

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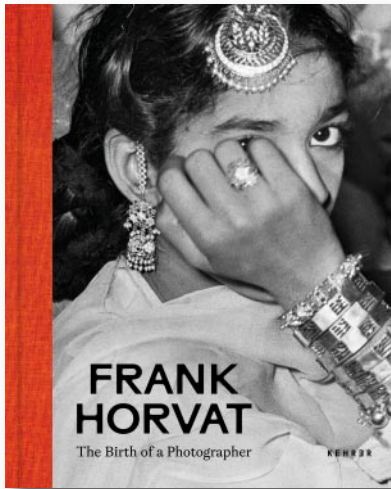
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The beginning of a groundbreaking career: photographic journeys through India and Pakistan

Famous fashion photographer Frank Horvat (1928 – 2020) first travelled, aged twenty-five, to India and Pakistan in 1952, after having first encountered Indian soldiers in Switzerland during WWII as young Hungarian Jewish refugee.

He stayed then for two years in India and Pakistan and his first photographs were published in Europe and the USA. As he came back, he had almost become famous even before starting his pioneering fashion photography career.

His photograph of the wedding bride taken in Pakistan in 1952 was notably exhibited by Edward Steichen at the New York MoMA in 1955 as part of The Family of Man.

In 1962, Horvat made another trip to India.

This book shows for the first time around one hundred black-and-white photographs of these two trips he made to India and Pakistan, encountering the great themes of humankind at the birth of his extraordinary career.

It seems to me that these images 'go beyond the subject', and more generally, that this trip was the true starting point of my journey as a photographer.

— Frank Horvat

Frank Horvat was born in Abbazia, Italy (now Opatija, Croatia) in 1928. He first started photographing at age fifteen and moved to Milan to study art in 1947. Horvat was one of the first artists to apply the 35mm film camera and reportage techniques to fashion art photography. Although he is best known for his fashion photography, published between the mid 1950s and the end of the 1980s, his photographic opus includes photojournalism, portraiture, landscape, nature, and sculpture. Horvat briefly was a member of the American picture agency Magnum, before moving to Paris in the 1970s. He continued to photograph, experimenting with new technologies including digital cameras and Photoshop, and also published and exhibited his work up until his death in 2020, aged 92.

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Press Images



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02_ Frank Horvat, Husband discovering the face of his wife in a mirror, Lahore, Pakistan, 1952 © Frank Horvat Studio



03_ Frank Horvat, Night market, Lahore, Pakistan, 1952 © Frank Horvat Studio



04_ Frank Horvat, Red-light district of Hira Mandi, Lahore, Pakistan, 1952 © Frank Horvat Studio



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06_ Frank Horvat, Women listening to Vinoba Bhave speech, Bihar, India, 1953 © Frank Horvat Studio



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09_ Frank Horvat, Man praying, Bombay, India, 1953 © Frank Horvat Studio



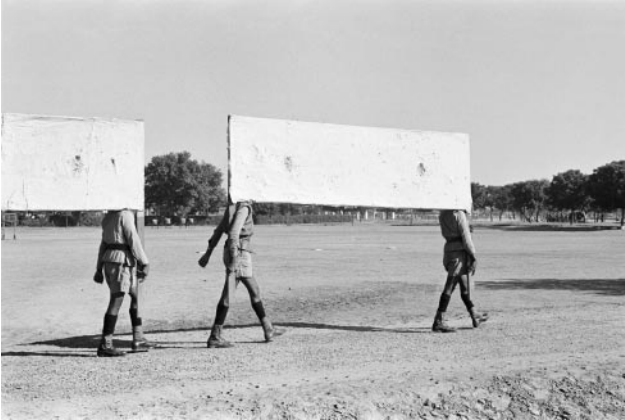
10_ Frank Horvat, Khedda, near Mysore, India, 1953 © Frank Horvat Studio



11_ Frank Horvat, Howra Bridge, Calcutta, India, 1953 © Frank Horvat Studio



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