

PHOTOGRAPHY

Animals as Art

Top photographers train their cameras on the animal world at AIPAD

By Ellen Gamerman

The animals are watching.

Across the photography show, an annual fair staged by the dealer group AIPAD, animal portraits are among this year's standouts. The images on display at New York's Park Avenue Armory through Sunday feature all manner of non-human subjects, putting a disorienting twist on the familiar gaze of pets, offering surreal glimpses of other-worldly creatures and unleashing the hungry stares of beasts.



Issei Suda's 'Ginzan Onsen, Yamagata, 1976,' 1976-1979 PHOTO: ISSEI SUDA/PGI



Hellen van Meene's 'Untitled,' 2014 PHOTO: HELLEN VAN MEENE/YANCY RICHARDSON

“It seems as if there’s some animal in every booth,” said photography dealer Lee Marks, adding that the best pictures are anything but cute and cuddly. “There has to be some kind of meaning and value and message to the image—it can’t just be a picture of a dog.”



Karen Knorr's 'Sikander's Entrance, Chandra Mahal, Jaipur City,' 2013 PHOTO: KAREN KNORR/DANZIGER GALLERY



Steve McCurry's 'Tourists Lounge Poolside, Sri Lanka,' 1995 PHOTO: STEVE MCCURRY/STALEY-WISE GALLERY



Garry Winogrand's 'Bronx Zoo, New York,' 1963 PHOTO: GARRY WINOGRAND/ETHERTON GALLERY

Ms. Marks's booth features portraits of dogs by British photographer Martin Usborne. In one series, dogs are trapped in cars—a reference to Usborne's memories of powerlessness as a child when his parents left him in the car to run errands, she said. In another series, Usborne photographed Spanish hunting dogs called galgos and podencos that were abandoned, killed or left to die; he presents them in diptychs like saints. "This is as much about human beings as it is about the dogs," said Ms. Marks.



Georgia Valli's 'Roseate Spoonbill' *PHOTO: GIORGIA VALLI/KOPEIKIN GALLERY*



Dennis Stock's 'James Dean, Fairmount, Indiana,' 1955 *PHOTO: DENNIS STOCK/DANZIGER GALLERY*



Neil Winokur's 'Zorba,' 1990 PHOTO: NEIL WINOKUR/JANET BORDEN, INC.

The show, presented by AIPAD--short for the Association of International Photography Art Dealers--features more than 85 global fine-art photography galleries displaying everything from 19th-century photographs to new media.



Maroesjka Lavigne's 'White Rhino, Namibia,' 2015 *PHOTO: MAROESJKA LAVIGNE/ROBERT MANN GALLERY*



Martin Usborne's 'Olive Tree and Galga,' 2014 *PHOTO: MARTIN USBORNE/LEE MARKS FINE ART*

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