

PRESS RELEASE
MAY 2018

**ART CINEMA IN COLLABORATION WITH THE FESTIVAL DES
RENCONTRES PHOTOGRAPHIQUES DE ARLES 2018 PRESENT:**

“THE UNFINISHED: LEE MCQUEEN”¹
BY ANN RAY

Curator **Sam Stourdze**
Co-producer **Myriam Blundell Phillips**

JULY 2ND – SEPTEMBER 23RD 2018
Opening week: July 2nd 2018 – July 8th 2018

Festival des Rencontres Photographiques de Arles
Atelier Des Forges
32 Avenue Victor Hugo
13200, Arles, France

“I want to tell the truth about Lee, the truth of Lee: He was a man of art, of great beauty. He asked me to photograph everything, anything, without boundaries, with an open heart. Lee was not really a fashion designer, nor an artist: he was truly and simply a poet. Far beyond the fashion world, I want to demystify the overly reductive view the public has of him, and bring to light the intricate facets of a wonderful and complex man. It is impossible to understand the œuvre without understanding the man. This is the man as I knew: this is the truth of the legend”

Ann Ray, 2017

“The Unfinished: Lee McQueen”, an exhibition of photography, moving image and mixed media featuring for the first time ever a selection of works by French artist Ann Ray, selected from her extensive photographic archives documenting her close friendship and creative collaboration with the late icon of British Fashion, Lee Alexander McQueen, between 1997, when they first met at Givenchy Ateliers in Paris, until his tragic passing in 2010 in London.

Curated by Sam Stourdze², the show explores, on the one hand, Lee’s incommensurable legacy through the study of his artistic inclinations and inspirations; and, on the other hand, the friendship and creative collaboration between Lee and Ray. Thirteen chapters portray the genius and graceful spirit that animated the two artists, leading to some of the most iconic pictures of our time.

¹ *English translation from the original title in French: Les Inacheves, lee Mcqueen”*

² *Artistic director of the Festival des Rencontres Photographiques de Arles*

The deeply moving portraiture Ray makes of Lee is depicted in a selection of 169 artworks including photographic silver prints, collages, montages and other photographic processes inspired by the 19th century -Pictorialism movement.

The show also features a black-box screening room showcasing a 12 minutes moving image work made of still photography, with a score by British composer Michael Nyman. The viewer is invited to embark on a journey of celebration on Lee's life, hopes and fears.

A 192-page publication/exhibition catalogue, entitled "LES INACHEVES", has been made available to accompany the show and is printed in an edition of 2000 copies. (Published by Art Cinema)

Art Cinema wishes to thank 23 Capital, La Mode en Image, and the Florence & Damien Bachelot Collection for their generous support.

About Ann Ray

Born in Brest, Ray studied photography and film at Central Saint Martin in the early nineties and graduated with a Master degree. From 1995 to 1997 she worked for clients such as Cartier, Givenchy, Elle, Marie Claire and La Seine. In 1997 she started taking portraits for The Times, a collaboration which lasted for over 10 years. During this time she entered into a creative collaboration with Lee Alexander McQueen, a collaboration which resulted in the creation of a photographic archives of 40 000 silver photos taken over 13 years. She is currently engaged with the Opera de Paris and the Metropolitan Opera. Her work has been acquired by a number of private and public art collection including the Victoria and Albert Museum, The Bachelot Collection, Art Pradier and Carmagniac Foundation. She lives in Paris.

Selected Works

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| 2017 | «Conversations» – 2 short films about William Forsythe & Merce Cunningham, Opéra de Paris |
| 2016 | «I love Writing for People I love» – Film about renowned composer Nico Muhly, Opéra de Paris |
| 2014 | «Metamorphosis» - short film - with Aurélie Dupont & Jeremie Belingard, FIT, NY |
| 2012 | «Love looks not with the eyes: 13 years with Alexander McQueen: Publication of Photography, Abrams Publishing |
| 2012 | «La Source» with Christian Lacroix. Publication, Actes Sud. |
| 2011 | «24 hours in a Man's Life» Art Film premiere at the Opera de la Bastille |
| 2008 | «Nicholas Le Riche», 6 years with the celebrated dancer from Paris Opera: Publication of Photography |

For additional information and/or visuals, please contact

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