

ART BASEL 2017

UH, GEE, GREAT

DANIEL BLAU

WEEGEE • WARHOL

“The Seedbed of Self-Invention”

We are pleased to announce that we will present an exhibition of extraordinary Warhol drawings and vintage prints by Weegee at Art Basel this year, including new discoveries that are bound to cause a sensation. *UH, GEE, GREAT* explores the tacit relationship between Andy Warhol and Weegee.

Weegee's “the Famous” and Andy Warhol's 15 minutes of fame collide in the same whirlpool of 20th century tabloid culture, and reality television.

Neither of the two men were integrated into their respective milieus, but neither of them suffered from obscurity. And Warhol never forgets to remind us of the 15 minutes of fame which every one is entitled. He gives us the record, as does Weegee, of a chosen appearance as “king or queen for a day.”

The king of pop art, a universally renowned and hugely influential 20th century artist, whose work is continually exhibited, **Andy Warhol** (1928 -1987) was prolific: he worked in painting, photography, cinema, television and performance, and as a music producer and magazine editor. Warhol's career began in 1949, when he moved to New York. He was then working as an illustrator for various magazines and his first commissions were as an adman. The 1960s would be his glory days – his tins of Campbell's soups and portraits of celebrities even attained iconic status. His earliest artwork dates back to the 1950s. Warhol was then predominantly working on paper, often using as motives. These drawings remained unrecognized until they were discovered in 2011 by the German gallery owner Daniel Blau. Through drawing, Warhol developed a visual language, sublimating reality and exploring the idea of a body of work that is both iconic and reproducible.

Weegee always played off his name. He would boast about his ‘sixth sense’ to be at the scene before anyone else.

Art Basel
Stand F3

Messe Basel
Messeplatz 10
4005 Basel
Switzerland

Vernissage:
June 14, 2017
4pm – 8pm

Public Exhibition:
June 15 – 19, 2017
11am – 7pm

For further information
or sales inquiries please
email:
contact@danielblau.com

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Weegee built his persona. He was shameless in marketing himself. He adopted the surname 'the Famous' even before he ever found fame. "Weegee the Famous" was stamped on the back of his photographs, or he would caption his photographs with his name included. Frequently, he would place himself in his photographs as part of the story. Arthur Fellig was shy, but his persona Weegee was not. Weegee was narcissistic. He wanted to be known, seen and heard. If you didn't know him he would tell you. Policemen and criminals alike often wanted their picture taken by Weegee. Crowds often would gather around him at a scene so they could be photographed. As early as 1929, he had already adopted Weegee as his alter-ego. He had taken his nickname from his earlier position as assistant in the dark rooms – the 'squeegee boy' was refined to Weegee. He wanted everyone to know he was different, better and 'slightly cracked' as a news photographer. Gangsters and criminals were the movie stars of the streets. They wanted to make a name for themselves and so did Weegee. He was Weegee the Famous.

And as history has proven, within the cast of characters which paraded before us, must have become cultural icons. And running the gamut between heroes and villains, starlets and hookers, victims and henchmen, all are presented equally, in a banal lineup which serves as a snapshot of that particular incident or day.

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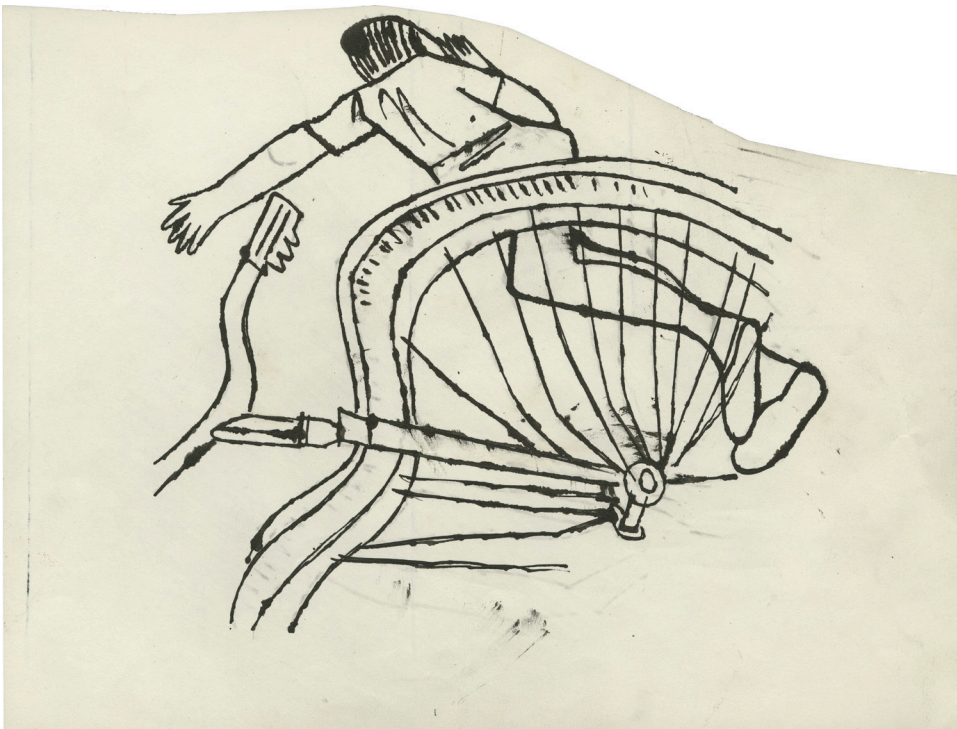
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**Andy Warhol
(1928-1987)**

"n.t. (Bicycle Accident)", c. 1956,
ink and graphite on paper;
27,5 x 20,7 cm

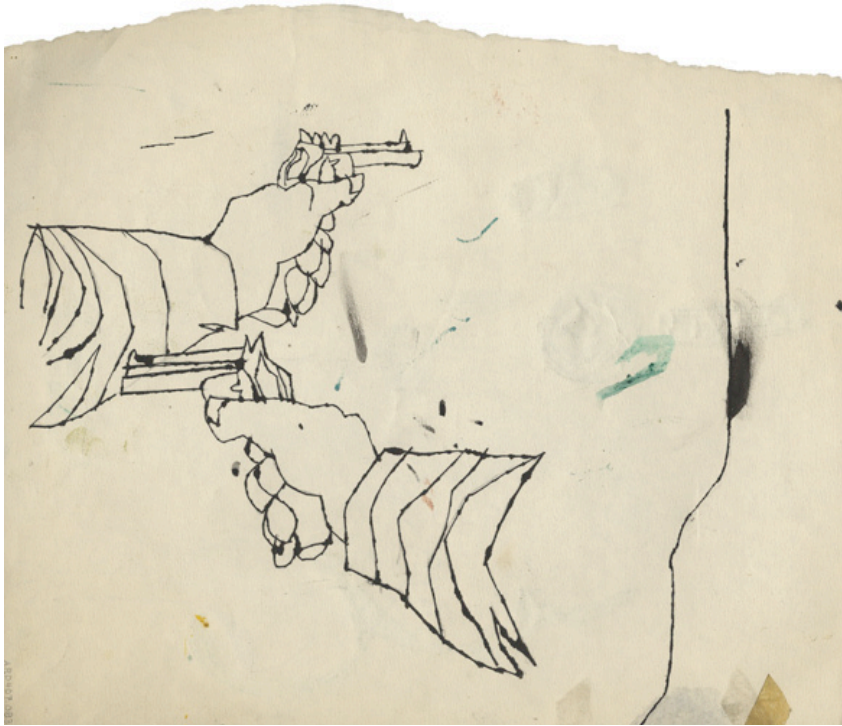
Andy Warhol Artwork © 2016
The Andy Warhol Foundation
for the Visual Arts, Inc. / Artists
Rights Society (ARS), New York,
Courtesy: Daniel Blau, Munich



**Andy Warhol
(1928-1987)**

"n.t. (Angry Dog)", c. 1956,
ink and graphite on paper;
45,4 x 24,0 cm

Andy Warhol Artwork © 2016
The Andy Warhol Foundation
for the Visual Arts, Inc. / Artists
Rights Society (ARS), New York,
Courtesy: Daniel Blau, Munich



**Andy Warhol
(1928-1987)**

"n.t. (Two Hands Holding Pistols)", c. 1954, ink and graphite on paper, 30 x 25,9 cm

Andy Warhol Artwork © 2016
The Andy Warhol Foundation
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Courtesy: Daniel Blau, Munich



**Andy Warhol
(1928-1987)**

"n.t. (Man Listening on Telephone)", c. 1952, ink and graphite on paper, 17,5 x 23,6 cm

Andy Warhol Artwork © 2016
The Andy Warhol Foundation
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Rights Society (ARS), New York,
Courtesy: Daniel Blau, Munich



Weegee
(1899-1968)

"Dies in Attempted Hold-up",
February 3, 1942, silver gelatin
print on glossy fibre paper;
printed by February 6, 1942,
21,2 (22,8) × 16,4 (18,1) cm

© Weegee / International
Center of Photography;
Courtesy: Daniel Blau



Weegee
(1899 - 1968)

"Men in White", March 25, 1943,
silver gelatin print on glossy fibre
paper, printed by April 2, 1943
18,2 (20,3) × 13,7 (15,5) cm

© Weegee / International
Center of Photography;
Courtesy: Daniel Blau



Weegee
(1899 - 1968)

"Bund Leader Booked on Theft Charge", May 26, 1939, silver gelatin print on glossy fibre paper; printed by July 19, 1939
19,1 (20,8) × 14,1 (15,3) cm

© Weegee / International Center of Photography;
Courtesy: Daniel Blau



Weegee
(1899-1968)

"You Big Sissy", April 16, 1941, silver gelatin print on glossy fibre paper; printed by April 22, 1941
16,4 (18,0) × 21,1 (22,8) cm

© Weegee / International Center of Photography;
Courtesy: Daniel Blau