

# CHRIS



Youth on Wall, Jarrow, Tyneside, 1976

# KILLIP

## CHRIS KILLIP (1946-2020)

- Born in Douglas, Isle of Man in 1946, Killip left school at age sixteen and joined the only four-star hotel on the Isle of Man as a trainee hotel manager.
- In June 1964, decided to pursue photography full time and became a beach photographer in order to earn enough money to leave the Isle of Man.
- In October 1964, was hired as the third assistant to the leading London advertising photographer Adrian Flowers. He then worked as a freelance assistant for various photographers in London from 1966-69.
- In 1969, after seeing his very first exhibition of photography at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Killip decided to return to photograph in the Isle of Man. He worked in his father's pub at night returning to London on occasion to print his work.
- On a return visit to the USA in 1971, Lee Witkin, the New York gallery owner, commissioned a limited-edition portfolio of the Isle of Man work, paying for it in advance so that Killip could continue to photograph. In 1972 Killip received a commission from The Arts Council of Great Britain to photograph Huddersfield and Bury St Edmunds for the exhibition Two Views - Two Cities.
- In 1975, moved to live in Newcastle-upon-Tyne on a two-year fellowship as the Northern Arts Photography Fellow. He was a founding member, exhibition curator and advisor of Side Gallery, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, as well as its director, from 1977-9.
- Killip continued to live in Newcastle and photographed throughout the North East of England, and from 1980-85 made occasional cover portraits for The London Review of Books. In 1989 he was commissioned by Pirelli UK to photograph the workforce at their tyre factory in Burton-on-Trent.
- In 1989, received the Henri Cartier Bresson Award and in 1991 was invited to be a Visiting Lecturer at the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies, Harvard University.
- In 1994, was made a tenured professor and was department chair from 1994-98. He retired from Harvard in December 2017 and continued to live in the USA.
- Chris Killip passed away on 13 October 2020



Rocker and Rosie Going Home, 1984  
Seacoal Beach, Lynemouth, Northumberland

## COLLECTIONS

- Museum of Modern Art, New York
- Tate, London
- J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
- George Eastman House, New York
- Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco
- Museum Folkwang, Essen
- Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
- National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
- Victoria and Albert Museum, London

## One person exhibitions selection

- **1973** "Two Views - Two Cities", Huddersfield City Art Gallery; and Bury St. Edmunds Art Gallery, England; and tour of Great Britain
- **1977** "North-East of England", Side Gallery, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne; and tour.
- **1980** "Isle of Man", Side Gallery, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne; tour of G. B. 1980-1982
- **1983** "Askam and Skinningrove", Side Gallery, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne; and tour.
- **1984** "Seacoal", Side Gallery, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and tour Northern Arts region "Chris Killip", Photo Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- **1985 - 87** "Another Country" (with Graham Smith), Serpentine Gallery, London; Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol; National Museum of Photography, Bradford; Auckland City Art Gallery
- **1986** "Chris Killip", Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago
- **1988** "On The Edge Of The City" (with the painter Ken Currie), Manchester City Art Gallery, England
- **1988-90** "In Flagrate", Victoria and Albert Museum, London; Landes Museum, Munster; Atrium Museum, Aachen; Museum für Kunst und Kulturgeschichte, Dortmund; Alter Rathausaal, München; Centrum für Industrie-Kultur, Nürnberg; Landesbildstelle, Stuttgart, West Germany; Museum Het Princessehof, Leeuwarden, Holland; Musée de Photographie, Charleroi, Belgium; Baierd Art Gallery, Breda, Holland; I.V.A.M., Valencia, Spain



Two Girls, 1977  
Grangetown, Middlesbrough



Helen and her Hoola-Hoop, 1984  
Seacoal Camp, Lynemouth, Northumberland

## One person exhibitions selection

- **1989** “Chris Killip”, Fotografiska Museet i Moderna Museet, Stockholm
- **1989** “Working at Pirelli”, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England
- **1989** “Chris Killip Retrospective”, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
- **1990** “British Photography From The Thatcher Years”, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY.
- **1995** “20 Modern British Photographs”, Victoria and Albert Museum
- **1996** “Picturing Modernity”, Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- **1997** “Chris Killip, Photographs, 1971-1996”, Manx Museum, Isle of Man
- **2004** “15 Photographs” Rencontres d’Arles, France
- **2007** “How We Are: Photographing Britain”, Tate Britain, London
- **2009** “Here Comes Everybody”, Gallery of Photography, Dublin, Ireland
- **2011** “Seacoal”, Museum for Photography, Braunschweig, Germany. GwinZegal, Center for the Arts, Brittany, France. PhotoForum PasquArt, Beil-Bienne, Switzerland (2012)
- **2012** “Arbeit/Work”, A Retrospective exhibition of Chris Killip’s work, Folkwang Museum, Essen, Germany
- **2012** “What Happened- Great Britain 1970-90”, LE BAL, Paris, France
- **2013/14** “Arbeit/Work”, Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid, Oct 1 – Feb 20, 2014
- **2014** “Chris Killip - 75 Photographs”, Tate Britain, April 21- September 18. Close Distance, Gallery Focus 21, Zurich, Switzerland
- **2016** “Isle of Man Revisited”, Manx Museum, Isle of Man, May 6 – July 27
- **2017** “Now – Then”, J Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, May 23 – Aug 13
- **2018** “The Last Ships”, Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, Sept 8 - Dec 23
- **2020** “The Station”, The Martin Parr Foundation, Bristol, UK, October – December.



House and Coalmine, 1978  
Castleford



Crabs and People, 1981  
Skinningrove, North Yorkshire

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