

TOM

WOOD

LOW

HOOD

IRISH  
IRISH



Rachel, Age 17, 1985

**“I spent four years in art school and I studied Fine Art painting. During that time, I was taking photos so I was aware of how things would work in terms of the balance, colour, and composition, but it’s also got to live as a photograph – as an image. [...]”** Tom Wood\*

Tom Wood was born in 1951 in County Mayo in the west of Ireland. He lived and worked in Merseyside between 1978 and 2003, before moving to his current home in North Wales. Wood has published numerous books, including **Looking for Love (1989)**, **All Zones Off Peak (1998)**, **Photie Man (2005)** and **Men / Women (2013)**. He has had solo and group exhibitions worldwide and his work is represented in the collections of major international museums.

#### EARLY WORKS

Wood began taking photographs with serious intent in 1973 when he embarked on a degree in Fine Art Painting at Leicester Polytechnic. His instinct for what made a good picture was immediate, and his early photographs are a testament to his eye for strong composition. Direct and more formal than his later works, they invite us to share the subjects' thoughts and emotions.

#### LOOKING FOR LOVE

Between 1982 and 1985, Wood photographed in the now-demolished Chelsea Reach nightclub in New Brighton. Photographing in the dark on busy nights, Wood evokes the noise and heat of the club through the bawdy, drunken and unselfconscious interactions of the customers. These extraordinary photographs were only possible because Wood was accepted as a regular who was known to many of the clientele.

#### BUS JOURNEYS

These works form a portrait of Liverpool and its people taken from the various bus routes that criss-cross the city. Wood spent 20 years travelling the buses during off-peak hours. In this time he shot 3,000 rolls of film, painstakingly refining his view of the city. The work has been published in two books: *All Zones Off Peak* (1998) and *Bus Odyssey* (2001). Described as 'an epic of the everyday', the photographs are dramatic and powerful documents of a city in motion.

#### MEN AND WOMEN

Men and Women is Wood's most recent arrangement of his works. Searching through his vast archive, Wood organised his photographs under the headings 'Men' and 'Women'. What began to emerge was a subtle new reading of his work that dealt with gender alongside his other preoccupations with character and place. Displayed together without chronology, the fluid arrangement highlights the intentional visual play between the images, as well as Wood's prolonged involvement with his subject matter. Men and Women was first shown at The Photographers' Gallery, London, in 2012.

#### CAMERAS, FILM AND PRINTING

Throughout his career, Tom Wood has experimented with a variety of cameras, film types and printing papers. This has been at the heart of his practice, allowing for different interpretations of his subject matter and revealing new detail and depth in the finished photographs. Partly due to cost, from time to time he has used old cine film and out of date film stock for his pictures. This lends a grainy quality to the film, most evident in *Bus Journeys*. However, his use of medium formats lends fine detail to the negative, allowing much more visual information to be revealed through the printing process.

Wood has also tirelessly experimented with printing papers to create the exact colour balances and textures he requires. For him, analogue rather than digital printing, and making his own prints in the darkroom, are important. He sees photographing, printing, selection and editing as inseparable parts of the process of photography.

link: <https://www.scienceandmediamuseum.org.uk/what-was-on/tom-wood-photographs-1973-2013> (accessed 16 April 2021)

\* Interview. Art & Photography. Last Shot  
Text Emily Dinsdale. October 7th 2020

## COLLECTIONS (selection)

- Museum of Modern Art. New York. USA
- International Centre of Photography New York.USA
- Art Institute of Chicago. USA
- Victoria & Albert Museum. London.UK
- National Museum of Photography. Copenhagen. Denmark
- British Council London. UK
- Stadt. Galerie Wolfsburg. Germany
- Kunsthalle Bremen. Germany
- National Media Museum. Bradford.UK
- J.P. Morgan Chase Art Collection.USA
- Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool.UK

## AWARDS

2007

Major Production Award, The Arts Council of Wales, UK

2002

Prix Dialogue de l'Humanite (Outreach Award), Recontres d'Arles, France

2000

Year of the Artist, Arts Council of England, UK

1999

Terrance Donovan Award, Royal Photographic Society, UK

1996

Artist Honorarium, International Centre of Photography, New York, USA

1995

Photography Publishing Grant, Arts Council of England, UK

1977

Arts Council of Great Britain, UK

## AWARDS (short listed)

2002

Awards for Artists, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, UK

2001

Becks Futures Award, Institute of Contemporary Art, London, UK

1996

The Arts Foundation Fellowship, UK





Not Miss New Brighton. 1978



Cowley Oxford. 1973



Untitled. 1984



Pink Lipstick  
Series 'Looking for Love'  
Chelsea Reach. 1982-1986





Tired Drink  
Series 'Looking for Love'  
Chelsea Reach. 1982-1986



Chelsea Into. 1985  
Series 'Looking for Love'  
Chelsea Reach 1982-1986



Untitled  
Series 'Looking for Love'  
Chelsea Reach. 1982-1986



Untitled  
Series 'Looking for Love'  
Chelsea Reach. 1982-1986



Untitled  
Series 'Looking for Love'  
Chelsea Reach, 1982-1986





King Street, Wallasey. 1978





Vauxhall Circular. 1989



London Road, City Centre. 1991



London Road, City Centre. 1994



Towards Netherton. 1989



Out from Town. 1986



Between Liverpool and Southport. 1981





Mother and Daughter. Brice's Cafe  
New Brighton. 1984



Bright Spot Arcade. New Brighton. 1985



Pink high heels  
with octopus. 1985



Rachel. Age 17. 1985



## EXHIBITIONS

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

**2020** *Looking for Love*, Silencio, Paris, France  
**2019** *Mères, Filles, Soeurs*, Jimei x, Xiamen, China  
*Mères, Filles, Soeurs*, Recontres d'Arles, France  
*Shipyard, The Wind of Time*, Lianzhou Festival, China  
**2018** *Women's Market*, Sion and Moore Gallery, London, UK  
*Pier Head*, Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool, UK  
*Cammell Laird Shipyard*, Williamson Art Gallery, Birkenhead, UK  
**2017** *Tom Wood - Britain in the 80s*, Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow, Russia (curated by Olga Sviblova)  
*Tom Wood*, Paris Photo (Galerie Sit Down), Paris, France  
**2016** *L'embarcadere, 1978-2002*, Centre Photographique, Le Pôle Image, Haute-Normandie, France 2015. *Paysages Intimes*, Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, France  
**2014** *Tom Wood - Landscapes*, Mostyn Gallery, Llandudno, UK (curated by Mark Durden)  
*Tom Wood - Landscapes*, Ffotogallery, Cardiff, UK  
*Out takes, Work-prints*, Oriol Colwyn, Colwyn Bay, UK  
*Women*, La Fondation d'entreprise Hermes, Bern, Switzerland  
**2013** *Tom Wood, Britain 1973 - 2012*, Ekaterina Cultural Foundation, Moscow, Russia  
*Tom Wood: Photographs 1973-2013*, National Media Museum, Bradford, UK  
*Men and Women*, Thomas Erben Gallery, New York, USA  
*DPA Work*, Contemporary Art Space, University of Chester, Chester, UK  
**2012** *Men and Women*, The Photographers' Gallery, London, UK  
*Tom Wood, ImageSingularies a Sète*, Sète, France  
*F/M*, Le Bleu du ciel, Lyon, France  
*Tom Wood, Le Centre d' Art*, GwinZegal, Guingamp, France

**2011** *Women, Men and Landscapes*, Galerie Albrecht, Berlin, Germany  
*Les Annees*, Liverpool, Galerie Sit Down, Paris, France  
**2010** *Facts of Life, Photography in Britain 1974-1997*, National Museum, Krakow, Poland  
**2009** Tom Wood, Museum 52, London, UK  
**2006** Tom Wood, HyperDesign, Shanghai Biennale, China  
*Chelsea Reach, The Approach*, London, UK  
**2005** The National Museum of Photography, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Photie Man*, Le Chateau d'Eau, Toulouse, France  
*Photie Man*, Foam Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
**2004** *Ruestrassen*, Le Centre Cultural Suisse, Paris (in assoc. Paris Photo),  
*Photie Man - Photographien aus der Sammlung Brend F. Kunne*, Kunsthalle, Bremen, Germany  
*Liverpool 1979 - 96*, Centre de la Photographie, Geneva, Switzerland  
**2003** *Looking for Love*, Galerie Thomas Zander, Koln, Germany  
*Sad Beautiful Life*, C/O, Berlin, Germany  
*Photieman*, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK (curated by Pdraig Timoney)  
**2002** *Looking for Love*, Thomas Erben Gallery, New York, USA  
*Tom Wood*, Kasseler Kunstverein (Documenta Fringe), Kassel, Germany  
*Tom Wood*, Stadtische Galerie, Wolfsburg, Germany  
*Photographs 1978-98*, Kunsthalle, Wilhelmshaven, Germany  
**2001** *Bus Odyssey*, Suermondt-Ludwig Museum, Aachen, Germany

**2000** *People*, Galerie im Buergerhaus, Neunkirchen/Saar, Germany  
*Tom Wood*, Fotografie, Kunstverein, Ulm, Germany  
*The Bus Project*, Thomas Erben Gallery, New York, USA  
**1999** *People*, Galerie Thomas Zander, Koln, Germany  
*All Zones Off Peak*, Galerie Albrecht, Munich, Germany  
**1998** *Das Bus - Projekt*, Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, UK  
*Tom Wood*, Galerie F.M. Schwartz/Photokina, Köln, Germany  
**1996** *Photographs of Liverpool*, International Centre of Photography, New York, USA  
**1986** *Looking for Love*, The Photographers' Gallery, London, UK  
**1986** *Photographs of Summer Events*, Tate Gallery, Liverpool, UK  
**1983** *Couples*, Sudley Art Gallery, Liverpool, UK

### JOINT EXHIBITIONS

**2018** *New Brighton Revisited*, Merseyside, UK (with Martin Parr and Ken Grant)  
*Common Ground*, Albert Dock, Liverpool (with Tabitha Jussa and Ken Grant)  
**2014** *L'Été Photographique de Lectoure*, Lectoure, France (with Matthais Bruggmann)  
**2012** *Mönchehaus Museum*, Goslar, Germany (with Martin Parr and Antanas Sutkus)  
*The Last Resort*, Third Floor Gallery, Cardiff, UK (with Martin Parr)  
**2009** Tom Wood and Pdraig Timoney, Museum 52, London, UK  
**2004** *Musee de l'Elysee*, Lucanne, Switzerland (with Larry Sultan)

**2003** Gary Winogrand and Tom Wood', Forum Fur Fotografie und Kunst, Köln, Germany

**1996** Inside Out, Galerie du Jour Agnes b., Paris, France (with Richard Billingham and Paul Seawright)

**1985** The Last Resort, Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool, UK (with Martin Parr)

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

**2018 - 2020.** A History of Photography: Daguerreotype to Digital, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

**2018** Street. Life. Photography. Seven Decades of Street Photography, The House of Photography at the Deichtorhallen Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany

**2017** North: Fashioning Identity - Truth, Myth and the Spaces In-Between, Open Eye Gallery Liverpool, UK (Also at Somerset House, London, UK)

Here We Are, Burberry, Old Sessions House, London (Also touring to Hong Kong and Paris)

**2016** Transiciones, Ten Years That Transformed Europe, Nicolas Motelay Collection, PhotoEspaña festival, Madrid, Spain

At Spectrum, Brighton Photo Fringe, Brighton, UK

Beyond the Bias - Reshaping Image, Brighton Photo Biennial, Brighton, UK

**2015** Work, Rest, Play: British Photography from 1960s to Today, China Year of Culture at:

OCT-Loft, Shenzhen; Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai; Visual Arts Centre, OCT-Chengdu, China

Eyes Wide Open: 100 Years of Leica Photography', Fotografie Forum, Frankfurt; C/O Berlin; Haus der Photographie, Deichtorhallen Hamburg; Versicherungskammer Kulturstiftung, Munich,

Germany; WestLicht, Wien, Austria; St. Peter's Abbey, Historische Huizen Gent, Belgium; Espacio Leica, Madrid, Spain; Galeria Municipal do Porto, Portugal; Complesso del Vittoriano, Rome, Italy.

This Day Will Come When Man Falls, Haus Der Photographie, Hamburg, Germany

We Could Be Heroes, Photographers Gallery, London, UK

**2014** Augen Auf!, Deichtorhallen Internationale Kunst und Photographie, Hamburg, Germany

Love, Camera Work, Berlin, Germany

Punctum: Reflections on Photography, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, Austria

**2013** 3 AM: Wonder, Paranoia and the Restless Night, Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool, UK

Im Fokus!, Kunsthalle, Bremen, Germany

Resonance 2011, La Biennale de Lyon, Lyon, France

Nothing in the Place, Bunkier Sztuki Contemporary Art Gallery, Krakow, Poland

**2012** Portraits de Villes, GwinZegal, Guingamp, France

**2009** Manners, Focke Museum, Bremen, Germany

Light Writing, Literaturhaus, Koln, Germany

Planete Parr, Jeu de Paume, Paris, France

**2008** Baby' Nederlands Fotomuseum, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Frieze Art Fair London (The Approach Gallery) UK

**2007** How We Are: Photographing Britain, Tate Britain, London, UK

Shrinking Cities, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, USA

Centre of the Creative Universe, Liverpool and the Avant-Garde, Tate Gallery, Liverpool, UK

On View, Photo London, Old Billingsgate, London, UK

**2006** Closed Eyes, Museum for Fotokunst, Odense, Denmark

People and Places, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA

La Boum II, Sies+ Hoke Galerie, Dusseldorf, Germany

24 x 36, Landesvertretung Rheinland-Pfalz, Berlin, Germany (Also at Leica Gallery, New York, USA)

Walk On, Shanghai Biennale, Salon Vogue, Shanghai, China

**2004** Ruestrassen, Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris, France

Wirklich Wahr! Realitätsvesprechen von Photographien, Ruhrlandmuseum, Essen, Germany

Schrumpfende Stadte, Shrinking Cities, Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany

Sammlung Kunne, Kunsthalle, Bremen, Germany

Relating to Photography, Fotografie Forum International, Frankfurt, Germany

Street Life, Rotunda Galerie, Koln, Germany

We go round and round..., COMME CA Gallery, New York, USA

Lamour Toujours, galerieXprssns, Hamburg, Germany

Native Land, Oriol Mostyn Gallery, Llandudno, UK (Also at Millennium Centre Cardiff, UK)

**2002** Becks Futures, ICA, London, UK

Zipp, Kassler Kunstverein, Kassel, Germany

**2001** The Sidewalk Never Ends, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA

**2000** Les Photographies Collectionnees par agnès b., Centre National de la Photographie, Paris, France

**1999** Internationale Fototage, Herten, Germany

**1996** Blindspot, Paolo Baldicci Gallery, New York, USA

**1995** 20 Modern British Photographs, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK

Sex and Sexuality, Diorama Gallery, London, UK

**1994** Street Photography, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK

**1992** ICI Photography Awards, National Portrait Gallery, London, UK

National Museum of Photography, Film, & Television, Bradford, UK

**1984** A Woman's Place: The Changing Face of Women in Britain, The British Council, GLC Royal Festival Hall, London, UK

**1982** Northwest Group Show, Uppermill Gallery, Oldham, UK

**1974** New Photography, Midland Group Gallery, Nottingham, UK



## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- 2020-21 "101 Photographs: A Retrospective" Martin Parr Ed. RRB Books  
"The DPA Work", (Rainhill Hospital, Cammell Laird Shipyard, Archive Portraits), Steidl Verlag, Germany (3 vols) [Forthcoming]
- 2019 "Mères, Filles, Soeurs" Les éditions Textuel, Paris, France
- 2018 "Women's Market", Stanley/Barker, London, UK  
"Termini" (with Paul Farley), GwinZegal, Guingamp, France
- 2015 "Looking for Looking for Love", Sorkika, London, UK
- 2013 "Men and Women", Steidl Verlag, Göttingen, Germany (2 vols)
- 2005 "Photie Man", Steidl Verlag, Göttingen, Germany
- 2001 "Bus Odyssey", Hajte Cantz, Ostfildern-Ruit, Germany
- 1999 "People", Wienand Verlag, Köln, Germany
- 1998 "All Zones off Peak", Dewi Lewis Publishing, Stockport, UK
- 1989 "Looking for Love", Cornerhouse, Manchester & Aperture, New York

### Exhibition Catalogues

- 2011 "F/M" Editions 205, Villeurbanne, France
- 2004 "Not Only Female...", Schaden, Cologne, Germany
- 2000 "Tom Wood", Galerie im Bürgerhaus Neunkirchen/Saar, Germany
- Books & Catalogues (Group):
- 2019 Gibson, David "Street Photography", Prestel Publishing, London
- 2018 Lowe, Paul "A Chronology of Photography" Thames & Hudson, London

- 2018 Schnakenberg, Sabine "Street. Life. Photography. Seven Decades of Street Photography" Kehrer Hedelberg, Berlin
- 2017 Westerbeck, Colin & Meyerowitz, Joel (eds), "Bystander: A History of Street Photography", Laurence King Publishing
- Lowe, Paul "1001 Photographs: You Must See Before You Die", Cassell, London
- Roe, Mark, J.P. Morgan "Curator's Highlights", Paris Photo
- 2016 Fabry, Alexis & Wills, Maria "Transiciones, Ten Years The Transformed Europe", La Fabrica, Madrid (pp12-13 and cover)
- Franklin, Stuart "The Documentary Impulse", Phiadon, London
- 2015 Durden, Mark "Photography Today: A History of Contemporary Photography", Phaidon, London, (pp170-172)
- Koetzler, Michael, "AUGEN AUF! 100 years of Leica" Kehrer Verlag, Germany
- 2014 Long, Declan, "Reflections on Photography", Punctum, Salzburger Kunstverein (pp86,152-53)
- 2013 Longhurst, Jo, "On Perfection", Intellect, Bristol UK/ Chicago USA (pp40-44)
- Sviblove, Olga, "Fashion and Style in Photography", Eighth Moscow International Biennale (pp64-71)
- Durden, Mark "Under the Influence" UK and France, (pp224-231)
- 2011 Koetzle, Michael, "Photographers A-Z", Taschen, Köln, Germany
- Moos, Norbert (collection), "Licht Schreiben" Literaturhaus, Cologne, Germany (pp83-92)

- 2008 van Erp, Hedy & Sikking, Iris "Baby" (cat.), Veenman Publishers, Rotterdam
- 2007 Toennies, Merle "Constructing an Emblematic Northern Space under Thatcherism" in: Ehland, Christoph (ed), "Thinking Northern: Textures of Identity in the North of England", Rodopi, Amsterdam and New York (pp305-324)
- Williams, Val & Bright, Susan (eds), "How We Are – Photographing Britain" (Exhibition Catalogue), Tate Publishing, London (p155)
- Grunenberg, Christoph and Knifton, Robert (eds), "Liverpool and the Avant-Garde" (Exhibition Catalogue), Liverpool University Press, Tate Liverpool (pp2-3, 54, 55, 76, 77)
- 2006 Parr, Martin & Badger, Gerry (eds), "The Photo Book: A History vol.2", Phiadon, London (p308)
- Oswald, Philipp (ed), "Shrinking Cities" (exhib cat), Hatje Cantz, Germany (pp140-143, 158-161)
- 2005 Moran, Joe "Reading the Everyday", Routledge, London (pp26-28)
- 2003 Pflieger, Suzanne & Seelig, Thomas (eds), "Yet Untitled", collection Bernd F. Kunne, Hatje Cantz, Germany (pp260-266)
- 2002 Koetzle, Michael "Lexikon der Fotografen, 1900 – heute", Knauer Verlag, Germany
- Schwabsky, Barry "Becks Futures 2002" (exhib cat), ICA London (pp6-7, 66-71)
- Balkenhol, Bernhard (ed), "Zipp", Kasseler Kunstverein (Catalogue), Nr. 8/2002 & 9/02

## TV & RADIO

2018 (TV)

BBC Northwest Tonight "New Brighton Revisited"

(Radio) "Cammell Laird Shipyard" BBC Radio Merseyside

2014 (TV) "What Do Artists Do All Day?", Episode 8, BBC4

(TV) "L'Été Photographique de Lectoure",

Arte TV France 01/08/14

2013 (TV) "The Works", RTE Ireland

2007 (Radio) Tom Wood Deutschlandfunk, DLR

National Radio, Germany

2004 (Radio) "Tom Wood Photie Man" - Deutschland

Radio Berlin, Interview with Jochen Stöckmann, 7/7/04

2002 (TV) "The Talk Show", (Becks Futures profile)

BBC4, 7/5/02

2000 (TV) "Ticket to ride", Granada TV

1990 (TV) "Tom Wood photographer", The Great North



**4 Cromwell Place • London SW7 2JN • UK • [augusta@augustaedwards.com](mailto:augusta@augustaedwards.com)**