

F R A N C K

M A R T I N E

“A photograph isn’t necessarily a lie, but nor is it the truth. It is more of a fleeting, subjective impression. What I most like about photography is the moment that you can’t anticipate: you have to be constantly watching for it, ready to welcome the unexpected.”

Martine Franck

1938 Martine Franck was born in Antwerp, Belgium. Since the early years of her childhood, she was accustomed to distant horizons. Her family lived in London. In 1939, Martine's father, Louis Franck, joined the British army. With her mother and brother, Martine left England for the United States during the war, before returning in 1944. Martine accomplished part of her studies there, as well as in Switzerland where she met Ariane Mnouchkine, who was to become an iconic figure of French theatre

1956 Began studying Art History in Madrid, before being accepted to the Ecole du Louvre in Paris in 1958. She was 20 years old and learned to read French from Robert Escarpit's humorous column in the newspaper Le Monde. She submitted her thesis on "Sculpture and Cubism: 1907-1915,".

1963 During an initiatory journey in the Far East with Ariane Mnouchkine, Martine Franck began to photograph the charms and splendors of other civilizations such as China, Japan, India, Cambodia, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran. She published her travel pieces in Eastern Horizon in Hong Kong. "Photography appeared randomly in my life. I obtained a visa for China and my cousin lent me a Leica telling me I was lucky and that I had to bring back pictures," confided Martine Franck in a 2007 interview to Roland Quilici

1964 Returning to France, she worked in Paris for Time-Life where she "truly meets Photography" and became Eliot Elisofon and Gjon Mili's assistant before becoming an independent photographer. Working with famous American magazines, her photo-coverages and her portraits of artists and writers were published in Life, Fortune, Sports Illustrated, The New York Times and Vogue. Pierre Alechinsky, Balthus, Pierre Boulez, Marc Chagall, Michel Foucault, Michel Leiris, Sam Szafran and Paul Strand are some of the many figures who became her friends. At the same time, she became a founding member of the Theatre du Soleil and was the official photographer for Ariane Mnouchkine's theater company, who she would never leave, capturing the shows, productions and the Cartoucherie's everyday life.

1966 Met Henri Cartier-Bresson, "L'Oeil du Siecle" (The Eye of the Century), who was thirty years older than her, and married him in 1970: "My father told me I was taking a big risk. I have been very happy Henri always encouraged me to work. (...) He never put me on the side. Because of him, I met a lot of people."

1970 Joined Vu Agency created by Pierre de Fenoyl. In 1972, she participated in creating Viva Agency with Herve Gloaguen, Guy Le Querrec, Francois Hers, Jean Lattes and Richard Kalvar.

1980 After being an associate, she became a member of the agency Magnum Photos in 1983. She then started a large-scale work on women's rights. Increasingly committed to her art, Martine Franck showed an interest in socially-concerned subjects, seeking to provide evidence of reality: "My main desire is to present images creating reflection." She published Le Temps de Vieillir, in which she writes: "Everything cannot be photographed. There are times when suffering or human decay touch you so much that you have to stop. Other situations, interesting in terms of sociology, will visually say nothing. Photography shows more than it demonstrates, it doesn't explain the reasons for things."

1985 Directed many photo-coverages supporting humanitarian projects and worked with the petits freres des Pauvres' association, helping people suffering from loneliness, poverty, exclusion or serious illness.

1993/97 Between 1993 and 1997, Martine Franck traveled numerous times to Tory Island (North-West of Ireland). There she captured the everyday life of a traditional Gaelic community living on the margin of the continent. Tory, lie aux confins de l'Europe was to be published in 1998.

1995 Directed with Robert Delpire a 26-minute film called Ariane et Compagnie

1996 Traveled to Asia where she photographed the Tulkus, Tibetan monk children living in Bodnath, Nepal and in Northern India. Tibetan Tulkus: Images of Continuity was published four years later.

2000

Participated in the making of the documentary *Retour en Irlande avec Martine Franck*, photographe directed by Fabienne Strouve-Beckers. From her many traveling experiences, Martine Franck brought back unique images, some of which became icons.

2002

Exhibition at the Musée de la Vie Romantique. Created, with Henri Cartier-Bresson and their daughter Melanie, the Henri Cartier-Bresson Foundation in Paris, where she becomes President in 2004.

2003/4

Between 2003 and 2004, Martine Franck followed Robert Wilson, the Comédie Française's scenographer, and photographed his production of *Fables de La Fontaine*. "Fables" was published on this occasion (Actes Sud Editions).

2005

Appointed Knight in the French Legion of Honor by a Presidential Act dated March 25, 2005, Martine Franck received her Cross from François Voss, at the Henri Cartier-Bresson Foundation on January 24, 2006.

2007

Publication of the book *Martine Franck in the Photo Poche collection - #111* (Actes Sud Editions) - with a text by Annick Cojean. The same year Martine Franck, with a text by Louise Baring, was published by Phaidon Editions.

2010

Chanel Nexus Hall in Tokyo presented the "Women" exhibition. In October 2011, the exhibition "Venus d'ailleurs" ("From other lands"), at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris, presented a vision of 62 portraits of artists, taken between 1965 and 2010 in their Parisian studios (Michel Barcelo, Marc Chagall, Fernando Botero, Leonor Fini, Ousmane Sow, Zao Wou Ki...).

Martine Franck was promoted to Officer in the French National Order of Merit and was the laureate of the Montblanc Cultural Prize, awarded for her work at the Henri Cartier-Bresson Foundation.

Nearly one hundred portraits of artists taken by Martine Franck were also exhibited at the Claude Bernard Gallery in Paris in March/April 2012. In June 2012, the "Peregrinations" exhibition was presented at the Howard Greenberg Gallery in New York.

2012

Martine Franck passed away on August 16, 2012, leaving the unique mark of a great artist.

Biography. Martine Franck accessed at:
<https://www.henricartierbresson.org/en/martine-franck/biography/>

Her art is a reflection of a personal touch symbolized by geometry, curves and lines, in search of the beauty of the human soul and the depth of hearts and minds, all captured in an instant. This artistic expression made her an artist with an exceptionally sensitive eye.



Martine Franck, Italy 1972
by Henri Cartier-Bresson
©Fondation Henri Cartier Bresson/
Magnum Photos



Grande Arche de la Defense
Paris, France. 1989



Swimming pool, designed by Alain Capeilleres
La Brusc, Var, France
1976



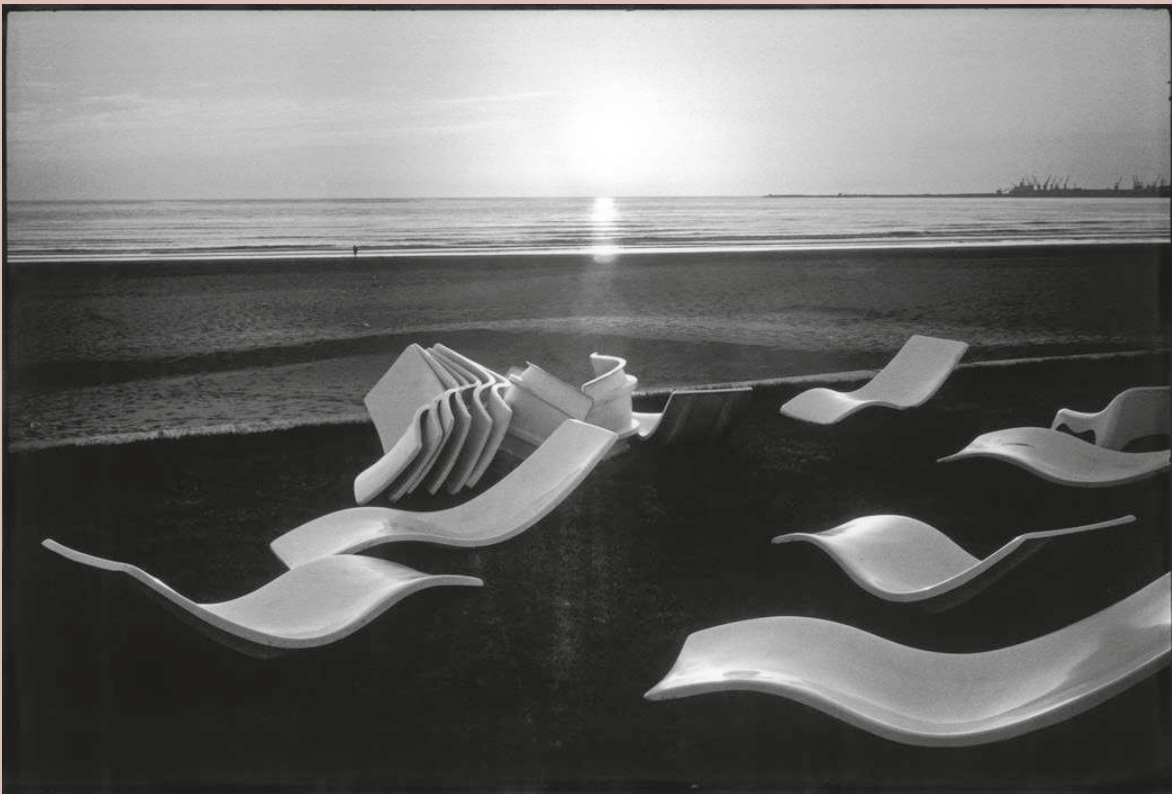
The Park at Sceaux
Hauts-de-Seine. France
1987



Meudon observatory
Seine-et-Oise. France
1989



The beach at Puri, Orissa, India. 1980



Agadir, Morocco. 1976

- Tate, London. UK
- Victoria & Albert Museum, London. UK
- National Galleries, Edinburgh. Scotland
- National Museum. Cardiff. Wales
- Metropolitan Museum, New York. USA
- The Cohen Family Collection, New York. USA
- MoMA, New York. USA
- Getty Museum, CA. USA
- Fondation Henri-Cartier Bresson, Paris France
- Musee d' Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. France
- Musee de l'Elysee, Lausanne. Switzerland
- Museum of New Zealand, Wellington, NZ

1971 Le Theatre du Soleil, Photogalerie Rencontre, Paris. La sculpture de Cardenas, Galerie Loeb, Paris

1974 La Paroisse de Saint-Pierre de Chai/lot, Centre Galliera, Paris 1976 : Marches et Faires, Les Amis des Arts, Reillanne

1977 Quartier Beaubourg, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris

1978 Martine Franck, Photographs, La Grange, Chateau-d'Oex, Switzerland 1979: Martine Franck, Pentax Gallery, Tokyo

Essai sur le Nord de l'Angleterre, Side Gallery, Newcastle-on-Tyne, England

Martine Franck, Photogalerie Portfolio, Lausanne, Switzerland 1980: Martine Franck, Photographies, Galerie AMC, Mulhouse Martine Franck, Galerie Agathe Gaillard, Paris

1981 Le temps de vieillir, Musee Nicephore Niepce, Chalon-sur-Saône

1983 Martine Franck, Photographies, Les amis des Arts de Reillanne, Reillanne

Six Femmes et la Creation, Maison de la culture du Havre, Le Havre

1984 Martine Franck, Maison Descartes, Amsterdam

Vingt Contemporains vus par Martine Franck, Espace photo de la BPI, Centre Pompidou, Paris

1987 Martine Franck, BO photographies, Centre d'Art contemporain, Forcalquier

Martine Franck, Centre Culture! Pier Paolo Pasolini, Agrigento, Sicily

1988 Portraits, Photographies de Martine Franck, La Chambre Claire, Paris

Le Theatre du Soleil, Tip-Galerie, Centre Culturel Francais, Berlin

1989 De temps en temps, Centre National de la Photographie, Palais de Tokyo, Paris

Portraits de spectacles revolutionnaires, Alliance Francaise, New York

1991 Des metiers et des femmes, Fnac Forum, Paris Martine Franck, Photos de la Suisse et du pays de Saanen, Saanen Galerie, Saanen, Switzerland

Martine Franck Photographe, Mannheimer Kunstverein, Mannheim, Germany

1992 Martine Franck, Retrospective, Museo d'Arte Contemporaneo, Santiago

1993 Le Theatre du Soleil, Bradford, England



Rehearsal. Ballet Moisseev. Moscow Russia 2000

1995 College de France, Fnac Montparnasse, Paris

La Photographie de Theatre. Le Theatre du Soleil d'Ariane Mnouchkine par Martine Franck, Le Crac, scene nationale, Valence

1998 D'un Jour, l'autre, Maison Europeenne de la Photographie, Paris

Tory Island Images, Gallery of Photography, Temple Bar, Dublin

Henri Cartier-Bresson photographie par Martine Franck, Fnac Etoile, Paris

2000 One day to the next, Howard Greenberg Gallery, New York

Tory, une Ile sans tresor, Galerie Fait & Cause, Paris

Martine Franck, SK Josefsberg Studio, Portland, Oregon, United States

Martine Franck, Galerie Claude Bernard, Paris
Tambours sur la digue, Theatre du Soleil, Universite de Rennes
Tibetan Tulkus, Images of Continuity, Gallery Rossi & Rossi, London

2001 Martine Franck, HackelBury Gallery, London

2002 Martine Franck, Photographe, Musee de la Vie Romantique, Paris
2004 : Fables, Le Capitole, Aries
Martine Franck, Photographe-Film, Maison

Europeenne de la Photographie, Paris

2005 Martine Franck, Fotografa, Aula de Cultura BBK-Bilbao Bizkaia Kutxa, Bilbao, Spain

I Tulkus del Tibet, Sala Santa Rita, Rome

2006 Regard sur l'insertion, Siege du Groupe Vinci, Rueil-Malmaison

Martine Franck, Portraits, Galleria dell'Incisione, Brescia, Italy

2008 Martine Franck, A Rich Meaningful Eye, Kahitsukan Kyoto Museum of Contemporary Art, Kyoto, Japan

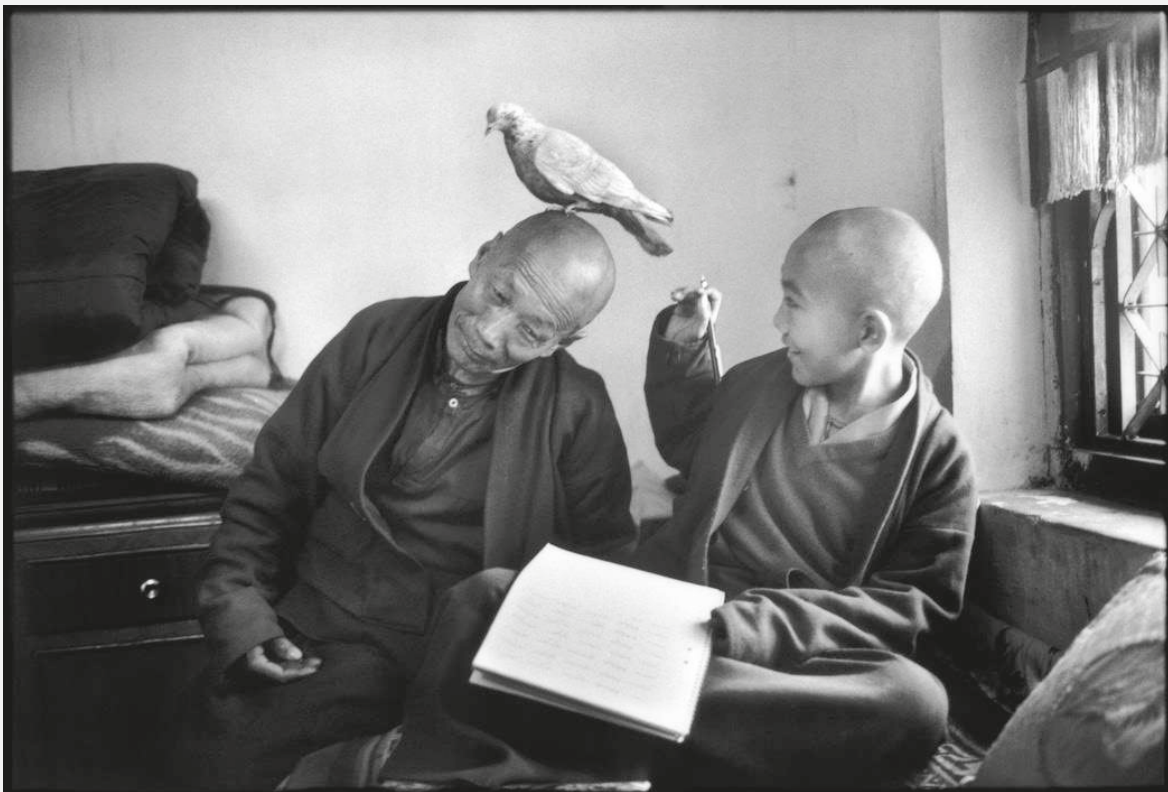
2010 In Celebration of Women, Chanel Nexus Hall, Tokyo

2011 Martine Franck, Venus d'ailleurs, Peintres et sculpteurs a Paris depuis 1945, Maison Europeenne de la Photographie, Paris

2012 Martine Franck, Galerie Claude Bernard, Paris
Martine Franck, Peregrinations, Howard Greenberg Gallery, New York

2013 Martine Franck, Photographe, Musee de l'H6tel Dieu, Mantes la Jolie

2018 Martine Franck, Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, Paris



Tulku Khentrol Ladro Rabsol with his tutor Llagyel in the Shechen Monastery. Bonath. Nepal 1996

BY MARTINE FRANCK

1970 What has happened to the American Indians. Produced by Martine Franck. 17 minutes 1972: Music at Aspen. Produced by Viva Films. 17 minutes

1982 En compagnie du So/ei/. Produced by Paris AudioVisuel / AFFA. 17 minutes

1991 Ecrire Cantre /'oubl: Mamadou Ba, Mauritanie. Directed by Martine Franck and Henri Cartier-Bresson for Amnesty International. 3 minutes

1995 Ariane et Compagnie. Directed by Robert Delpire and Martine Franck. Produced by La Sept-Arte/P.R.V. Beatrice Soule. 26 minutes

1996 Tory Island, No treasure Island. Produced by Les petits freres des Pauvres. 4 minutes 1997: Mille enfants vers /'an 2000. Produced by Marion Aldighieri. 2 minutes

2005 Famille Farova, Trois generations de femmes de la Repub/iqne Tcheque. Directed by Olivier Koechlin and Martine Franck. Produced by Alcatel, for the Eurovisions exhibition. 17 minutes

ABOUT MARTINE FRANCK

1984 Le quotidien a deux regards. Directed by Fabienne Strouve. Produced by FR3 Paris - lie de France. 14 minutes

1990 Martine Franck, entretien avec Franck Horvat. Directed by Bruno Trompier and Franck Horvat. Produced by Paris Audiovisuel, Jean Luc Monterosso. 13 minutes

Regards de femme - Ail/eurs Photo. (13 photographs by Martine Franck with commentary by the photographer). Produced by FR3 Lorraine-Champagne-Ardenne. 19 minutes

2000 Retour en Irlande avec Martine Franck, photographe. Directed by Fabienne Strouve

Beckers. Produced by Ariane Le Couteur and Olivier Morel/L'Envol with the participation of France 3 and of Planete. 56 minutes

2003 Alzheimer- Penser, accompagner, agir- Martine Franck, photographe. Interview of Martine Franck. Directed by Alain-Charles Beau. Conception by Elisabeth Azoulay. Produced by Contrasto. 23 minutes

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Melon plantation. Montjustin. Haute-Provence. 1976