

Baldwin Lee

A Southern Portrait, 1983-89



Untitled, 1983-89

DAVID HILL GALLERY

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‘When you make your work, you have to be ferocious’ **Baldwin Lee**

‘Baldwin Lee is one of these artists who teach us to see’ **New York Times**



Untitled, 1983-1989



Charleston, South Carolina, 1984



Boyle, Mississippi, 1985



Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1985



Untitled, 1983-89



Rosedale, Mississippi, 1984



Rosedale, Mississippi, 1984



Marion, Arkansas, 1985



Untitled, 1983-89



Untitled, 1983-89

‘A stunningly wrought group of photographs that are artistic to the highest degree.’
The Washington Post



Richmond, Virginia, 1986



Vicksburg, Mississippi, 1984



Walls, Mississippi, 1984



Columbia, South Carolina, 1984



DeFuniak Springs, Florida, 1984



Untitled, 1983-1989



Montgomery, Alabama, 1984



Untitled, 1983-89



Untitled, 1983-89

‘In the 1980s an unknown photographer from New York travelled through the US capturing life in Black communities. Now these mostly unseen pictures have made him a star.’ **The Guardian**



Minnie's Sweet Shop, 1983-89

New York, 1983, the photographer Baldwin Lee left his home in Knoxville, Tennessee, and set off on a road trip through the American South. He did not know what his subject would be, but during the trip, he found himself drawn to photographing Black Americans at home, at work and at play, in the street and amid nature. Over the next seven years, Lee made numerous road trips to the South to continue his work, shooting over ten thousand 5 x 4 inch sheets of monochrome negative film. He returned with images so poignant and piercing, the Museum of Modern Art in New York acquired his photographs.

The images by Lee, a first generation Chinese American, showing an intimate portrayal of daily life in the American South, are now considered among the most remarkable in the last half century. His compelling depictions of childhood pleasures, the working life of adults, the bonds among families and communities, reveal the artist's unique commitment to picturing life in America.

Nearly 40 years after the initial 2,000-mile road trip, the work is finally being seen. A selection was first shown at Howard Greenberg, New York, in September 2022, then Joseph Bellows, California, a couple of months later. The exhibition at David Hill Gallery is the first outside of the United States and features many previously unseen images.

New Baldwin Lee Book

A monograph, *Baldwin Lee*, was published by Hunters Point Press in September 2022. The book focuses on a selection of 88 images edited by the photographer Barney Kulok and includes an interview with Lee by the curator Jessica Bell Brown, and an essay by the writer Casey Gerald.

About Baldwin Lee

Baldwin Lee (b. 1951) is a Tennessee-based photographer and former university professor of photography. He studied with Minor White at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and received a Bachelor of Science in 1972. At Yale University, he studied with Walker Evans and was given the opportunity to print Evans's photographs. Lee received a Master of Fine Arts in 1975. After teaching photography at Yale and the Massachusetts College of Art, he inaugurated the photography program in 1982 at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he was a professor for over three decades.

'Extraordinary pictures from the American South' **The New Yorker**

His work has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; High Museum of Art, Atlanta; Knoxville Museum of Art; The Art Museum, University of Kentucky, Lexington; Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, Atlanta; and Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans. In New York, his photographs are in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, Morgan Library and Museum, and Museum of the City of New York. His work is also in the collections of National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C.; Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven; University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor; and University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington. He has been honoured with fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation in 1984 and the National Endowment for the Arts in 1984 and 1990.

Baldwin Lee print prices

16 x 20" silver gelatin, fibre-based prints, printed 2022/2023

Edition of 10, plus 2 Artist Proofs

Printed are signed by the artist

GBP 4,000 including VAT, unframed / GBP £3,690 for export

40 x 32" silver gelatin, fibre-based prints, printed 2022/2023

Edition of 6, plus 2 Artist Proofs

Printed are signed by the artist

GBP £5,650 including VAT, unframed / GBP £5,250 for export

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