

Bruno Barbey, L'Amazonie à Leticia, frontière du Brésil et de la Colombie (The Amazon in Leticia, the border between Brazil and Colombia), 1966 Pigment print, 51.9 x 75.8 cm

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PRESS RELEASE | EXHIBITION

A RAS DE SUELO

LA INFANCIA EN UN SIGLO DE FOTOGRFÍA

02.12.26 → 29.03.27

***From the ground. Photographs of Childhood during a century.**

Centre Pompidou Málaga

Temporary exhibition

Curated by

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Musée national d'art moderne - Centre Pompidou
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The "A ras de suelo" (Child Models) exhibition offers a visual exploration of childhood through a selection of photos from the Centre Pompidou collection.

By examining how modern and contemporary photography has constructed and portrayed the child before the lens, the exhibition invites us to look at this figure in a new light. By turns an idealised character or a participant in games, sometimes subject to our own projections or staged in a certain way, the child is a multi-faceted motif, revealing values, norms and imagery that characterise an era.

Since the earliest days of the medium through to contemporary practices, childhood has emerged as a prime area for visual experimentation. Behind the apparent light-heartedness of scenes of play, portraits and fragments of daily life, these images reveal a wide range of perspectives: tender, critical, sometimes ambiguous. They simultaneously translate the desire to capture the vitality and singularity of childhood and the temptation to frame it, command it or transform it into an image.

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By combining documentary, humanist and conceptual approaches, the exhibition highlights the wealth of texts on photography and the wide range of contexts for creation. Works by artists such as Henri Cartier-Bresson, Sabine Weiss, Diane Arbus and Christian Boltanski resonate with one another and show how childhood can be a space for visual invention, social reflection and narrative experimentation. Far from reducing it to a sentimental motif, childhood emerges as something that can reveal the forms, stories and power in an image.
Somewhere between serious and light-hearted, humour and melancholy, “A ras de suelo“ offers a reflection on how images of childhood are created. These photographs outline a visual history where freedom, gaze and composition come together, inviting us to rethink what it means to photograph children and what these images say, in return, about our own way of seeing and representing the world.

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