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PHOTOGRAPHY

Haunting Black-and-White Photos of 'Bronx Boys' Capture the Real New York

By Elisabeth Donnelly on Sep 23, 2014 1:00pm

Starting with an assignment for Look Magazine in 1977, photographer Stephen Shames captured the coming-of-age of a group of boys growing up in the Bronx, then one of the grittiest and poorest neighborhoods in the United States. It was a magazine assignment that became a life's work, because Shames followed this group of young men from 1977 – 2000 through all corners of their lives, navigating poverty and drug addiction in beautifully personal, intimate photos about growing up in New York City.

Shames' work has been collected in a book, *Bronx Boys*, which will be released by University of Texas Press in October, and a vintage collection of Bronx Boys prints will be on display at New York's Steven Kasher Gallery (515 West 26th Street, Floor 2) from November 6 through November 15, 2014, with a book signing and opening reception with Stephen Shames (and some of the Bronx Boys, including Martin Dones and José "Poncho" Muñoz), on Thursday, November 6 from 6-8pm. Check out our exclusive sample of Shames' photographs below.



Photo Copyright Stephen Shames