

Uncovering the earliest works of Meryl Meisler, the photographer who defined 1970s New York...

By Francesca Soler April 5, 2016



Everything you need to know has been written here. Meisler's photography comes with an inbuilt crackle of energy; she found her way past the red velvet ropes of Studio 54 courtesy of her favourite doorman Marc; she committed the intimate moments of the city's pleasure-seekers to film, time and time again; she laboured on the powerful juxtapositions of the party and a city teetering on the edge. She has one of the most prized collections of imagery from a time in New York's history that has been written into folklore. Meryl Meisler is a true icon of New York photography.

It's a privilege to be publishing the photographer's individualistic work here again, this time as she sets alight Manhattan's Steven Kasher Gallery; where her earliest photographs are explored, in solo exhibition that includes over 35 black-and-white prints. The euphoria of the 1970s is here again — from the clubs and music venues that would make history, to Meisler's hometown in Long Island; self-portraits to irresistible profiles of friends and family. We've said it before, and we'll say it again: energy, melancholy, sass ... Meryl Meisler's photography takes its viewers on a ride, at times uncomfortable, at times exultant, always riveting.

Meryl Meisler at Steven Kasher Gallery, New York, continues until 9 April.