

Press Release

Nan Goldin

Variety

29th of March to the 13th of May 2011

Opening 29th of March in the company of the Artist

In 1983, Nan Goldin took a series of photographic stills for *Variety*, an independent film by Bette Gordon, which have never before been the subject of an exhibition.

The exhibition from the 29th of March to the 13th of May held at the Guy Bartschi Gallery will be entirely dedicated to this work; offering, a rare re-examination of what underpins the Artist's vision: namely, her singular way of seeing her subjects.

For Nan Goldin: "Photography is the opposite of detachment", she needs to be subjectively implicated, and as a consequence her work is poles apart from simple reporting. This is clearly displayed in this series of photographs that reveal her wilful empathy with her subject.

It is this dimension to her work that is highlighted by the very structure of the photographs: creating spaces hovering between fiction and reality; ambiguous spaces from which they draw their visual force. The background enhances the image while accentuating its narrative character, even if it ultimately falls to the spectator to invent a story from his or her own emotions.

In these photographs, Nan Goldin captures the unique atmosphere of the film *Variety*, emblematic of the cinematic art that emerged from the centre of that intensely creative community on New York's Lower East Side at the beginning of 1980's.