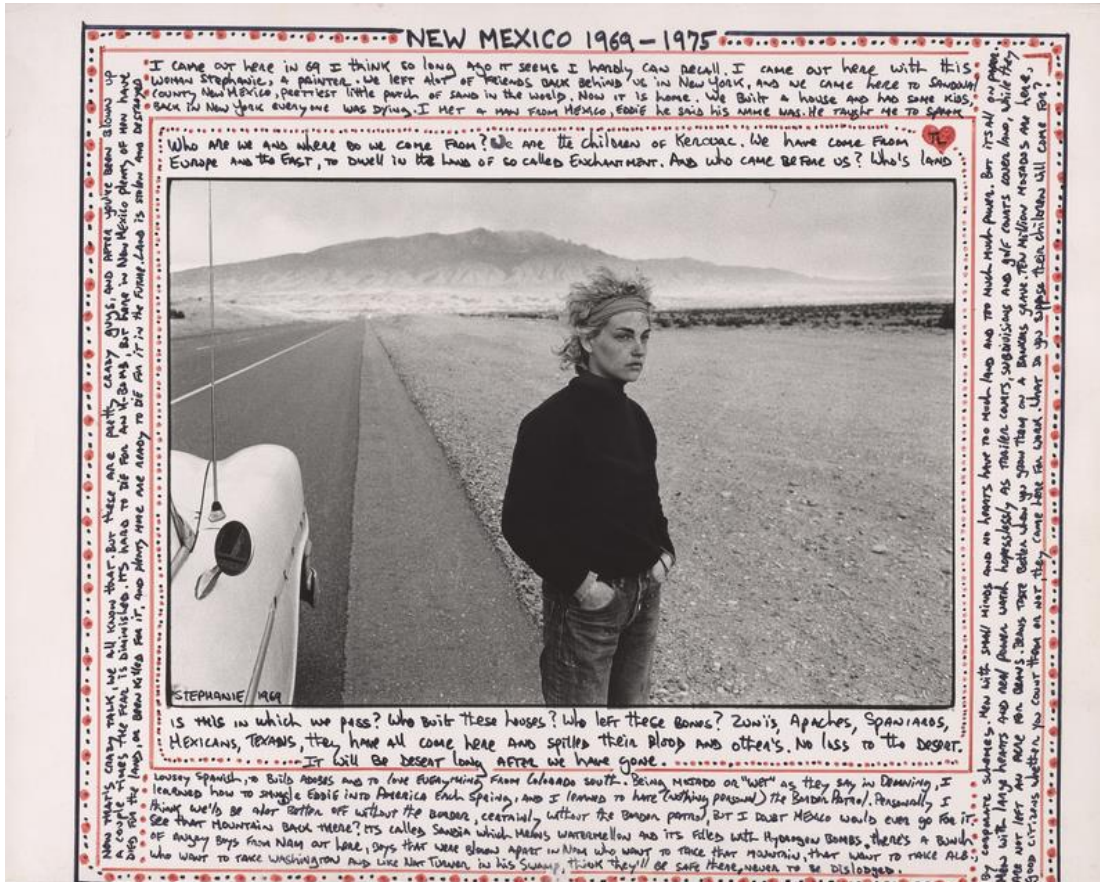


# MEDIA ALERT



Danny Lyon (b. 1942), *Stephanie, Sandoval County, New Mexico*, 1970. Vintage gelatin silver print (decorated). 11 x 14 in. (27.9 x 35.6 cm). Collection of the artist. © Danny Lyon, courtesy Edwynn Houk Gallery, New York

## DANNY LYON: MESSAGE TO THE FUTURE

Film Screenings and Conversation with John Lewis, July 14-15, 2016

July 14, 2016, 2 pm & 3:30 pm

Film Screenings: *Media Man* and *Two Fathers*

In conjunction with its current exhibition *Danny Lyon: Message to the Future*, the Whitney Museum of American Art will present a two-part screening of 16mm films by Danny Lyon. This screening will consist of *Media Man* (1994, 60 minutes, 16 mm) at 2pm and *Two Fathers* (2005, 30 minutes, 16 mm) at 3:30pm on Thursday, July 14.

*Media Man* follows the filmmakers Nancy and Danny Lyon over five years of production. The film begins in their garden, where Danny Lyon is growing "blemish free tomatoes" in the expectation of Jesse Helms or "someone from the NEA" coming to dinner. While smashing a pumpkin, Lyon then announces that he is making "a film about America. The good America." The film addresses themes of country and family with unstinting honesty and humor.

*Two Fathers* centers on Raphael, the child featured in Lyon's 1982 *Born to Film*, who is here a twenty-seven-year-old man. The film shows Raphael returning to his father's farm. Intercut are films by Danny Lyon's father, Dr. Ernst Lyon, set in 1920s Germany and 1940s Queens.

The screenings will take place in the Susan and John Hess Family Theater on Floor Three of the Whitney and are free with Museum admission. [whitney.org/Events/DannyLyonScreenings](http://whitney.org/Events/DannyLyonScreenings)

**Representative John Lewis in Conversation with Danny Lyon**  
**July 15, 2016, 7:30-9 pm**

The Museum also hosts a conversation between Danny Lyon and U.S. Congressman John Lewis from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm on Friday, July 15.

Lyon will speak with Lewis about his lifelong advocacy of civil liberties and his current leadership on issues including gun control and voting rights. Lewis and Lyon first met in the 1960s, when Lewis was serving as chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and Lyon was principal photographer of the Southern Civil Rights Movement and a staff member of SNCC.

Lewis has served as the U.S. Representative for Georgia's fifth congressional district since 1987. He is the only living "Big Six" leader of the Civil Rights Movement. He has received numerous awards, including the highest civilian honor in the U.S., the Medal of Freedom, which President Barack Obama awarded him in 2010.

This event will be held in the Susan and John Hess Family Theater on Floor Three of the Whitney. Tickets are required, \$15 adults, \$12 members, students, and seniors.  
[whitney.org/Events/JohnLewisDiscussion](http://whitney.org/Events/JohnLewisDiscussion)

*Danny Lyon: Message to the Future* is organized by Julian Cox, Chief Curator and Founding Curator of Photography, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (FAMSF) and Chief Curator at the de Young Museum. The installation at the Whitney Museum is overseen by Elisabeth Sussman, Curator and Sondra Gilman Curator of Photography.

**About the Artist**

Born in 1942 and raised in Queens, NY, Danny Lyon was shaped by the prose of Beat Generation writers and the photo albums of his father, an immigrant from Germany. He also was inspired by the unvarnished realism of photographer Walker Evans and writer James Agee. With the support of early mentor Hugh Edwards, a curator at the Art Institute of Chicago, Lyon developed the restless, compassionate vision that marks his work in all media. Lyon's photographs are held in public and private collections throughout the United States and internationally.

After moving from New York City in 1970, Lyon settled in New Mexico where he has tackled a broad range of subjects: life with his own family, and also the lives of his neighbors, Native Americans, and the Latino children of Bernalillo, a town just north of Albuquerque. Lyon has also worked with abandoned street children in Colombia; photographed the political turmoil in Haiti; documented the chaos of life in the polluted industrial cities of Northern China; and, most recently, he has focused on the Occupy movement in New York, Los Angeles, and Oakland.

**Support**

*Danny Lyon: Message to the Future* is organized by the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco in collaboration with the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.

Generous support is provided by the Henry Peterson Foundation and an anonymous donor.

**About the Whitney**

The Whitney Museum of American Art, founded in 1930 by the artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875–1942), houses the foremost collection of American art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Mrs. Whitney, an early and ardent supporter of modern American art, nurtured groundbreaking artists at a time when audiences were still largely preoccupied with the Old Masters. From her vision arose the Whitney Museum of American Art, which has been championing the most innovative art of the United States for more than eighty years. The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists themselves, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.