

A native of Switzerland, John Bernhard traveled North America extensively before settling in Houston, Texas in 1980. Bernhard was educated at the EPSIC Technical College in Lausanne and at the Ecole des Arts Decoratifs de Geneve. He is also a graduate of the New York Institute of Photography.

For more than three decades he has chosen the medium of photography to explore the everyday world from new perspectives, breaking away into different pathways of artistic expression. He continues to devote all his energy taking photographs and bringing them together to enhance their meaning with visual interplay. He is the author of 9 monographs, among which are: Nudes Metamorphs, Nicaragua, Diptych, Evanescence, Drift, China and his most recent book Body Work, a 30 years retrospective of photographs of the Nudes.

His work has been widely published and he has had many collective and one person exhibitions throughout the U.S. and Europe. In addition, his photographs are included in major museums and private collections. His work was included in "Body Work" curated by Christian Peterson, a 120 year survey of photographs of the nude from the work of twelve photographers selected from the permanent collection of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. In 2004 his work was exhibited in a retrospective at the Musée des Suisses dans le Monde in Geneva, Switzerland.

Bernhard resides in Houston where he has designed and built his studio and an art gallery.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 • **Bernhard Studio**, Houston, Tx, Celebrated Artist of the month of Francophonie - a 30 years retrospective "Body Work" sponsored by the French Cultures Festival and the Consulate General of Switzerland.
- 2008 • **DeFrog Gallery**, Houston, Tx, CHINA: Travel Notes, Part of FOTOFEST '08
• **Musée des Suisses dans le Monde**, Geneva, Switzerland, ROAD TRIP, An American Journey, work commissioned and part of "Small Number-Big Impact" The Swiss immigration to the USA exhibition.
- 2006 • **DeFrog Gallery**, Houston, Tx, Transition, with Robert A. Schaefer Jr., Part of FOTOFEST 2006, Sponsored by the Consulate General of Switzerland.
- 2005 • **Krisal Galerie**, Geneva, Switzerland, DIPTYCH and NUDES
• **The Nest Gallery**, Galveston, Tx, Etat d'Ame & Evanescence
- 2004 • **Musée des Suisses dans le Monde**, Château de Penthes, Geneva, Switzerland, 20 years Retrospective Exhibition, September through December
• **Bernabe Somoza Gallery**, Houston Tx, Nicaragua, A Journey, Part of FOTOFEST 2004
• **Alliance Francaise**, Houston, Tx, DIPTYCH - Part of FOTOFEST 2004
• **DeFrog Gallery**, Houston, Tx, Etat d'Ame, Sponsored by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, Section Culture and UNESCO and the Consulate General of Switzerland
- 2003 • **Gerhard Wurzer Gallery**, Houston, Tx, Nicaragua, A Journey to Remember - September
• **Abraham & Villarreal Gallery**, Houston, Metamorphs, Evanescence, Male nude series - March
• **Escarpa Gallery**, Houston, Tx, DIPTYCH and Nudes Metamorphs series - Jan. through April
- 2002 • **DeFrog Gallery**, Houston, Tx - DIPTYCH - Part of FOTOFEST 2002
- 2000 • **L'Atelier d'Art Galerie**, Arles, France, - part of Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie
• **Galerie Mina**, Houston, Texas - Nudes, A retrospective
• **DeFrog Gallery**, Houston, Texas - Nudes Metamorphs - Part of FOTOFEST 2000
• **Hotel de Ville & local church (l'église St-Mengold)**, Huy, Belgium, "Nudes Metamorphs" exhibition sponsored by the Centre Culturel de Huy.
- 1997 • **World Fine Art Gallery**, New York, N.Y. - Recent Black & White Nudes
- 1996 • **October Gallery**, Houston, Texas - Part of FOTOFEST '96 - Skin Dream Nudes
- 1994 • **Galerie Europa**, Geneva, Switzerland - Nude Series
• **Millioud Gallery**, Houston - Photography, Houston / FOTOFEST: Spring '94 - Nude Series
- 1990 • **The Brenda Kroos Gallery**, Columbus, Ohio - Action Polo series
- 1989 • **The 2nd Annual Sally Hill Celebration of the Arts**, Timmonsville, South Carolina
- 1987 • **Millioud Gallery**, Houston - Polo, A serie of limited edition prints
- 1985 • **Houston Center for Photography Gallery** - Sidewalk Scenes

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2008 • **Rudolf Projects/Artscan Gallery** - Beyond the Alps - 8 Swiss Artists in Texas. Sponsored by the Swiss American Society.
- 2007 • **Talento Bilingue - Latino Cultural Art Center**, "Departures", Bodily Change Series, Houston, Tx
- 2006 • Houston Press / FotoFest "Interpretation of the Earth" juried Exhibit, Clark's in Houston.
• **Houston Center for Photography**, Auction Preview Exhibition, Houston, Tx

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (Cont.)

- 2005
 - **The International Cultural Center of Texas Tech University**, Lubbock, Tx, recipient of **first place award** for the fifth annual juried exhibit.
 - **JPMorgan Chase Heritage Hall**, Houston, Tx, "Swiss Melange" - "*China Series*" sponsored by JPMorgan Chase Bank and the Consulate of Switzerland.
 - **Camera Obscura Gallery**, Denver, CO, featured "Photographer of the Month", Diptych Series.
- 2003
 - **Icebox Gallery**, Minneapolis, MN, SKIN 2003, Juried Art Exhibit, Nudes Metamorphs - March
- 2002
 - **Abraham & Villarreal Gallery**, Houston, Tx, Nudes Metamorphs series - Nov.
 - **The National Competition Show**, Austin, Tx, part of PHOTOSynthesis VIII, sponsored by TPS
 - **Museet for Fotokunst**, Odensee, Denmark, "Body is Required" May 2002 - Aug. 2003
 - **Gremillion Gallery**, Houston Center for Photography 3rd Annual Invitational Show, Houston
- 2001
 - **J.J. Brookings Gallery**, San Francisco, "Sense"
 - **Les Rencontres International**, Arles, France, - Hotel de Divonne, Independent group show
 - **Arles off**, France, - work selected from Juried Competition by Texas Photographic Society, 2nd year tour.
 - **Annual Photo Festival**, Perpignan, France, invite d'honneur with Itinerance, l'art en mouvement.
 - **Williams Tower Gallery**, Houston Center for Photography 2nd Annual Invitational Show, Houston
 - **Minneapolis Institute of the Arts**, Selection of nudes from the Museum's collection.
- 2000
 - **Windows on Houston**, "POLO" work selected by competition from 400 submissions, exhibited for two years at Bush International Airport, Houston, TX.
 - **Arles off**, France, - work selected from Juried Competition by Texas Photo Society & Itinerances
 - **Houston Center for Photography**, 1st Annual Invitational Show, Houston, TX.
- 1999
 - **The Roland Jones Memorial Gallery** - part of Viewpoint 1999 BCCFA, Clifton, Texas - Nudes
 - **8th Annual Governor's Exhibition** at Laughing at the Sun Gallery, Austin
 - **Tarrytown Gallery**, Auction print exhibition for the Texas Photographic Society, Austin
- 1998
 - **St. Edwards University**, 13th Annual Members Show, Texas Photographic Society, Austin, TX
 - **Southwest School of Art & Craft**, 7th Annual Governor's Exhibition at the, San Antonio, TX
- 1997
 - **The Roland Jones Memorial Gallery** - part of Viewpoint 1997 BCCFA, Clifton, Texas - Nudes
- 1996
 - **Institute of Texan Cultures**, 5th Annual Governor's Exhibition, San Antonio, Texas - Nudes
 - **Abney Gallery**, New York, New York - Spirit, Libido and Love
 - **Center for Contemporary Art**, 5th Annual Governor's Exhibition, Abilene, Texas - Nudes
- 1995
 - **Wunderlich Gallery**, Austin, Texas - Sponsored by The Texas Photographic Society - Nude Series
- 1994
 - **Millioud Gallery**, Houston - Photography, Houston / FOTOFEST: Spring '94 - Nude Series
- 1987
 - **Decorative Art Center**, Art Director's Club of Houston Portfolio Show
- 1986
 - **Decorative Art Center**, Art Director's Club of Houston Portfolio Show

SELECTED LIST OF WORK PUBLISHED OR REVIEWED

- 2008 **NUDE BIBLE**, Published by Tectum Publishers, Belgium, p.316,317,320,321,350,376,380,381.
- 2007 **COMMUNICATION ARTS** - Photography Annual, Best Book Cover "drift", p.46
- 2006 **HOUSTON BUSINESS JOURNAL** - Artists discover success by Pica Kahn, Dec. 22, p.25
- 2006 **DOUBLE EXPOSURE MAGAZINE** - Dream & Reality - Special Interview by Robert Schaefer, Jr., Dec. 15
- 2006 **FOTOFEST 2006** / Official book for the 11th International Biennial of Photography, p.36
- 2006 **Houston Center for Photography**, Print Auction Catalog, p.4
- 2004 **GHI** - Genève Home Info newspaper, No.1561, oct. issue,
Portrait, "John Bernhard d'Onex à Houston" by Charaf Abdessemed, p.32.
- 2004 **SWISS INFO** - Sept. 28, "*De l'American Dream à l'Exploration Erotique*" by Bernard Léhot.
- 2004 **MEDIA EXPERT** - Swiss photo magazine, Oct./Nov. issue, portfolio spread, cover + p.46 - 50.
- 2004 **SWISS STYLE MAGAZINE** - Vol.11, No. 5, p.54, "*Museums Swiss Style*".
- 2004 **VIA** - magazine des CFF, Sept issue, p.45
- 2004 **GENEVE LE GUIDE** - No.73, Oct. issue, story by Patrick Stolz, editor, p.17.
- 2004 **ACCROCHAGES MAGAZINE** - No.61, Oct. issue, p.10
- 2004 **PROFIL MAGAZINE** - No.55, Nov. issue, story by Isabelle Mercier, p.34.
- 2004 **TRIBUNE DES ARTS** - magazine de la Tribune de Genève, No. 326, Nov. issue, p.44
- 2004 **KAELE** - magazine du Léman, No. 6, Nov. issue, p.22, profile story
- 2004 **TRIBUNE DE GENEVE** - Rives-Lac, Nov 1st, front page story by Quan Ly.
- 2004 **GRAPHIS** - Photo Annual - Nude, p. 126
- 2004 **SWISS REVIEW magazine** - March issue, p.9 "*The body is an unexplored terrain*".
- 2004 **L'ALLIANCE**, official publication of the Alliance Francaise, Houston, May issue, p.5 Diptych Story.
- 2004 **FOTOFEST 2004** / Official book for the 10th International Biennial of Photography, p. 36, 63, 77
- 2003 **TPS 11- The National Competition** published by the Texas Photographic Society. p. 19
- 2002 **SWISS REVIEW magazine** - October issue, "The eye of an artist" full page story article.
- 2002 **KATALOG** - magazine of the Museet for Fotokunst, Denmark, Summer issue,
"Body is required" story by Finn Thrane, P. 24, 27
- 2002 **The Houston Chronicle**, This Week, p. 9 Profile story with review of exhibit
- 2002 **ART GALLERY** / Official Newsletter for the Houston Arts, cover story on Diptych
- 2002 **FOTOFEST 2002** / Official book for the 9th International Biennial of Photography, p.278 - 281
- 2001 **Itinérances / Arles Off - Rencontres International 2001**, official catalog, p. 8
- 2001 **Calendar "BODY WORK"**, April panel page, edited by Sandra Lipshultz,
published by Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, 12 photographers including Weston, Brandt,
Muybridge, Lee, Bellocq, Weir, and Steichen
- 2000 **HEDEDAAGSE NAAKTFOTOGRAFIE 2 (FACING FEMALE NUDITY)** book
published by Librero Nederland b.v., p.100, 101, 155
- 2000 **Star Tribune**, Minneapolis, ART section, Sept. 1, - Changes of nude, written by Christian A.Peterson
- 2000 **ARTS**, Magazine of the Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, June issue, p. 20-21
- 2000 **Female Contemporary Nude Photography III**, book published by UDYAT, Spain, July 2000
- 2000 **Itinérances / Arles Off - Rencontres International 2000** official catalog, p. 3

SELECTED LIST OF WORK PUBLISHED OR REVIEWED (cont.)

- 2000 **FOTOFEST 2000** / Official book for the 8th International Month of Photography, p.172 - 175
- 1999 **LOVE & DESIRE / AMOUR & DESIRE** / by William A. Ewing, book published by Chronicle Books (english), by Editions Assouline (french) p.331
- 1999 **Desnudos Contemporaneos** / Contemporary Nudes, book published by UDYAT, Spain
- 1999 **The Photo Review**, Spring 1999, Fotofest Portfolio
- 1997 **ARTSPEAK Magazine**, New York, critic review story on recent work
- 1997 **La Fotografia Actual Magazine**, Spain, profile and portfolio spread
- 1996 Collage of photographs of Polo published for sale on an **Official Commemorative Cachet** envelope by the **U.S. POSTAL SERVICE** in a limited edition of 2,000 worldwide
- 1994 **The Houston Chronicle**, Career Profile Story, p.1 and p.4
- 1987 **The Editor's Guide to Freelance Photographers**, work selected, by invitation, from more than 3,000 professionals
- 1987 **Photo District News Magazine**, exhibition show review article
- 1986, 1987 **The Best of Photography Annual Books**.
- 1985 **Houston Style Magazine**, Full page dedication "Picture Perfect".
- 1984,85,86 Elected head photographic judge, representing Eastman Kodak Co., for the Annual Science Engineering Fair of Houston.

TELEVISION AND RADIO APPEARANCES

- KPFT- 90.1** Radio Interview, *for retrospective exhibition sponsored by the French Cultures Festival, 2009*
- RSR** Radio Suisse Romande - Interviews during Obama election Nov. 2008 and for his inauguration 2009
- RSR** Radio Suisse Romande - Interview for *Quinze Minutes*, Hurricane Hike aftermath, by Gaëtan Vannay, Sept. 2008.
- RSR** Radio Suisse Romande - Selected Interview of the Bernhard family, live in Houston, part of *SwissConnection* - A first hand report of three Swiss American families, Sept 2008
- BLEU** Television coverage and interview at the Museum exhibition in Geneva, Nov. 2004
- TSR** Profiled in the documentary show "*Temps Present*" by Swiss Television (TSR) and French Television (TV5). Sept. 2003
- SRI** Swis Radio International - Profile interview by Bernard Léchet, Sept. 2004
- RSR** Radio Suisse Romande - Interview live in Houston, 3 days during hurricane Rita, 2005
Interview in Houston by Nicolas Vultier "An artist's view on the US elections", Nov. 2004
- RADIO ZONE** Special interview profile by Jean Musy, Geneva, Sept 2004
- KPFT- 90.1** Radio Interview, *Nicaragua's Journey*, Houston, 1984

BOOKS IN PRINT / MONOGRAPHS

- 2009 **BODY WORK** - Photographs of the Nudes 1978-2008, hard cover clothbound, 160 pages with 57 color plates and 53 duotones published by Elite Editions.
- 2009 **CHINA** - hardcover clothbound, 120 pages with 43 color plates and 43 duotones, published by Elite Editions.
- 2006 **DRIFT / A Visual Journey**, softcover (6" x 8 1/4") 288 pages with 208 duotones published by Elite Editions
- 2004 **JOHN BERNHARD / A Retrospective**, Geneva-Texas, hardcover clothbound, 192 pages with 165 duotones, with an introduction by William Ewing, published by Editions de Penthes.
- 2004 **DIPTYCH** - A work of two matching parts, hardcover clothbound book, 104 pages with 43 plates, 86 duotones, published by Elite Editions. Recipient of the **2004 Bronze Award** from The International Gallery of Superb Printing competition.
- 2003 **EVANESCENCE** - limited edition hardcover clothbound, 84 pages with 48 duotones published by John Bernhard.
- 2002 **NICARAGUA** - A Journey to Remember, 104 pages with 48 duotones published by The Nicaraguan Children Texas Benefit Fund.
- 2002 **POLO WATERCOLOR SERIES**, hardcover leather bound, limited edition book, 120 pages with 56 color plates, published by DeFrog Gallery.
- 2001 **UNITED DOMINION**, Real Estate Portfolio Showcase, 168 pages with 396 color plates, published by United Dominion Realty Trust.
- 2000 **NUDES METAMORPHS**, hardcover clothbound trade and limited museum edition book, 108 pages with 81 plates, duotones, published by EMCO Press.
- 1999 **NUDES**, 35 images, 5 mini books with slipcase, published by DeFrog Gallery.

MUSEUM AN PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Akron Art Museum, Akron, Ohio, USA

Bibliothèque National de France, Paris, France

Centro de la Imagen, Mexico City, Mexico

Denver Museum of Art, Denver, Colorado

Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas, Austin, Texas

Houston Maritime Museum, Houston, Texas

International Cultural Center of Texas Tech University, ICASALS, Lubbock, Texas

Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Musée de L'Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland

Musée de Penthes - Musée des Suisses dans le Monde, Geneva, Switzerland

Museet for Fotokunst, Odense, Denmark

Museum of New Mexico - Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Polk Museum of Art, Lakeland, Florida

Swiss National Library, Bern, Switzerland

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas

The New York Public Library, New York City