

The Museum of Modern Art

50th Anniversary



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"AMERICAN CHILDREN" VOLUME TO ACCOMPANY PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

The 60 photographs from AMERICAN CHILDREN, part of the continuing Springs Mills Series on the Art of Photography at The Museum of Modern Art, will be reproduced in a book to accompany the exhibition. This volume will also contain an introduction by Susan Kismaric, Director of the exhibition and Associate Curator of the Department of Photography at the Museum.

The exhibition, which runs from January 8 to March 29, 1981, surveys the changing concept of childhood in America as it has been reflected in photography from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Among the photographers to be represented are Lee Friedlander, Diane Arbus, Nicholas Nixon, Robert Frank, Walker Evans, Doris Ulmann, Jacob Riis and Lewis Hine.

"The photographs of children in this book," writes Kismaric in her introduction, "are presented in reverse chronological sequence. Looking at them this way, as a pictorial record viewed backward through time, enables us to understand the ways in which photographers, like other artists, unwittingly reveal the particular spirit of their age. At the same time the movement from present to past evokes the memories of our own personal histories and proves doubly revealing." Thus, one of the first photographs in the book, Mark Goodman's

more....

Donald York Jr. Standing Beside His Father's Wrecker, July 4, 1974,
and one of the last, an ambrotype from 1860, perfectly portray the
contrast between today's celebration of children as lusty, independent
beings, and the Victorian view of children as miniature adults, the
embodiment of their parents' ideals.

American Children is being published by The Museum of Modern
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\$14.95 clothbound, \$7.95 paperbound.

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