

# THE GORDON PARKS FOUNDATION

---

## Major Museum Exhibitions of Gordon Parks and Solo Exhibitions of Gordon Parks Foundation Fellows to be Presented this Fall 2019

Parks Exhibitions Will Be On View at Amon Carter Museum of American Art, the J. Paul Getty Museum

### Guadalupe Rosales and Hank Willis Thomas to Present Solo Exhibitions at The Gordon Parks Foundation

**Pleasantville, NY, June 24, 2019 (updated August 19, 2019)** – The Gordon Parks Foundation will present and collaborate on a range of exhibitions and public programs across the country during the remainder of 2019. The Foundation's year-round and wide-ranging programming reflects its commitment to supporting and producing artistic and educational initiatives that advance the legacy and vision of Gordon Parks. Parks is recognized as the most significant photographer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as well as a writer, musician, and filmmaker.

Featuring significant works by Parks and providing insight on his practice, the 2019 fall exhibitions include the critically recognized ***Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work 1940-50***, co-organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, in collaboration with The Gordon Parks Foundation. The exhibition will open at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth this September, following its debut at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. in 2018, and the recent presentation at the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio. The J. Paul Getty Museum, in collaboration with The Foundation, is presenting ***The Flávio Story***, now on view, which offers an in-depth survey of one of Parks' most important photo assignments for *LIFE* magazine. At the Foundation's exhibition space in Pleasantville, New York, [The Gordon Parks Foundation 2019 Fellows](#), **Guadalupe Rosales** and **Hank Willis Thomas**, will each present solo exhibitions that reflect the resonance of their practices with Parks' own work and legacy.

"The Foundation co-organizes exhibitions, publications and other educational programs year-round to contribute to the study and understanding of Gordon Parks' legacy," **Peter W. Kunhardt, Jr., Executive Director of The Gordon Parks Foundation**. "We are pleased to see *Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work 1940-50* continue on its tour and to have the J. Paul Getty Museum open *The Flávio Story* on the west coast. Many of the works in these shows are from the Foundation's archive and private collections and are being exhibited for the first time."

Upcoming exhibitions and programs presented or co-organized by The Gordon Parks Foundation follow below:

#### THE GORDON PARKS FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP EXHIBITIONS:

On view at The Gordon Parks Foundation, Pleasantville, New York

##### ***Must've been a wake-dream: Guadalupe Rosales***

**The Gordon Parks Foundation, Pleasantville, New York**

**September 6 through October 18, 2019**

*Must've been a wake-dream* is a celebration of Rosales' work as a 2019 Gordon Parks Foundation Fellowship recipient, which includes collaborations with Latinx and LGBTQ communities to examine the interplay between photography and community. Through her careful collecting, preservation and

# THE GORDON PARKS FOUNDATION

---



Image: Mind Crime Hookers party crew on 6th Street Bridge, Boyle Heights, 1993. Courtesy Guadalupe Rosales.

presentation of vernacular photographs, letters, party flyers and ephemera representing Latinx Southern California youth culture, Rosales creates an expanding archive that brings visibility to a community that has been overlooked, misrepresented and criminalized. Also on view during *Must've been a wake-dream* will be a group of Gordon Parks' photographs, selected by Rosales, from Parks' celebrated "Harlem Gang Leader" series, made as the first African-American photographer for *LIFE* magazine in 1948.



Image: Courtesy Hank Willis Thomas.

## ***Hank Willis Thomas: Exodusters***

**The Gordon Parks Foundation, Pleasantville, New York**

**October 25 through December 20, 2019**

Hank Willis Thomas has an ongoing vested interest in photography as a documentation of history and a universal means for people to represent their stories. *Exodusters* examines the representation and depiction of history, particularly during a significant moment in the pursuit for freedom and liberty during the Great Depression in Dust Bowl America. Thomas draws upon the archive of Gordon Parks' seminal and semi-autobiographical film *The Learning Tree* (1969) that depicts the fictional Cherokee Flats, which is based

Image: Courtesy Hank Willis Thomas.

## **MUSEUM EXHIBITION:**



## ***Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work 1940-1950***

**Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, TX**

**September 14 through December 29, 2019**

**Organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, in collaboration with The Gordon Parks Foundation**

Gordon Parks was part of what author Richard Wright called "the new tide" of African-Americans who were pushing for respect and racial equality in the 1940s. Organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, in collaboration with The Gordon Parks Foundation, *Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work 1940-1950* explores the early years of Parks' career as an influential photographer who captured the essence of the civil rights movement in addition to breaking barriers for African-Americans. The

exhibition was also exhibited at the Cleveland Museum of Art from March 23 through June 9, 2019.

Image: Ferry Commuters, Staten Island, New York, 1946. Courtesy of and copyright The Gordon Parks Foundation.

# THE GORDON PARKS FOUNDATION

---

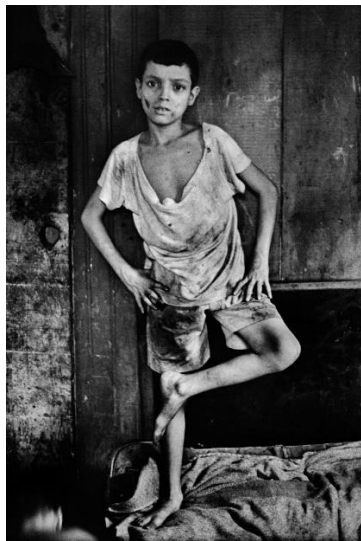
## CURRENTLY ON VIEW:

### ***Jamel Shabazz: Honor and Dignity***

**The Gordon Parks Foundation, Pleasantville, NY**

**On view through August 23, 2019**

For the past forty years, Jamel Shabazz has documented the cultural vibrancy of the city's black and brown communities. This exhibition offers a concise view of Shabazz's wide-ranging work, from photographs of musicians and teenagers radiating with hip-hop style to members of the military and participants in religious and political gatherings. *Jamel Shabazz: Honor and Dignity* is organized by The Gordon Parks Foundation.



### ***The Flávio Story***

**J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA**

**On view through November 10, 2019**

**Co-organized by the Ryerson Image Centre, Toronto, Canada, and the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, California, USA, in partnership with Instituto Moreira Salles, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and The Gordon Parks Foundation, New York.**

On assignment to document poverty in Brazil for *LIFE* magazine, American photographer Gordon Parks encountered one of the most important subjects of his career: Flávio da Silva. Parks featured the resourceful, ailing boy, who lived with his family in one of Rio's working-class neighborhoods known as favelas, in the heart-rending 1961 photo essay "Freedom's Fearful Foe: Poverty." It resulted in donations from *LIFE* readers but sparked controversy in Brazil. This exhibition explores the celebrated photo essay, tracing the extraordinary chain of events it triggered and Parks' representation of Flávio over several decades.

Image: Flávio da Silva, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1961. Courtesy of and copyright The Gordon Parks Foundation.

## **ABOUT THE GORDON PARKS FOUNDATION**

The Gordon Parks Foundation supports and produces artistic and educational initiatives that advance the legacy and vision of Gordon Parks—recognized as the most significant African American photographer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as well as a writer, musician, and filmmaker, who used the arts to further "the common search for a better life and a better world."

Through exhibitions, publications, and public programs organized in collaboration with national and international institutions at its exhibition space in Pleasantville, New York, the Foundation provides access to, and supports understanding of, the work and contributions of Gordon Parks for artists, scholars, students, and the public. Through its year-round educational programming and annual grant-making initiatives, the Foundation champions current and future generations of artists and humanitarians whose work carries on Parks' legacy.

## **ABOUT GORDON PARKS**

Gordon Parks was a seminal figure of 20<sup>th</sup>-century photography. A humanitarian with a deep commitment to social justice, he left behind a body of work that documents many of the most important aspects of

# THE GORDON PARKS FOUNDATION

---

American culture from the early 1940s up until his death in 2006, with a focus on race relations, poverty, civil rights, and urban life. In addition, Parks was also a celebrated composer, author, and filmmaker who interacted with many of the most prominent people of his era—from politicians and artists to celebrities and athletes.

**Media Contacts:**

Christina Ludgood / Sarah McNaughton / Barbara Escobar

Resnicow and Associates

212-671-5178 / 212-671-5161 / 212-671-5174

[cludgood@resnicow.com](mailto:cludgood@resnicow.com) / [smcnaughton@resnicow.com](mailto:smcnaughton@resnicow.com) / [bescobar@resnicow.com](mailto:bescobar@resnicow.com)