

Born in New York City in 1930, Bob Adelman grew up on Long Island and earned degrees from Rutgers, Harvard, and Columbia. He studied photography with Alexey Brodovitch, the famed art director of Harper's Bazaar magazine whose influence can be seen in the haunting beauty of Adelman's images. With an avid interest in social and political events of the day, Adelman was drawn to the sit-ins staged by young students across the American South. He volunteered to take photos of the demonstrations for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in the early 1960s and continued to be involved with civil rights issues and the human condition for the next four decades.

Quickly gaining notoriety for his compelling images from the 1963 demonstrations in Birmingham, Alabama and the March on Washington, Adelman soon began producing photographs for countless assignments with the major publications of the day; covering social issues, human-interest stories, and the arts.

Throughout his career, Adelman captured some of the greatest New York artists including Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, James Rosenquist, and many more. Bob spent extensive time photographing the cultural milieu that passed through Andy Warhol's Factory, openings and interactions in the Leo Castelli Gallery, large-scale murals painted by Roy Lichtenstein and James Rosenquist, and historic New York art world scenes.

Adelman's vast archive of New York artists also includes photographs of Larry Rivers, Donald Judd, Jasper Johns, Marisol Escobar, Red Grooms, Jeff Koons, Adolph Gottlieb, Barnett Newman, Robert Rauschenberg, Dick Bellamy, Lucas Samaras, Jim Dine, David Hockney as well as influential New York art dealers.

Adelman's awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship, a National Endowment of the Arts Grant, and Art Directors Club awards from New York, San Francisco, and Washington. His photographs were also honored by the American Institute of Graphic Arts and the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

In 2014 Adelman began serving as a consulting photographer for the Library of Congress, presenting a series of lectures as well as working to expand awareness of the Library's visual collections and advise on potential new acquisitions.

An ever-expanding digital collection of Adelman's work - currently more than 20,000 images - can be viewed on the website hosted by the estate at www.bobadelman.net