

THE VILLAGE TRIP

**A new annual festival celebrating the history and heritage of
Greenwich Village**

THE BEAT SCENE IN NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO

Michael Shulman explores the work of photographer Burt Glinn

The Village Trip Lounge, Washington Square Hotel, Sunday September 30, at 2.30pm

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1925, **Burt Glinn** served in the United States Army between 1943 and 1946 before studying literature at Harvard University, where he edited and photographed for the *Harvard Crimson* college newspaper. From 1949 to 1950, he worked for *LIFE* magazine before becoming a freelance photographer.

Glenn became an associate member of Magnum Photos in 1951, along with Eve Arnold and Dennis Stock – the first Americans to join the young photo agency – and a full member in 1954. He made his mark with spectacular color series on the South Seas, Japan, Russia, Mexico and California. In 1959, he received the Mathew Brady Award for Magazine Photographer of the Year from the University of Missouri.

In collaboration with the writer Laurens van der Post, Glinn published *A Portrait of All the Russians* (1967) and *A Portrait of Japan* (1968). His reportages appeared in *Esquire*, *Geo*, *Travel and Leisure*, *Fortune*, *LIFE* and *Paris-Match*. He covered the Sinai War, the US Marine invasion of Lebanon, and Fidel Castro's takeover of Cuba, and he photographed such people as Andy Warhol and Helen Frankenthaler.

In the 1990s, he completed an extensive photo essay on the topic of medical science.

Among Glinn's numerous awards for his editorial and commercial photography are Best Book of Photographic Reporting from Abroad from the Overseas Press Club and the Best Print Ad of the Year from the Art Directors Club of New York.

Glenn served as president of the American Society of Media Photographers. He was president of Magnum Photos between 1972 and 1975 and was re-elected to the post in 1987.

He died in Southampton, New York, in 2008.

[The Beat Scene](#) is a magnificent volume which features a remarkable collection of largely unseen photographs of the Beat Generation by Burt Glinn. This amazing, untouched treasure trove of images was discovered when Reel Art Press was working with Glinn's widow, Elena, on a larger retrospective of Glinn's work. Archived with the negatives was a short essay by Jack Kerouac entitled "And This Is The Beat Nightlife of New York," which is published alongside the photographs. The book features black-and-white shots, and also — uniquely, for images of this era — more than 70 in color. An extremely rare find, these photographs capture the raw energy of the Beat Generation in a way that has never been seen before in print.

The photographs were shot between 1957 and 1960 in New York and San Francisco and feature nearly everyone involved in the scene, including writers and artists such as Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, Gregory Corso, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, LeRoi Jones, Jay DeFeo, Wally Hedrick and many more. Glinn was celebrated for his extraordinary talent as a social documentary photographer, and during his time with the Beats his camera captured the spirit of the counterculture — writers, musicians and artists meeting in cafes, bars and parties pursuing a truth and future the mainstream would and could not acknowledge.

An exquisite tome, [The Beat Scene](#) is an intimate and fresh insight into the lives of the legendary and influential bohemians and a celebration of Glinn's inimitable talent.

Michael Shulman is Director of Publishing, Broadcasting and Film at Magnum, and a consultant for Reel Art Press

All images courtesy Burt Glinn/Magnum Photos

The Village Trip is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organisation. Fractured Atlas will receive grants for the charitable purposes of The Village Trip, provide oversight to ensure grants are used in accordance with grant agreements, and provide reports as required by the grantor. Contributions for the charitable purposes of The Village Trip must be made payable to Fractured Atlas and are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

www.TheVillageTrip.com

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