

THK GALLERY

DOUGLAS KIRKLAND | BIO & CV

Photographer, Canada (b.1934)

Douglas Kirkland (born 1934 in Fort Erie, Ontario) is a prominent photographer based in the United States. After starting out as an assistant to Irving Penn when he first moved to New York, Kirkland was hired as a staff photographer for Look magazine at age 24 and became famous for his 1961 photos of Marilyn Monroe taken for Look's 25th anniversary issue. He later joined the staff of Life magazine, working there through the '60s and '70s – an era often referred to as the golden age of photojournalism.

A Who's Who of notable persons have posed for Kirkland from the great photography innovator Man Ray and photographer/painter Jacques Henri Lartigue to Dr. Stephen Hawking. Entertainment celebrities he has photographed include Mick Jagger, Sting, Björk, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Morgan Freeman, Orson Welles, Andy Warhol, Oliver Stone, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Leonardo DiCaprio, Coco Chanel, Marlene Dietrich, Brigitte Bardot, Judy Garland, Elizabeth Taylor, Sophia Loren, Catherine Deneuve, Michael Jackson, Paris Hilton, and Diana Ross. Kirkland's portrait of Charlie Chaplin is at the National Portrait Gallery in London.

Known for his charming and gentle demeanor, Kirkland has served as the sole photographer on the sets of hundreds of films, including 2001: A Space Odyssey, The Sound of Music, Sophie's Choice, Out of Africa, The Pirate Movie, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Romancing the Stone, Titanic, and Moulin Rouge!. Some of his famous film shots include John Travolta in the dance sequence from Saturday Night Fever, a portrait of Judy Garland crying and the March 1976 Playboy pictorial of Margot Kidder. In 1995 Kirkland received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American motion pictures Society of Operating Cameramen.

His books projects include "Legends," "Body Stories," "Woza Africa," "James Cameron's Titanic," "Make Up Your Life," "A Life in Pictures," and "With Marilyn: An Evening/1961," among others. "Titanic" was the first picture book to reach No.1 on the New York Times Best Seller list and did so on both the hardcover and paperback lists.

Douglas Kirkland has lectured at the Smithsonian Institution, the AFI Conservatory in Hawaii and Los Angeles, the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena as well as the Kodak Centers in Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan.

Museums and collections:

- Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, USA
- National Portrait Gallery, Canberra, Australia
- National Portrait Gallery, London, England
- Eastman House, Rochester, New York, USA
- Houston Centre for Photography, Houston, Texas, USA
- Annenberg Space for Photography, Los Angeles, California, USA
- Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences collection, Beverly Hills, California, USA

Awards:

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2007

- Honorary Master of Arts Degree, Brooks Institute

2006

- The Golden Eye of Russia
- Life Time Achievement Award, CAPIC (Toronto)

2003

- Lucie Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Entertainment Photography, IPA Photography