

PHOTOGRAPHY

One Good Eye

YCLOPS," a superb book of blackand-white photographs by Albert Watson, has just been published by Bulfinch Press/Little, Brown. (The title refers both to the camera's eye and to the fact that Watson has been blind in one eye since birth.) With more than two hundred and fifty pictures, the book offers an ambitious survey of two decades of his advertising, magazine, documentary, and personal work, but its design and technological sophistication are impressive, too. Richard Benson supervised the digital reproduction of the images, and his innovations have resulted in photographs on the page that are virtually indistinguishable from original prints. The successfully experimental typography, which incorporates nearly forty typefaces, was designed by David Carson, the man behind the look of the rock-music monthly Ray Gun.

Watson, a Scot who moved to the States in 1970, has photographed a wide range of subjects, and thanks to the design and layout of "Cyclops," the heterogeneous content unfolds in dramatic and surprising ways. The book includes well-known portraits of musicians (Eric Clapton, Sade, Keith Richards), movie stars (Jack Nicholson, Drew Barrymore), and artists (Jeff Koons, Cindy Sherman), as well as fashion shots, nudes, still-lifes, land-scapes, and photos of cultural artifacts (fetish bundles from Marrakech, a pistol owned by Elvis). Watson's consistency is a real achievement: the commercial work is as intense and committed as the pictures that he shot for his own pleasure. With this spectacular book, a talent whose presence may have been taken for granted has staked a powerful claim.

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ILSE BING—Vintage photographs of Parisian dance halls. Through Jan. 7. (Houk Friedman, 351 Madison Ave., at 76th St.)

ROBERT FRANK—Twenty-seven rarely seen images from the photographer of "The Americans." Through Nov. 23. (Pace/MacGill, 32 E. 57th St.)

GJON Mul (1904-84)—Photographs of actors, entertainers, and other celebrities, taken between 1930 and 1970. Through Dec. 3. (Greenberg, 120 Wooster St.)

ISABEL MUROZ—Photographs of flamenco and tango dancing in Madrid and Buenos Aires. Through Nov. 12. (Saul, 560 Broadway.)

MARIO CRAVO NETO—Black-and-white prints by a Brazilian photographer. Through Dec. 3. (Witkin, 415 West Broadway.)

NICHOLAS NIXON—Photographs of schoolchildren and nurses. Through Nov. 26. (Zabriskie, 724 Fifth Ave., at 57th St.)

LEO RUBINFIEN—Photographs taken from airplanes. Through Dec. 10. (Mann, 42 E. 76th St.)

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Nick Warington—Ten large-scale images by an artist best known for surreptitiously placing his own image within his landscape photography. Through Dec. 3. (Burden, 20 E. 23rd St.)

Garry Winogrand—New York City burlesque houses, circa 1954. Through Nov. 26. (Benrubi, 52 E. 76th St.)

(See the museum listings for photography exhibi-tions at the Metropolitan Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Wallach Art Gallery.)