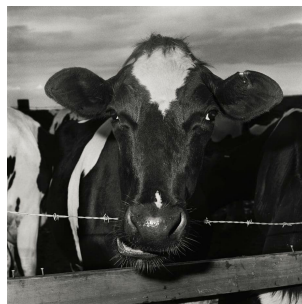
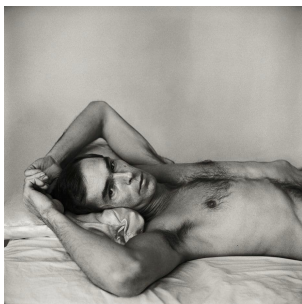


BUNDESKUNSTHALLE

Invitation to a media conference
Wednesday, 25 February 2026, 11 a.m.

PETER HUJAR EYES OPEN IN THE DARK 27 February until 23 August 2026



From left to right: Peter Hujar, *Self-Portrait (II)*, 1975 / Peter Hujar, *Cow (Barbed Wire)*, Hyrkin Farm, Westtown, New York, 1978 / Peter Hujar, *John Flowers Backstage* (*Backstage, Palm Casino Review*, New York), 1974 / for all three works: © The Peter Hujar Archive / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2026, Courtesy of The Peter Hujar Archive / ARS, New York, and Pace Gallery, Fraenkel Gallery, Maureen Paley, and Mai36

Photographer Peter Hujar was a central figure in the New York downtown scene of the 1970s and 1980s. When Hujar died of AIDS-related pneumonia, his work was largely unknown. Today, however, Peter Hujar is considered one of the most important photographers of the second half of the 20th century.

Hujar's primary focus was portrait photography. He photographed his friends, lovers, and people around him with striking intimacy and emotional depth. He himself was also often the subject of his photographs. In his work, which also includes animal, landscape, and architectural motifs, Hujar proves himself to be a sensitive chronicler of a time of social upheaval and radical sexual change.

Peter Hujar: Eyes Open in the Dark focuses on Peter Hujar's work since the 1970s and reflects the exploration of the relational possibilities of the grid, as undertaken in his last exhibition in January 1986. It was curated by Hujar's biographer, John Douglas Millar, and his friend Gary Schneider, in close collaboration with the photographer's estate.

We cordially invite you to a media conference on Wednesday, 25 February 2026, 11 a.m. in the Bundeskunsthalle.

The exhibition opens at 10 a.m.

Speaking:

- Eva Kraus, director
- John Douglas, curator
- Gary Schneider, curator
- Katharina Chrubasik, exhibition manager
- Sven Bergmann, press officer

Please accredit by email: presse@bundeskunsthalle.de

For interviews and filming requests, please send an email to

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Text and image material is available at www.bundeskunsthalle.de/en/press.

We look forward to your participation and visit.

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The exhibition was originally organized by Raven Row with thanks to the Peter Hujar Foundation.

In partnership with the Bundeskunsthalle, the Gropius Bau, Berlin, presents Peter Hujar / Liz Deschenes: *Persistence of Vision* from March 19 to June 28, 2026.

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