



MAGNUM

Dennis Stock

Dennis Stock was born in 1928 in New York City. At the age of 17, he left home to join the United States Navy. In 1947, he became an apprentice to *Life* magazine photographer Gjon Mili and won first prize in Life's Young Photographers contest. He joined Magnum Photos in 1951 and became a full member in 1954.

Stock managed to evoke the spirit of America through his memorable and iconic portraits of Hollywood stars, most notably James Dean. From 1957 to 1960, Stock made lively portraits of jazz musicians, including Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday, Sidney Bechet, Gene Krupa and Duke Ellington for his book *Jazz Street*. In 1968, Stock took a leave of absence from Magnum to create *Visual Objectives*, a film production company, and he shot several documentaries. In the late 1960s, he captured the attempts of California hippies to reshape society according to ideals of love and caring. Then, throughout the 1970s and 1980s, he worked on color books, emphasizing the beauty of nature through details and landscape. In the 1990s, he went back to his urban origins, exploring the modern architecture of large cities. After the turn of the century, his work mostly focused on the abstraction of flowers.

Stock generated a book or an exhibition almost every year from the 1950s. He taught numerous workshops and exhibited his work widely in France, Germany, Italy, the United States and Japan. He worked as a writer, director and producer for television and film, and his photographs have been acquired by most major museum collections. He served as president of Magnum's film and new media division in 1969 and 1970.

Dennis Stock was married to the author Susan Richards. He died at their home in Sarasota, Florida, on January 11, 2010.