



## Traces of a Friendship

**Alberto Giacometti**

**Ernst Scheidegger**

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- An intimate portrait of one of the greatest artists of the 20th century by a founding member of the Magnum photo agency

**Alberto Giacometti**, one of the greatest sculptors of the 20th century, gave physical expression to his twin obsessions of the human form and the alienation of modern life. Because of his canonical position in art history and the reams of scholarship produced about him, Giacometti remains to many the elusive master artist, distant and remote on the Olympus of creative endeavour. Ernst Scheidegger, close friend of the artist, knew a very different Giacometti. Scheidegger accompanied him to his studio, to bistros of Paris and the family home in the Swiss mountains. *Traces of a Friendship* is a document of this intimate life of Giacometti, consisting of photographs Scheidegger took over two decades. The pictures allow access to the most closely held aspects of the artist's life: sketching in his studio, having a cup of coffee, his works in progress, his art in installation views. Scheidegger captures the essence of the artist's working life in images artful in their own right.

**Ernst Scheidegger**, born in 1923, was educated as a photographer at the Zurich College for Applied Arts. He was a founder member of the Magnum agency in Paris and later a teacher for visual design at the renowned College for Design in Ulm (Germany). He was an editor with the Swiss newspaper *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*. He has made film portraits of artists, such as Max Bill and Alberto Giacometti, and numerous documentaries for the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation and the former airline Swissair. He lives in Zürich.