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Rites of Passage

Scott Mead

Illustrations

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Territory USA & Canada

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- The fourth book on the photography of Scott Mead. Previous publications include *Thoughts for My Children* (Hurtwood, 2023), *Equivalents* (Prestel, 2022) and *Above the Clouds* (Prestel, 2017)
- **Rites of Passage** features 100 previously unseen images from Mead's archive, documenting his early adulthood in New England, USA, and shot over a five-year period between 1971 and 1976
- All of the artist's proceeds from **Rites of Passage** benefit Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London

Photographer Scott Mead (b.1954) revisits his formative years spent documenting New England, USA, in *Rites of Passage* for the first time. Shot over a five-year period between 1971 and 1976, we follow Mead through early adulthood and explore scenes of discovery, ritual, rural beauty and urban metropolis.

At a junction between an American road trip and a personal visual diary, Mead's images depict a world as it was then, shaped by political upheaval, profound civil changes and the Cold War. The cloth-bound hardback book features 100 large-format prints of Mead's poignant photographs to be considered in a new context.

Rites of Passage shows Mead with a camera always at hand and presents his delicate, often amusing and sometimes uneasy portraits alongside cityscapes, landscapes and snapshots of the lives of friends and strangers. All of the artist's proceeds from **Rites of Passage** benefit Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London.

Scott Mead was born in Washington, D.C., in 1954 and lives in London. He was a photographer for 15 years when family and career intervened in positive ways. He spent many years in investment banking, mostly setting aside his camera but not his vision. He left finance in 2003 to return to his lifelong passion. In 2018, Mead exhibited his *Above the Clouds* series at Hamiltons Gallery, London, accompanied by a book of the same name published by Prestel. In 2022, Prestel published his second book *Equivalents*, an exploration of parallels and contrasts with an introduction by Brad Leithauser.