

BLACK  
BLAND  
AND  
WHITE.



MICHAEL JACKSON AT CHASEN'S RESTAURANT 1978

Yes, believe it or not, this is Michael Jackson. I am not a fan of Michael Jackson. I met him a few times over the years, once with Tatum O'Neal and at a bunch of parties. This photo was taken on the sidewalk at the old Chasen's Restaurant. They had the best chili and fried chicken. The party was for some award show and once again the photos inside were boring. What I like about this photograph is the stain on the sidewalk.



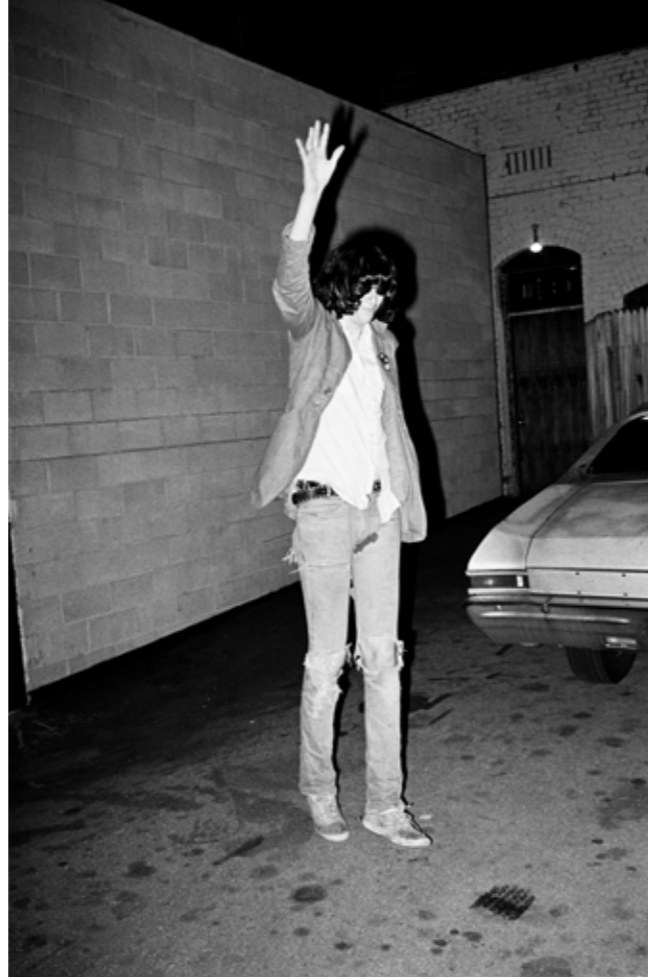
I WAS A TEENAGE PAPARAZZO 1975:

This was my first Paparazzi photograph, but I would never consider myself a true Paparazzo. I was incredibly "in crowd" when it came to getting access to parties, backstage and concert photo passes. Sure there were times when I could not resist and I would take a photo of a celebrity on the street without permission. The PR that I would work with would just laugh when they would see these types of photos on mine in the magazines and newspapers. On the day that I took this photograph of David Bowie I had a tip that he was having a late night recording session at Cherokee Recording Studios on Fairfax Blvd in Hollywood. I got there really early in the morning and waited for Bowie to emerge. The guy seated in the car next to Bowie is Man Who Fell To Earth producer, Paul Buckmaster. Keep in mind that no one was really doing Paparazzi style photography back then and both Bowie and Buckmaster thought my approach was incredibly hysterical. Creem magazine ran this as a full page for their section "Stars And Their Cars" and the photo was published in a couple of other magazines around the world. I can still feel the adrenaline rush today!



DEBBIE HARRY AT THE WHISKY A GO GO 1977

I was hired by Private Stock records to photograph Blondie's very first Los Angeles concert -- a really big deal. We had read about Debbie in Rock Scene and of course knew all of her records. I had all access to the event and I invited my pal Ron Galella to do backstage photos. Debbie and Chris got a real kick out of this. I have not seen Debbie in years, but her former manager, Toby Mamis, remains in touch to this day.



JOEY RAMONE IN THE PARKING LOT 1978:

This photo was taken after a Ramones recording session produced by the Kessel brothers, Dan and Dave, in Hollywood's Gold Star Studios, with Rodney Bingenheimer in attendance. The Ramones cut "Slug" (on "Rocket to Russia") and the Beach Boys' "Surfin' Safari." I hung out with the Ramones on several occasions, with a memorable lunch at world-famous Duke's Coffee House on Santa Monica Blvd, next to the infamous Tropicana Motor Hotel, favored by punks and other musicians. I find this photo very touching. I am honored to have been a friend of Joey's.



STEVE JONES - 999 N. DOHENY 1978:

My first apartment was at 999 N. Doheny, right off the Sunset Strip. It was the coolest building in town. Full of wanna-be actors, models and hookers. Everyone passed through there. Shortly after the Sex Pistols broke up, Rory Johnston, who worked with Malcolm McLaren and the Sex Pistols and was part of the local punk scene, brought Steve Jones over to my apartment for some photos. Steve stripped down to his underwear, took a swim and shocked some of the elderly women sitting by the pool. Steve loves this photograph and is my neighbor and friend today.



BEHIND THE BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL NO 3, 1977:

I think John Rockwell invited me to this party. Directly behind the Beverly Hills Hotel is a huge mansion owned by David Lane. I knew many of the guests, although an older crowd because I was about 21. It was a warm sunny afternoon, I was standing next to the bar trying to get a drink and all of a sudden this lovely girl started to strip down right in front of me. I only had a wide-angle 24 mm camera lens, not really wide enough, so I backed up as far as I could, almost knocking over the bar. You have to do the best you can in these situations. Take a close look at the guy on the left of the photograph walking towards the girl. That is Burt who was and still is, almost thirty years later, a permanent fixture on the party circuit. I am sure that he was on his way to get this girl's telephone number. Back then, I did not think it too much of a big deal going to a Mega Mansion party in Beverly Hills with nude girls because I attended three or four of these a week! This was the only photograph worth taking at the party and now is one of my favorite photos. It truly captured a moment from that incredible era that I will never see again.



Ali And The Sea Of Faces 1979:

Muhammad Ali was and is still today the most famous and recognizable person on the planet. I vividly remember when he walked to his seat at the Forum because the entire 18,400 guests and VIPs at this event stood up and applauded him. It was truly a moving experience. I stood nearby for as long as I could to get this shot. It was not easy with all the security guards around. Seated next to Ali is his wife Veronica, Dr. Jerry Buss and his lovely date and the former Mayor of Los Angeles, Tom Bradley and his wife. Many years later I was invited to a boxing match at the Forum by Jerry Buss. Seated near me at ringside was Ali, much older and now ill. I shook his hand and for the first time in my life, asked for an autograph. I still have it to this day. ☺