

Henry Chalfant's '1980' at Eric Firestone Gallery, New York

by Isabella Mason

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American photographer and videographer Henry Chalfant's 150 photographs of graffiti-covered subway cars will be displayed at Eric Firestone Gallery, New York, from November 10, 2016, to January 21, 2017.

Artists gained uninterrupted access to subway cars for eleven days on account of an MTA strike in April, 1980 which is deemed as the worst year of crime for New York. Subway art flourished alongside the hip-hop culture, piquing Chalfant's attention and his urge to photograph and maintain its most comprehensive archive. His brilliance with the lens, especially in his technique of capturing exposures on his 35mm camera on the platform, inspired many young writers to form a community around Henry. Henry Chalfant has been widely exhibited internationally; his work is in the permanent collections of institutions including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York and the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh.

The exhibition is on view at the Eric Firestone Loft, 4 Great Jones, 4#, NYC, 10012. For details, visit, www.ericfirestonegallery.com



Henry Chalfant, *Mad PJ*, 1980, Kodak Professional Endura metallic paper, 12.57 x 60 in, Edition 1 of 9, HC178 Courtesy Henry Chalfant



Henry Chalfant, *Seen PJ Kel*, 1980, Kodak Professional Endura Metallic Paper, 12.34 x 60 in, Edition 1 of 9, HC182 Courtesy: Henry Chalfant