

The Museum of Modern Art

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THE ANIMALS

A place where animals look at people and people look at animals--the zoo-- is given a highly personal interpretation in the photographs by Garry Winogrand, collected in The Museum of Modern Art's new publication THE ANIMALS. Most of the 46 photographs in the book will be on view in the Museum's Steichen Gallery from October 22 through December.

Amusing and witty, often poignant, Winogrand's pictures are "as complicated and as simple as ancient parables," John Szarkowski, Director of the Museum's Department of Photography, writes in the book's afterword.

An elephant pleads for a peanut; a smiling whale rolls luxuriously in the water; a young man is mesmerized by the wrinkled face of a rhinoceros with a broken tusk; the King of Beasts tries unsuccessfully to mount his mate; a girl is transfixed by the penetrating gaze of an arrogant llama; three seals quietly observe the group of bystanders leaning on the railing around their pool; a child aims a toy gun mercilessly at a grizzly bear.

Mr. Winogrand's zoo suggests that people are fascinated by animals not only because they are funny-looking or seem to have a certain nobility. Pacing, staring, eating, yawning, copulating, these animals caught in their ludicrous routine perhaps satisfy a darker side of human curiosity. "It may be that we are relieved to find that even the animals, with their much-publicized supposed virtues--sharp of tooth, swift of foot, courageous in protecting their young, good eyes, etc.--that even the animals can be reduced to a state of whimpering psychic paralysis if they are forced to live

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