

CARLA STELLWEG GALLERY

PRESS RELEASE

TRIA GIOVAN
Cuba: The Elusive Island
November 2 - 18, 1996

The Carla Stellweg Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of Tria Giovan's photography from her new book titled Cuba: The Elusive Island.

Cuba is an island that conjures up romantic memories mixing the Copacabana, mobsters, Hemingway and more mainstream figures such as Ricky Ricardo, as well as the ongoing political deadlock of the U.S. embargo. Contrary to these outdated memories, Cuba has continued to grow and change in ways that elude the larger American public. Although the title of Ms. Giovan's book may lend itself to political implications merely because it contains the word Cuba, the images immediately challenge this premise.

Despite the political obstacles, artists, writers, and other U.S. based intellectuals continue to travel and interact with the Cuban people. Following this tradition, Ms. Giovan's photographs and book show us her personal and learning experience, translated into intimate glimpses of daily life on the island. Her eye touches upon moments that rather than intrude upon a reality not her own, constructs a subjective narrative. Ms. Giovan observes her surroundings in a continual and sensitive search for a compelling composition that leads us to gain further knowledge of things Cuban. Ms. Giovan was raised in the Caribbean, and has been a professional photographer in New York City since 1985. Her work is in collections at the M.O.M.A, the Brooklyn Museum, The New York Public Library, and the Jewish Museum, N.Y.,NY. She has traveled extensively on assignments for numerous publications, including Art & Antiques, Aperture, House & Garden, Elle, Elle Decor, House Beautiful, Esquire, the New York Times Magazine, and Vogue.

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