

The Last Resort (1983-1985) Luxury (1995-present)



#### **About Martin Parr**

Martin Parr is a pioneer of contemporary photographic culture, an avid photography book collector and the president of Magnum Photos. In addition to large-scale retrospectives of his work in the Barbican Art Gallery in London (2002), Haus de Kunst in Munich (2008) and other prestigious venues, Parr's accolades have included the Dr. Erich Salomon Award of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Photographie (DGPh) (2006) and Photo Espania lifetime achievement prize (2008). He is the co-author of three volumes of the highly influential *The Photobook: A History*, and he is currently working on a book about the History of Chinese Photobook to be published in spring 2015. Parr has published over 80 books of his own work and edited another 30.

Martin Parr currently lives in Bristol, UK.

### About the series

Bridging the divide between art and documentary photography, Parr's work features the recurrent subjects of consumption, leisure, food culture and national eccentricities.

An iconic series on its publication in 1986 and Parr's first work in colour, *The Last Resort* portrays Britain's working classes vacating at the decaying holiday resort of Brighton, a metaphor for the country's dreams and struggles in the early 1980s. Shot in various locations across the world, *Luxury* depicts the rich showing off their wealth in different scenarios, as an epigraph to today's culture of excess and greed.



# Display views

















### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Martin Parr"

6 September - 1 November 2014

Opening Reception and Book Signing: Saturday, 6 September 2014, 4 – 6pm (Guided Tour by Artist at 3 – 4pm)

Venue: Blindspot Gallery (15/F, Po Chai Industrial Building, 28 Wong Chuk Hang Road,

Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong)

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30am to 6:30pm (Sunday and Monday by

appointment only); closed on public holidays

# "I make serious photographs disguised as entertainment. That's part of my mantra." — Martin Parr



Blindspot Gallery is delighted to present British photographer Martin Parr's first solo exhibition in Hong Kong, "Martin Parr", a diverse showcase of the work of Parr who is famous for his satirical and humourous social documentary on modern life. The exhibition spotlights select works from his recent Hong Kong project (2013) commissioned by Blindspot Gallery, alongside selections from two of his iconic past series, The Last Resort (1983 to 1985) and Luxury (1995 to present). An art book titled Hong Kong Parr will be co-published by Blindspot Gallery, riding on the opening of the artist's debut solo show in Hong Kong.

Bridging the divide between art and documentary photography, Parr's work features the recurrent subjects of consumption, leisure, food culture and national eccentricities, which take on a vibrant rendition in his *Hong Kong* project. From the faces of Mainland tourists in Hong Kong's shopping districts, local people in an entertainment whirlwind at the racecourse or the ballroom, to gory raw food in the wet market, Parr captures the intensity of urban life in Hong Kong as well as the social and cultural peculiarities of the city.

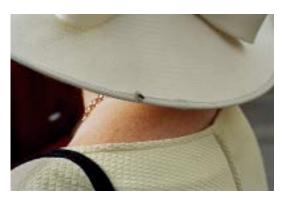
An iconic series on its publication in 1986 and Parr's first work in colour, *The Last Resort* portrays Britain's working classes vacating at the decaying holiday resort of Brighton, a metaphor for the country's dreams and struggles in the early 1980s. Shot in various locations across the world, *Luxury* depicts the rich showing off their wealth in different scenarios, as an epigraph to today's culture of excess and greed.

In collaboration with the Hong Kong International Photo Festival (HKIPF), a public talk on Parr's work will be held on 7 September at Hong Kong Central Library. In the talk, Parr will discuss his long career in photography and explain how both the world of photography and his practice have changed.

Blindspot Gallery would like to acknowledge Project Producer Ezra Emerson, Shooting Assistants Phil Shek and Paul Yeung for the *Hong Kong* project.

Martin Parr will be present at the opening reception and provide a guided tour. Media interviews are welcome and can be arranged.





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# **About Blindspot Gallery**

Blindspot Gallery is set up to bring contemporary photography, an art form that has entered the blind spot of the Hong Kong art scene to a higher degree of visibility. We feature both established and emerging photographers and artists, mainly from the region but also beyond.

For enquiries and media interviews, please contact Ms. Lesley Kwok at 2517 6238 or by email info@blindspotgallery.com

## Image captions:

**Martin Parr**, *Hong Kong*, 2013, Pigment print, 101.6 x 152.4 cm (Ed. of 5 + AP) / 50.8 x 76.2 cm (Ed. of 10 + AP)

**Martin Parr**, England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort', 1983-1985, Pigment print, 101.6 x 127 cm (Ed. of 5 + AP) / C-print, 42 x 51.5 cm (Uneditioned)

**Martin Parr**, *Ireland. Galway Races*, 1997, C-print, 101.6 x 152.4 cm (Ed. of 5 + AP) / 50.8 x 76.2 cm (Ed. of 25 + AP)

(Images courtesy of artist Martin Parr, Blindspot Gallery and Magnum Photos)



The Last Resort (1983-1985)





England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6955)

1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





(LON6959) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6964) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6968) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP

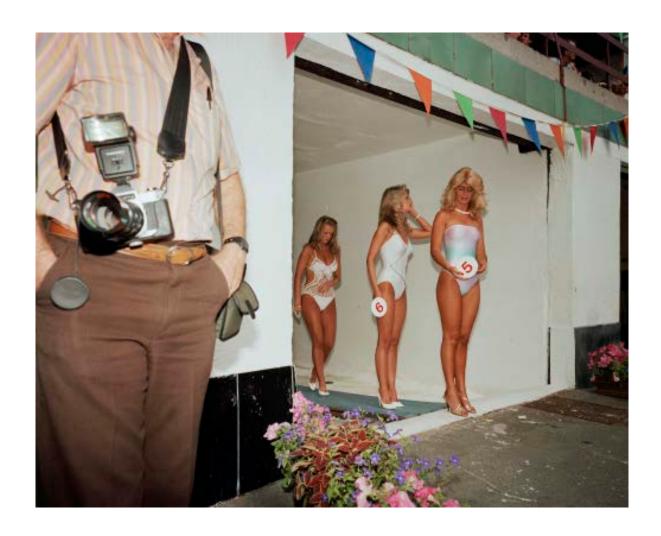




England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6971) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6975) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





(LON6977) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





(LON6978) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





(LON6979) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6985) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6989) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP

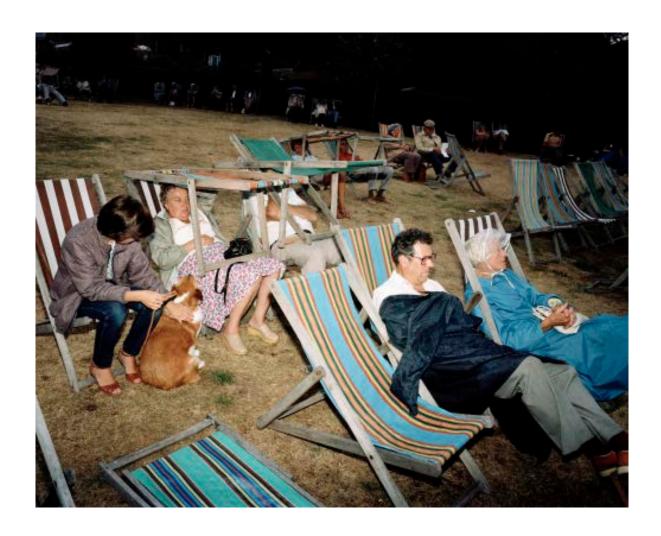




England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6990) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6991) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP





England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'. (LON6994) 1983-1985

Pigment print 101.6 x 127 cm Edition of 5 + AP



Luxury (1995-present)





# England. London.

(LON8434) 1995 C-print

Edition of 10 (including both S & L) + AP for each size

101.6 x 152.4 cm 50.8 x 76.2 cm





# Ireland. Galway Races.

(LON29302) 1997 C-print

101.6 x 152.4 cm Edition of 5 + AP

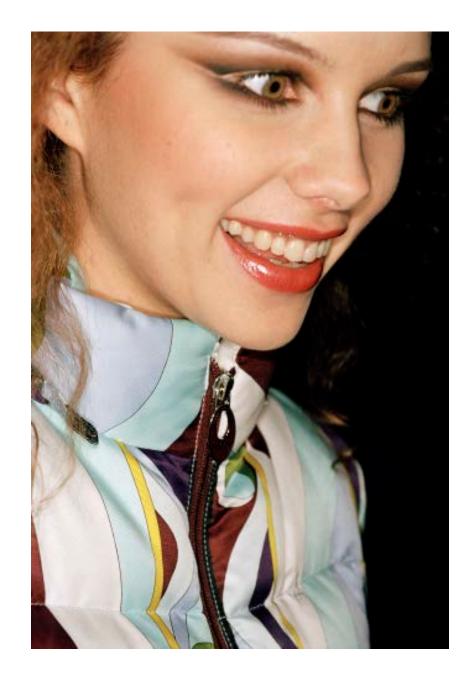




England. Ascot. (LON53509) 2003 C-print

101.6 x 152.4 cm Edition of 5 + AP





Russia. Moscow. Fashion Week.

(LON65173) 2004

Pigment print

152.4 x 101.6cm Edition of 5 + AP

76.2 x 50.8 cm Edition of 10 + AP





**Russia. Moscow. Fashion Week.** (LON65183)

2004 Pigment print

152.4 x 101.6cm Edition of 5 + AP

76.2 x 50.8 cm Edition of 10 + AP





# Russia. Moscow. The Millionaire Fair.

(LON96715) 2007 Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm Edition of 5 + AP





Russia. Moscow. The Millionaire Fair.

(LON96724) 2007

Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm Edition of 5 + AP





France. Paris. Haute Couture.

(LON97178) 2007 Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm Edition of 5 + AP





England. Ascot. (LON151803) 2013 Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm Edition of 5 + AP





# England. Ladies Day at Goodwood Racecourse.

(LON153827) 2013

Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm Edition of 5 + AP



# Martin Parr (b. 1952)

# **Selected Solo Exhibitions**

2014	"Martin Parr", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
	"Life's a Beach and Machu Picchu", Lima Photo Biennial, Centro Cultural
	Britanico, Lima, Peru
	"Martin Parr's Paris", Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, France
2013	"Only in England (The Non-Conformists) with Tony Ray-Jones", Media Space,
	London, UK
	"Martin Parr / Retrospective", Galerie Paris-Beijing, Brussels, Belgium
2012	"No Worries", FotoFreo 2012, Western Australian Maritime Museum,
	Freemantle, Australia
	"Life's a Beach", Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon, Lyon, France
	"Souvenir. Martin Parr, Photography and Collecting", Centre de Cultura
2000	Contemporània de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
2009	"Planète Parr", Jeu de Paume, Paris, France
2008	"ParrWorld", Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
2005	"Life along the A8 Corridor", The Lighthouse, Glasgow, UK "Retrospective, Martin Parr Photoworks 1971-2000", Barbican Art Gallery,
2002	London, UK
	"The Phone Show", Rocket Gallery, London, UK
1999	"Common Sense", Rocket Gallery, London, UK
1998	"Ooh La La", National Media Museum, Bradford, UK
1995	"Home and Abroad", International Photography Meeting, Plovdiv, Bulgaria
- ) ) )	"Small World", Photographer's Gallery, London, UK
1994	"From A to B", 27 Welcome Break service stations, UK
1993	"Home and Abroad", Watershed Gallery, Bristol, UK and tour
	"Bored Couples", Galerie du Jour, Paris, France and subsequent tour
	"A Year in the Life of Chew Stoke", Chew Stoke Village Hall, Somerset, UK
1986	"The Last Resort", Serpentine Gallery, London, UK
1984	"A Fair Day", Orchard Gallery, Derry, Ireland and tour
1982	"Bad Weather", Photographer's Gallery, London, UK and tour
1981	"The Non-Conformists", Camerawork, London, UK
1978	"This is Your Life", South Pennine Information Centre, Hebden Bridge, UK
1976	"Beauty Spots", Impressions Gallery, York, UK and tour
1974	"Home Sweet Home", Impressions Gallery, York, UK



# **Selected Group Exhibitions**

- "Playgrounds", Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain "Open For Business", National Media Museum Bradford, UK
- 2012 "Glam! The Performance of Style", Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
- 2009 "Georgian Spring", UferHallen, Berlin, Germany
- 2008 "No Such Thing As Society: Photography in Britain 1968-1987", Leeds City Art Gallery, Leeds, UK
  - "No Such Thing As Society: Photography in Britain 1968-1987", Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery, Cumbria, UK
  - "Street and Studio", Tate Modern, London, UK
- 2006 "Click Double Click", Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany; Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels, Belgium
- 2003 "Cruel & Tender", Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany; Tate Modern, London, UK
- 1996 "Who's Looking at the Family?", Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK
- 1991 "British Photography from the Thatcher Years", Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 1989 "The Art of Photography", Royal Academy, London, UK
- 1986 "British Contemporary Photography", Houston Foto Festival, Houston, USA
- 1978 "Art for Society", Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK
- 1973 "Serpentine 73", Serpentine Gallery, London, UK
- 1972 "Butlins by the Sea (with Daniel Meadows)", Impressions Gallery, York, UK
- 1971 "Students of Manchester Polytechnic", Kendal Milne Department Store, Manchester, UK

### **Selected Awards**

- 2014 Lucie Awards Honoree: Achievement in Documentary
- 2008 Photo Espania lifetime achievement prize

Honorary Degree, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

The Royal Photographic Society - Centenary Award

The Photographic Society of Japan - International Award

Photo Espania Award for Photographic achievement

- 2007 2006 Kraszna Krausz Book Award Photobook, A History, Vol 1 and 2 with Gerry Badger
- 2006 Honorary Master's degree, University for the Creative Arts, UK
  Moscow House of Photography International photography prize
  Dr. Erich Salomon Award of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Photographie (DGPh)
- 2005 The Royal Photographic Society Honorary Fellowship
- 2003 Photo Espania book prize Martin Parr, by Val Williams
- 1995 Wilkins Photography Prize



### Collections

Archive of Modern Conflict, London, UK

Arts Council of Great Britain, UK

Arts Council of Ireland, Ireland

Australian National Gallery, Australia

Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, France

British Council, UK

Calderdale Council, Halifax, UK

Gemeentemuseum, the Netherlands

George Eastman House, Rochester, USA

Guernsey Museums, The Channel Islands

High Museum of Art, Atlanta, USA

Irish Museum of Modern Art, Ireland

Kodak, France

Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo, Japan

Minneapolis Institute of Arts, USA

Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany

Museum for Fotokunst, Odense, Denmark

Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA

Museum of Modern Art, Tampere, Finland

Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan

National Centre for Contemporary Arts, Moscow

National Museum of Fine Arts, Buenos Aires

Paris Audiovisual, France

Philadelphia Museum of Art, USA

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, USA

Santa Barbara Museum of Art, USA

Seagrams Collection, New York, USA

Sprengel Museum, Hannover, Germany

Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Tate Modern, London, UK

The J. Paul Getty Museum, USA

The Public, West Bromwich, UK

Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

Union Bank of Finland, Helsinki, Finland

Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, UK

Yokohama Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan

