

# New York based **Janette Beckman**, launches her UK **'Punk Rock Hip Hop Mash-Up'** exhibition in London

19 – 31 January 2016

Punctum Gallery, Chelsea College of Arts, Milbank

Janette Beckman's photography spans Punk in London and Hip Hop in New York.

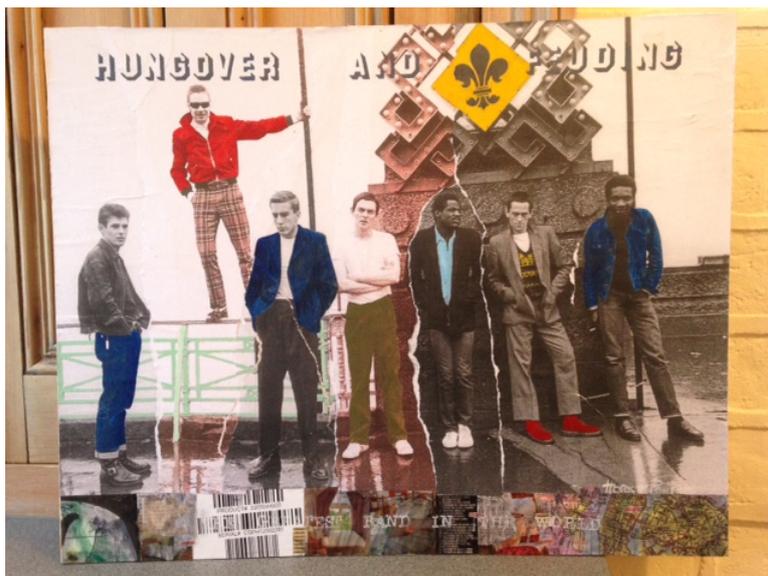
In 2014, she launched her US Mash-Up series conceived with artist and designer Cey Adams, combining her iconic Hip Hop images with many of New York's best-known graffiti artists.

Cey selected the participating artists, and Janette let each artist choose one of her images to reinterpret in their own distinct style, creating new works of art. Her US Mash-Up images have been exhibited at the Museum of the City of New York, Le Salon - Paris, Fold Gallery - Iceland and Yale.

For the launch of her UK Mash-Up series, Janette has decided to expand the collection to include artists, designers and musicians who will be reinterpreting portraits from her legendary British Punk era archive.

British artists taking part in the Mash-Up include Horace Panter, Pam Hogg, Dan Holliday, Christos Tolera, Hattie Stewart, Ian Wright, Ian "Swifty" Swift, Chris Sullivan, Kosmo Vinyl and Marco Aurele Vecchione.

The exhibition will also include Janette's iconic images of the Punk Rock and Hip Hop scenes. Signed limited edition prints will be on for sale from £150.



Horace Panter's Mash-Up artwork from Janette Beckman's photo of him and the rest of the Specials at Southend

Notes:

## **JANETTE BECKMAN**

Janette Beckman has always brought a 'realness' to her work. Typically her photographs are not concert shots or stylised studio images, but are captured on the street where popular culture comes from. Attracted to rebel cultures, she is the only photographer that extensively documented punk rock in London and Hip Hop in New York.

Brought up in London, Janette grew up listening to Motown and went to art school. In 1977 she met Vivien Goldman, the then Features Editor at Sounds magazine who commissioned her to shoot Siouxsie and the Banshees that night. Janette went on to become a prolific and much published photographer. Working for Melody Maker, the Face and record companies, she documented the emerging Punk, 2-Tone, Mods and Rockabilly scene, the fans and the bands such as the Clash, Sex Pistols, Police, the Jam, the Specials and UB40.

In late 1982, she photographed the first Hip Hop tour to come to London and moved to New York just in time to document the early, up and coming Hip Hop scene. Her street style worked really well in this new context as both New York and early Hip Hop had parallels with London and Punk Rock, both were cultures born on city streets by youth who felt the need to be heard.

Janette photographed many of the seminal figures of Hip Hop, from legendary DJs Afrika Bambaataa, Grand Master Flash to lyrical heavyweight MCs including Rakim, KRS One, Guru, and Big Daddy Kane. Besides editorial photography, Janette was commissioned by the new Hip Hop labels to photograph bands like Salt n Pepa, EPMD, Slick Rick and Run DMC for their record covers.

While Janette is still a very active photographer, her photographs of the rebel cultures, Punk and Hip Hop scenes, from 1976 until 1990 are a remarkable archive. The photographs provide a window into the maturation of two cultural movements born on the streets of London and New York and embraced around the globe.

The exhibition will be open every day from 11am to 7pm every day from 19 January to 31 January.

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## **Punctum**

Embracing the counter culture and next generation, Punctum is the freshest international art gallery on the scene. We are thrilled to be hosting the legend Janette Beckman for our maiden voyage. Slap bang next to Tate Britain, this free to use space is open for proposals during this exhilarating year.

For more information contact:  
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