

**Pre-Event PRESS RELEASE:**  
Aicon Gallery (New York) Presents Works by Raghu Rai,  
the World-Acclaimed Photographer

**Raghu Rai – A Retrospective (February 18<sup>th</sup> – March 19<sup>th</sup>)**

Aicon Gallery, New York

Opening Reception: Feb 18, 2011

Lecture and Discussion with Jennifer Tripp, Magnum Representative: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

General Reception: 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Aicon Gallery New York presents a solo exhibition of works by world-renowned Magnum photographer, Raghu Rai. The retrospective will be Rai's first major solo exhibition in New York.

*"Over the centuries, so much has melded into India, that it's not really one country, and it's not one culture. It is crowded with crosscurrents of many religions, beliefs, cultures and their practices that may appear incongruous. But India keeps alive the inner spirit of her own civilization with all its contradictions." - Raghu Rai*

Following the critically acclaimed retrospective on Raghu Rai in 2010 at Aicon Gallery-London, which received glowing reviews from The Observer and The Times among others, we are pleased to bring this exclusive solo exhibition, including additional recent works, to our New York space. The successful exhibition with our London gallery brought about Aicon's partnership with the New Art Exchange (Nottingham, UK) which crystallized Rai's first UK museum solo show entitled **Invocation to India** (29 January – 30 April 2011), an essential part of the FORMAT International Photography Festival. The larger theme of the festival is **Right Here Right Now: exposures from the public realm** and the emphasis "bridges everything from journalism, documentary, art, film and other genres, the essential ingredients being intuition, observation and the ability to compose with space, time and place," and Raghu Rai's significance in this realm is perfectly appropriate and fitting.



**Raghu Rai**

Dockyard Kolkata

Digital scan of photographic negative on archival paper

1990

20 x 30 in.

There is much to be said about the historically important photographer whose prolific career has spanned nearly half a century. Rai has focused on candid snapshots of India that masterfully capture the country's continuing regional, cultural, and political transformations. Rai's photographs challenge viewers to confront a country where temporalities merge people, objects, animals, and buildings collide in a majestic visual symphony. His works are extracted from a complex external reality such that, in Raghu Rai's words, "When I slice out a space, a moment, it should be done with such simplicity and faithfulness that when I give it back to life, life starts moving and flowing around it without a stutter".

**Raghu Rai – A Retrospective** will display works from as early as the 1970's to his present day projects, the great majority of which will be shown for the very first time in the United States. Four themes in his current works may be identified as "Rocks", "Backdrops", "Clouds," and "Trees" which incorporate photomontage. Past works which encapsulate his canonical style will be shown. The retrospective aims to capture both the past and present with an emphasis on evolution and development regarding both the artist and subjects.

Born in 1942 in a village in present-day Pakistan, Rai's illustrious career has bestowed him many national and international awards from a diverse array of publics, including the arts, journalism, and governments, such as being nominated in 1977 by Henri Cartier-Bresson to Magnum Photos; receiving the Padamshree Award from India (1971) and L'ordre des Arts et des Lettres from France (2008); publishing in magazines and newspapers including Time, Life, GEO, New York Times, Sunday Times, Newsweek, The Independent, and The New Yorker among others; authoring over twenty books on his life and works; and serving as a jurist for the World Press Photo and the UNESCO's International Photo contest.

The following pages are sample images from his show. Hi-resolution images appropriate for print publication are available upon request. *Selections are subject to change at time of exhibition.* For all media inquiries, please contact [kai@aicongallery.com](mailto:kai@aicongallery.com), (646) 205 2704.



**Raghu Rai**

Backdrop Series #7

Digital scan of photographic negative on archival paper

2009

20 x 30 in.



RAGHU RAI

CLOUDS SERIES I

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

30 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI  
CLOUDS SERIES III  
2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)  
DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER  
20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

CLOUDS SERIES I

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

30 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

CLOUDS SERIES IV

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

CLOUDS SERIES V

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

CLOUDS SERIES VI

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

30 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

CLOUDS SERIES VII

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

SHADOW TREE, HAMPI

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

TREES I

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BREEZY TREES

2009 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

TREES AT NIGHT I

2009 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

TREES AT NIGHT II

2009 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



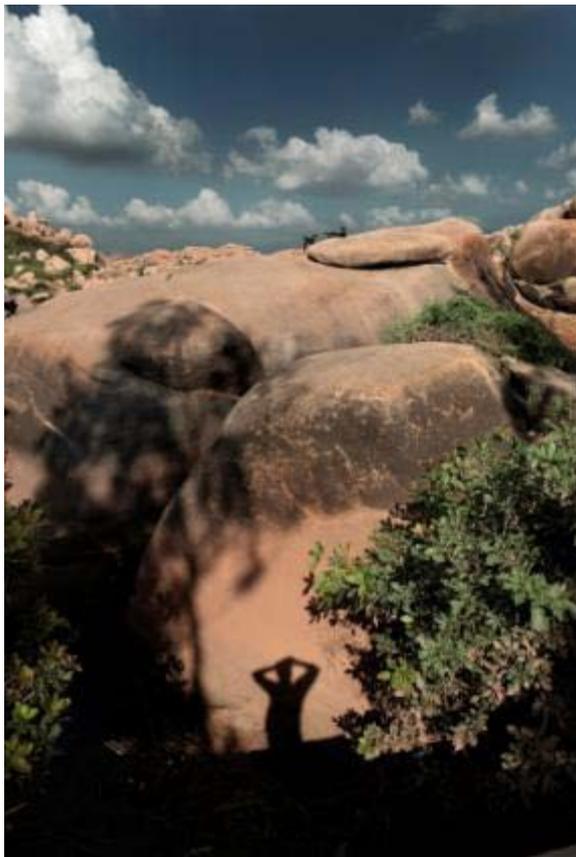
RAGHU RAI

TREES IN RAIN, MEHRAULI

2009 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

30 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

TREES II

2009 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

30 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

SELF PORTRAIT I

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

SELF PORTRAIT II

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

ROCKS SERIES I

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

TREES II

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

30 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

ROCKS SERIES III

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

30 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

ROCKS SERIES IV

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



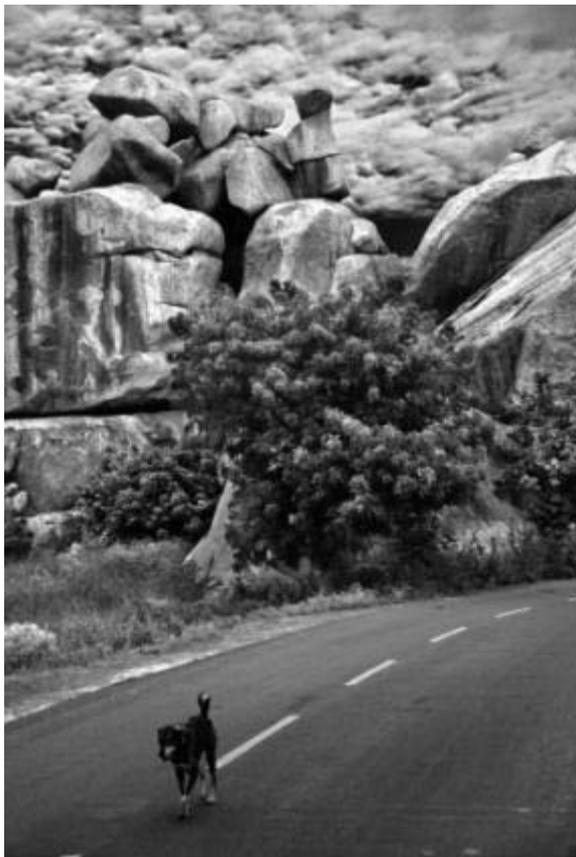
RAGHU RAI

ROCKS SERIES V

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

ROCKS SERIES VI

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

30 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

ROCKS SERIES VII

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BACKDROP SERIES 1

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BACKDROP SERIES II

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BACKDROP SERIES III

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BACKDROP SERIES IV

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BACKDROP SERIES V

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BACKDROP SERIES VI

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BACKDROP SERIES VII

2010 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

DOCKYARD, KOLKATA

1990

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

EVENING PRAYER JAMA MASJID, DELHI

1982

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

STILLED BY THE RAIN, GURAGON

2000 (Eds. 3/10 & 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

WOMAN CART PUSHER

1979 (Eds. 4/10 & 5/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

THE DAY BEFORE... AYODHYA 6 DEC.

1992 (Eds. 4/10 & 5/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

PREPARING FOR DURGA POOJA, KOLKATA

1999 (Eds. 4/10 & 5/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

GANPATI CELEBRATION

2001 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

FLOWER MARKET KOLKATA

2004 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

FLOWER MARKET KOLKATA

2005 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

BUILDING HYDERABAD HIGHWAY

2005 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

MORNING ACTIVITIES ALONG MULICK GHAT, KOLKATA

1990 (Eds. 5/10 & 6/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 30 IN.



RAGHU RAI

DUST STORM CREATED BY A VIP HELICOPTER

1975

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 62 IN.



RAGHU RAI

ALL EYES AND EARS FOR THE LEADER AT CHOURANGHEE, KOLKATA

2006 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 50 IN.



RAGHU RAI

SHOWING CAMEL'S TEETH

2004 (Eds. 3/10 & 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 54 IN.



RAGHU RAI

VISITORS AT KANYAKUMARI

2006 (Eds. 3/10 & 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 52 IN.



RAGHU RAI

TURKMAN GATE

2005 (Eds. 2/10 - 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 x 52 IN.



RAGHU RAI

AT MANIKARNIKA GHAT, VARANASI (WHERE HINDUS BURY THEIR DEAD)

2004 (Eds. 3/10 & 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

20 X 54 IN.



RAGHU RAI

TRAFFIC CONSTABLE AND HORSE BUGGY, KOLKATA

2004 (Eds. 2/10 – 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

54 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

SLEEPING DREAMS (TAGORE CASTLE STREET, KOLKATA)

2004 (Eds. 3/10 & 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

54 X 20 IN.



RAGHU RAI

FEEDING PIGEONS (HOOGLY, KOLKATA)

2005 (Eds. 2/10 - 4/10)

DIGITAL SCAN OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE ON ARCHIVAL PAPER

54 X 20 IN.