



**MOURLOT EDITIONS AND AIR FRANCE
CELEBRATE 2019 CANNES FILM FESTIVAL AT JFK
March 25th, 2019 – May 31st, 2019**

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New York, NY – March 25th, 2019 | Ahead of the 72nd Cannes Film Festival, Air France and Mourlot Editions present *We Met in Cannes*, an exhibition of portraits of American and French film stars realized by photographer Stéphane Kossmann at JFK Terminal One’s newly renovated Air France Business and La Première lounge.

What: *We Met in Cannes* by Stéphane Kossmann presented by Mourlot Editions and Air France
Where: JFK Terminal One’s newly renovated Air France Business and La Première lounge
When: March 25th – May 31st, 2019
Pictures for media: upon request

Kossmann is not like any of the other 400 press photographers who flock the most awaited red carpet of the Cannes Film Festival. In his portraits, the stars never look straight at the camera; the sincerity of their emotions, their bewilderment as they walk up the steps of the Palais des Festivals, and their candors are artistically transferred in black and white. It’s as if Kossmann had created a separate universe for them, away from the glossy magazine pages.

Franco-American gallerist Eric Mourlot and Air France are showing a selection of 19 photographic portraits of American and French actresses and actors, including Gabriel Garcia Barnal, Michel Bouquet & Philippe Noiret, Jean Carmet, François Cluzet, Béatrice Dalle, Julie Delpie, Catherine Deneuve, Dominique Farrugia, Morgan Freeman, Andy Garcia & Robin Wright, Isabelle Huppert, Nicole Kidman, Lambert Wilson & Monica Bellucci, Julianne Moore, Philippe Noiret, Sean Penn, Brad Pitt, and Karin Viard.



Julianne Moore by Stéphane Kossmann - Air France Lounge | JFK



Stéphane Kossmann in Cannes

“Kossmann likes to manipulate the light in tandem with the lines and forms of both the human body and buildings, creating a unique style that merges characteristics of photography and painting,” says **Eric Mourlot**, founder of the eponymous New York gallery and of Mourlot Editions, a digital platform, on which a series of Kossmann’s photographs are available for sale. “Kossmann’s flexibility with light is very much reminiscent of his influence by Rembrandt and Rothko,” Mourlot adds.

Among the actresses presented in *We Met in Cannes*, is French actress Isabelle Adjani who starred in the 1994 Patrice Chéreau movie, “La Reine Margot” and would eventually leave Cannes with the award for Best Actress.



Isabelle Adjani by Stéphane Kossmann

In 1994, Kossmann had been photographing on the red carpet for five years—his work had started thanks to his mentor and friend Peter Knapp who commissioned him a series of pictures for a French magazine in 1989. “At first,” Kossmann explains, “I wanted to do like my colleagues and only take pictures of talents looking straight at my camera.” But then arrived Adjani along with the film director Chéreau and fellow actor Daniel Auteuil.

“I had the profiles of the three of them in front of me,” Kossmann recalls. “Adjani’s visage was especially white, and she absorbed so much of the light that I pushed on my camera and took the picture.” When Kossmann developed the black and white film a while after, he stared at the portrait and realized this is what he was looking for.

Thirty-one festivals later, with an average of 20 “climbs” on the red carpet and ten to 15 portraits each time, Kossmann has created an historic collection of more than 7,000 artworks of comedians, producers, politicians, singers, and other celebrities who all lived through the emotions of Cannes.

“The Air France lounge at JFK is often a very first stop for American movie stars and leaders on their way to Cannes,” Air France-KLM USA Vice President & General Manager **Stéphane Ormand** says. “Some of them will be able to travel back in time through Kossmann’s photographic art before sleeping aboard our plane crossing the ocean.”

The 2019 Cannes Film Festival will take place May 14-25th with Mexican film director Alejandro González Iñárritu as President of the Jury.

Social Media: @airfrance #AirFrance |
@mourolotéditions #mourolotéditions |
#WeMetInCannes #StephaneKossmann



Vincent Lindon and Isabelle Huppert by Stéphane Kossmann

About Eric Mourlot and Mourlot Editions: **Eric Mourlot** was born in 1970 in New York City while his father Jacques was running the studio on Bank Street. After two years, the family relocated back to Paris for Jacques to take over the main studio. It was here where he, as a child, began to spend his evenings learning various printing techniques with the help of artists including Marc Chagall, Alexander Calder, and Joan Miró. Eric participated in the printing process, cleaning off the machine rollers and developing a keen sense for his surroundings as a source of inspiration and creativity. He quickly became passionate about the relationships and collaborations between artists, printers, gallerists, and publishers leading him to open his first gallery on Newbury Street in Boston in 1991. In 2005, Galerie Mourlot relocated to its current Upper East Side location in NYC where Eric continues to provide a platform for artists to create history. Mourlot Editions is the legacy of his family’s print shop, the next chapter of the story. An avenue of expression where Eric can display both the works and histories of the artists his father and grandfather created with, as well as expose the continued relationship between printers and artists through the process and art form of lithography.

About Stéphane Kossmann: Born in Tours, France, **Stéphane Kossmann** studied the art of photography at the Shoreline Community College in Seattle. He has since received international recognition and appraisal for his work photographing celebrities at the Cannes Film Festival for the past 31 years. His work, influenced by the painters Rembrandt and Mark Rothko, and the photographer Albert Watson, plays with light in tandem with the lines and forms of the human body, and therefore, consists of a unique style that merges the characteristics of photography with those of painting. His fascination with crowds, how they form, and what and whom they are composed of, has raised and highlighted many important themes in his work including globalization, individualization, and diversity. Stéphane has produced three books, *Black & White Carpet*, *Observations sur les marches de Cannes (Observations on the Steps at Cannes)* and *We met in Cannes*. His photographs have been exhibited in galleries and at film festivals, including the French Alliance in NYC in 2014, the American Film Festival in Deauville, France in 2007, the FNAC gallery in Madrid, Spain in 2006, the Edward Mitterrand Gallery in Switzerland in 2004, and the Geneva International Film Festival in Switzerland in 1996. Cannes served as his massive, outdoor gallery in 2004 and 2005, when his photographs were displayed on 100 square meter posters around the city. His work also received international attention for being showcased in 2006 in Paris during the European Month of Photography, a festival that takes place in November only every other year.