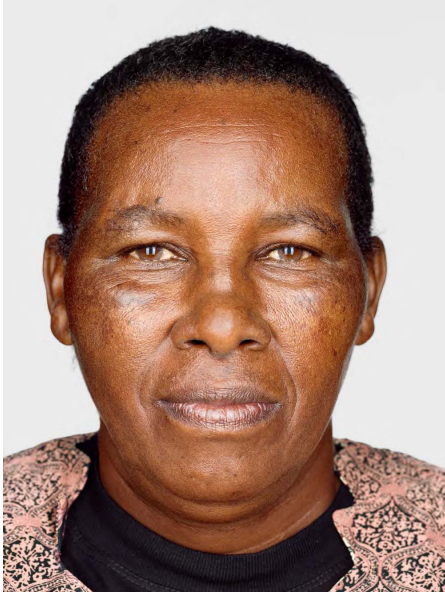


Martin Schoeller

Faces Of Change

March 1 - April 20, 2018



Dorcas Kaninin Wambue, Esoko
Archival pigment print, custom maple frame in white
43 x 35 in | 109 x 89 cm, 2017

UNIX Gallery, in conjunction with Acumen, is pleased to present *Faces Of Change*, a solo exhibition by German photographer Martin Schoeller. This exhibition marks the strong continuation of Acumen's mission to tackle worldwide poverty issues and empower the poor to participate in the global economy with strength and dignity, a mission that is visually represented by Schoeller's imagery. *Faces Of Change* opens to the public with a reception on March 8 from 7-9 PM. Proceeds from the exhibition will benefit Acumen's global programs.

A global nonprofit, Acumen invests in organizations that deliver affordable goods and services to improve the lives of the poor, as well as in emerging leaders on the front lines of creating positive change in their communities. First established in 2001, CEO and Founder Jacqueline Novogratz has built a powerful network through Acumen of more than 108 social enterprises in countries including Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, Pakistan, India, Colombia, and the United States. Together, these companies have brought basic services like affordable education, health care, clean water, energy and sanitation to more than 200 million people.

In May 2016, Martin Schoeller traveled to the field to meet Acumen's customers to give voice and visibility to some of the poorest communities in the world.

Using his iconic austere yet gripping style of photography, Schoeller created up close and personal portraits of Acumen's customers, pushing audiences to see the poor as individual human beings while simultaneously changing the visual narrative of how "the poor" are depicted. These portraits bring forth the inner and outer beauty and dignity of his subjects. This unique series coincided with #SeePeople, a campaign aimed to change the way the world sees the poor and how poverty is portrayed. #SeePeople was launched in conjunction with the UN's International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, with activations across New York City and around the world on social media.

Martin Schoeller (German, b. 1968) is an award-winning portrait photographer renowned for extreme close up portraits. Familiar faces are treated with the same levels of scrutiny as the un-famous. The unknown and the too-well-known meet on a level platform that enables comparison, where a viewer's existing notions of celebrity, value, and honesty are challenged. Growing up in Germany, he was deeply influenced by August Sander's countless portraits of the poor, the working class, and the bourgeoisie, as well as by Bernd and Hilla Becher, who spawned a school known as the Becher-Schüler. Schoeller's close-up portraits emphasize, in equal measure, the facial features, both studied and unstudied, of his subjects—world leaders and indigenous groups, movie stars and the homeless, athletes and artists—leveling them in an inherently democratic fashion.

Schoeller's work gained recognition for its strong visual impact and since 1998, his work has appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *National Geographic*, *TIME*, *GQ*, *Esquire*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *The New York Times Magazine*, among other publications. Schoeller joined Richard Avedon as a contributing portrait photographer at the *New Yorker* in 1999. His portraits are exhibited and collected internationally, including in several solo exhibitions in Europe and the United States and are included in the permanent collection of the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Schoeller's sixth monograph "Close" is being published by Steidl this May and coincides with a new traveling museum exhibition opening at the Netherlands Fotomuseum in Rotterdam.

Faces Of Change will be on view at UNIX Gallery from March 8 through April 20, 2018. UNIX Gallery is located at 532 W. 24th Street, New York, NY 10011. Telephone: 212-209-1572. Website: www.unixgallery.com. Email: info@unixgallery.com. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM. For more information or further inquires please contact Robert Berry at robert@unixgallery.com or by phone at 212-209-1572.