## **Arnaud Maggs**



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Internationally acclaimed photographer Arnaud Maggs is best known for detailed, grid-like portrait studies that betray a stark intimacy. These include 64 Portrait Studies (1978) and 48 Views (1981-83), a series that included such Canadian celebrities as Yousuf Karsh and Leonard Cohen. In 1973 after a career as a graphic designer (Maggs designed the album cover for Jazz at Massey Hall released by Charles Mingus in 1955), Arnaud Maggs decided to become a visual artist at the age of 47. For nearly 40 years his work has been marked by questions of mortality and reverberates with historical and anthropological meaning. This first career-overview showcases his monumental photographic installations, documentation of found ephemera, books, typography,

classification systems and diagrammatic drawings. Among the many projects featured are: his internationally acclaimed portraits of Joseph Beuys (1989); Notification (1996), photographs of the envelopes used for the mailing of death notices in 19th century France; and Nomenclature (2006), photographs of two seminal studies on color published in the 19th century. Published to accompany the National Gallery of Canada's major 2012 retrospective, this abundantly illustrated monograph features two original essays, an interview with the artist, and a commented biography detailing four decades of a singular artistic practice.