



**Janette Beckman**  
(British, born 1959)

## Biography

British-born photographer Janette Beckman began her career at the dawn of punk rock working for publications such as *The Face* and *Melody Maker*. She shot bands from *The Clash* to *Boy George* as well as three *Police* album covers and documented the youth culture of the era.

Moving to NYC in 1983, Beckman was drawn to the underground hip-hop scene where she photographed the pioneers of the culture such as *RUN DMC*, *Slick Rick*, *Salt-N-Pepa*, *Grandmaster Flash*, *LL Cool J*, and *Big Daddy Kane*.

Beckman has published five books: *'Rap, Portraits & Lyrics of a Generation of Black Rockers'*, *'Made In The UK The Music of Attitude 1977-1983'*, *'The Breaks, Stylin' and Profilin' 1982- 1990'*, *'El Hoyo Maravilla'* and *'The MashUp, Hip Hop Photos Remixed by Iconic Graffiti Artists'*.

Her work has been shown in galleries and museums worldwide including the *Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*, *The Annenberg Space for Photography, Los Angeles* and *Kunsthall Rotterdam*, amongst others. Janette Beckman's work is in the permanent collections of the *Smithsonian Museum*, the *Museum of the City of New York*, the *Musée des Civilisations de l'Europe, France*, and the *Nakamura Keith Haring Collection, Japan*.

Her dedication to documenting the outliers of society remains evident in the works she creates surrounding subjects such as Manhattan based dirt bike gang, *The Go Hard Boyz*, an illegal girl fight club in *Brownsville, New York*, and the hard-nosed rodeo riders of the *River City Rodeo in Omaha, Nebraska*.

Beckman's commercial work includes assignments for clients such as *Apple*, *Dior*, *Levi's*, *Schott*, and *Shinola*.

### Selected Collections

National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, USA  
Museum of the City of New York (MCNY), New York City, USA  
British National Portrait Gallery, London, United Kingdom  
Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A), London, United Kingdom  
The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Cleveland, USA

### Selected Exhibitions

2024

Solo: *Rebels*, Foam Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2023

Fotografiska, New York City, USA  
Cortona on the Move Photo Festival, Italy  
Photoville, New York City, USA

2022

Fahey Klein Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2021

Solo, Fotografiska, New York City, USA

2020

*Contact High: A Visual History of Hip-Hop*, International Center of Photography, New York City, USA

2019

*Street Dreams, How Hip Hop Took Over Fashion*, Kunsthal Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
*Icons of Style: A Century of Fashion*, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA  
*Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop*, Annenberg Space for Photography, Los Angeles, USA

2018

Solo: *The Mash-Up Hip Hop Photos Remixed by Iconic Graffiti Artists*, Fahey Klein Gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
Solo: *Extraordinary Rebels*, And' Studio, Milan, Italy  
*The Elements of Style, The 80's Graffiti & Hip Hop Scenes of New York*, Seoul Sup Art Center, Seoul, Korea  
*Beat Positive*, Getty images Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2017

*Hip Hop Culture New York*, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Marseille, France

2015

*Hip Hop Revolution*, Museum of the City of New York, New York City, USA

2014

Solo: *Harlem Go Hard Boy*, Harver Bank Gallery, Omaha, USA  
Solo: *Rebel Cultures*, HVW8 Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2013

Solo: *Made in the UK, Stile Punk alla Thatcher*, Ono Arte Contemporanea, Bologna, Italy  
Youth Culture' Caracas, Venezuela

2011

*Catch The Beat, The Roots of Punk & Hip Hop*, Morrison Hotel Gallery, New York City, USA

2009

Solo: *Street Styles, Punk, Rap*, Tower Records Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
Solo: *Rebels, Punk & Hip Hop*, Blender Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2008

Dover Street Market, London, United Kingdom  
Collette, Paris, France  
Solo: *The Breaks*, PowerHouse Gallery, New York City, USA

2007

Solo: *Made in the UK*, Paul Smith, London, United Kingdom

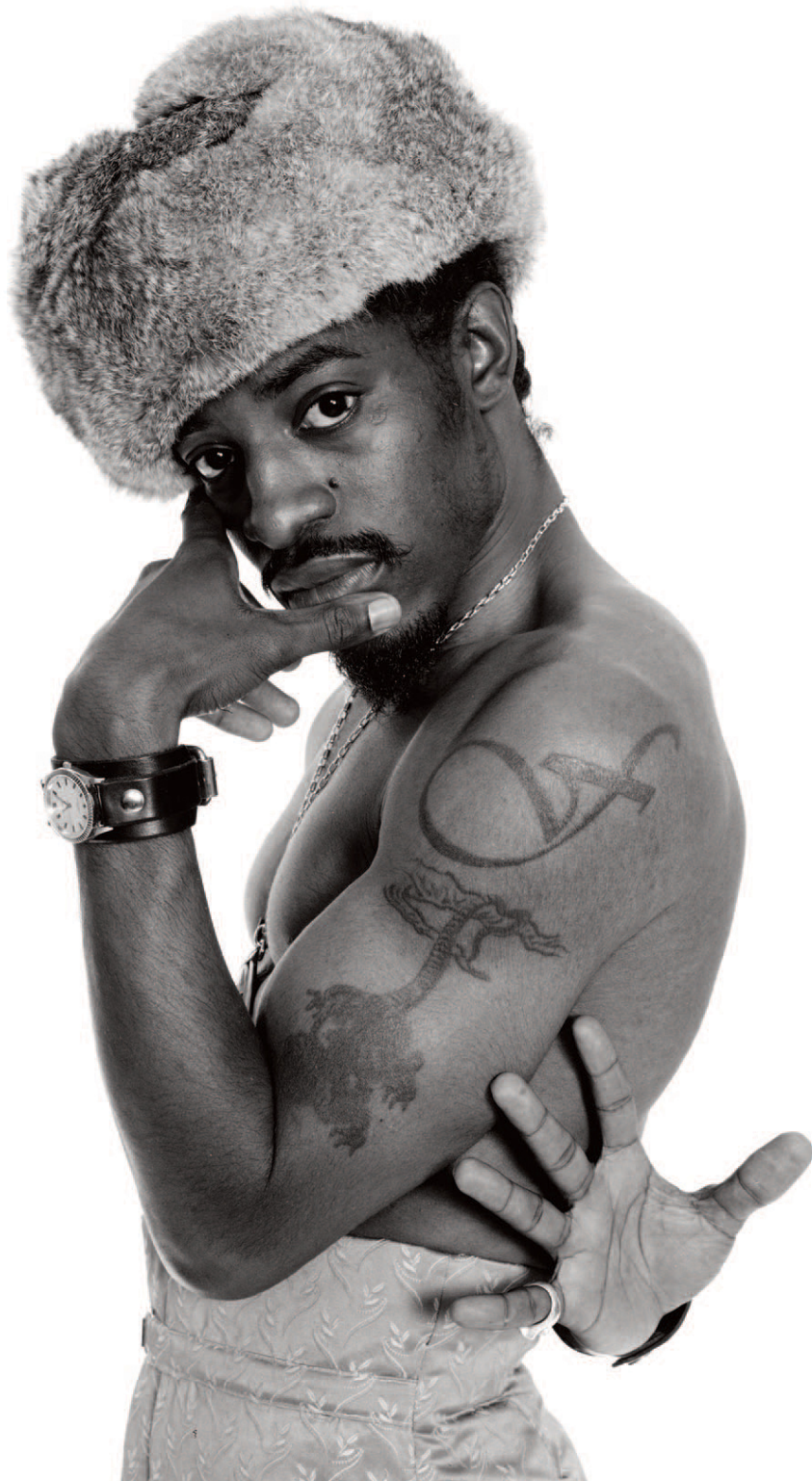
### Upcoming group shows

2024

ICP Street portraits group show, New York City, USA  
212 Photography, Istanbul, Turkey

2025

National Portrait Gallery, London, United Kingdom



## Books

2022

*Rebels: From Punk to Dior*

2018

*The Mash Up: Hip-Hop Photos Remixed by Iconic Graffiti Artists*

2011

*El Hoyo Maravilla*

2008

*The Breaks Stylin' & Profilin' 1982-1990*

2005

*Made in the UK The Music of Attitude 1977-1983*

1991

*Rap! Portraits and Lyrics of a Generation of Black Rockers*