

P R E S S R E L A S E

GREGORY BOJORQUEZ – Hang Time

Opening: Thursday, 9 June 2022, 5 – 9 pm

Duration: 10 June – 17 September 2022

Location: Gallery Bene Taschen, Moltkestrasse 81, 50674 Cologne



Friday Night at Monk's, Twickenham Ave, East L.A., 1997, © Gregory Bojorquez, Courtesy Galerie Bene Taschen

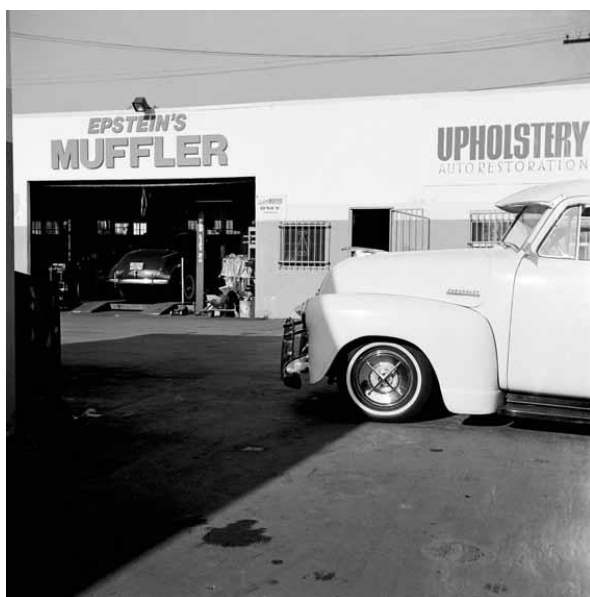
On 9 June 2022, **Galerie Bene Taschen** in Cologne opens the new solo show ***Hang Time*** by **Gregory Bojorquez**. The American photographer **Gregory Bojorquez** started taking pictures in the 1990s, documenting everyday life in East Los Angeles, where he was born in 1972. He quickly became known for his images of local subcultures, such as skaters, car tuners, and gang members. *Hang Time* shows his friends and neighbors living *la vida loca*, the crazy life, expressed in their tattoos, clothes, graffiti, and more.

Multicultural East L.A., an area marked by joy, violence, and death, was known at the time for its high crime rate and its many parallel societies. Bojorquez's works offer a fascinating look at the complexities of this part of the city. As a documentarian, he draws on his personal connections in the community, photographing an insular world where loyalty and personal bonds

are highly valued. With his analogue camera, he captures the realities of people whose lives often receive little attention because of their social environment.

Alongside images depicting carefree yard parties, friendship, love, and family, Bojorquez's images often capture moments of death and personal loss. To this day, Bojorquez continues to document the multifaceted and changing face of life in East Los Angeles.

The book *Eastsiders*, from which many works are on display in *Hang Time*, was published by LITTLE BIG MAN in 2022. On 10 June 2022, Bojorquez's works will also be shown at the Heppenheim Kunstverein.



Epstein's Muffler Shop, Whittier Blvd., Montebello, 1998 (left) | Penn Park, Whittier, 1997 (right)
both photos: © Gregory Bojorquez, Courtesy Galerie Bene Taschen

About Galerie Bene Taschen: Founded in 2011 in Cologne, Galerie Bene Taschen represents some of the world's leading artists in contemporary photography and painting. The gallery is committed to promoting its international artists through regular participation in major art fairs such as Paris Photo and Art Cologne, as well as an extensive exhibition program. In 2011, Galerie Bene Taschen made its debut with LA photographer *Gregory Bojorquez*; in 2013, it began working with *Joseph Rodriguez* from New York. In 2014, acclaimed Berlin-based photographer *Miron Zownir* joined the gallery roster, followed by American photographers *Jamel Shabazz* and *Arlene Gottfried* from New York in 2015. The gallery has been pleased to represent New York-based photographer *Jeff Mermelstein* and German painter *Charlotte Trossbach* since autumn 2017 and has been working with renowned photographers *Sebastião Salgado* and *Larry Fink* since autumn/winter 2019.

Contact for information about the gallery and the artworks:

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Hours: Wednesday–Friday, 1–6 pm, Saturday, 11 am–4 pm, and by appointment

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