

# Alec Soth's Archived Blog

February 11, 2007

Gareth McConnell

Filed under: [artists](#) — alecsothblog @ 11:09 pm



Untitled (Bedroom Rainbow), 2003-06, by Gareth McConnell

Today's [New York Times Magazine](#) featured portraits of actors. But more interesting than the actors was the diversity of photographers used. Along with the regular editorial heavy-hitters (Dan Winters, Richard Burbridge) there were fine art photographers (Rineke Dijkstra, Katy Grannan, Andres Serrano) fashion photographers (David Sims, Robert Maxwell) and even a photojournalist (Paolo Pellegrin).

One of the standouts in the portfolio is a lesser-known photographer: Gareth McConnell. Check out his his fantastic work [here](#).

## 14 Comments

1. Damn you, Soth!

I was going to post about that spread myself and there you go beating me to the punch. Now what is there to say but: Gee, I liked them too. (And Gareth doesn't seem to have a gallery in NYC either, hmmm.)

Anyhow, Mr. Blogger King, aren't you supposed to be out takin' pictures or something?

*Comment by [Jen Bekman](#) — February 12, 2007 @ [1:51 am](#)*

2. I was firing up a post about that spread, too, but you've got to be johnny-on-the-spot with posts these days to beat the crowd. Plus, I just watched "War Photographer" last night, the documentary about James Nachtwey, and I decided to steer clear from celeb photography for a while.

*Comment by [Todd W.](#) — February 12, 2007 @ [3:55 am](#)*

3. Jen, can't I have one quiet Sunday at home? Todd, what did you think of War Photographer?

*Comment by [Alec Soth](#) — February 12, 2007 @ [7:33 am](#)*

4. Really nice to see Mr. McConnell getting some recognition over in the States!

*Comment by [Sherman](#) — February 12, 2007 @ [7:42 am](#)*

5. yes definitely. gareth mcconnell is amazing. his photographs have a great depth to them and when you read about him as a person and his life you kind of understand why.

*Comment by [Owen](#) — February 12, 2007 @ [9:11 am](#)*

6. this photograph is stunning!

*Comment by [davin](#) — February 12, 2007 @ [11:55 am](#)*

7. Maybe just one. But you know, you're so entertaining when you're jet-setting.

*Comment by [Jen Bekman](#) — February 12, 2007 @ [5:08 pm](#)*

8. Also check out Philip-Lorca diCorcia and his portfolio in the new W magazine. Great things are happening with magazine photography, and can't wait to see what Brian Ulrich comes up with for the upcoming NY Times Style magazine.

*Comment by [Aron Gent](#) — February 12, 2007 @ [7:26 pm](#)*

9. nice to see an actual irish photographer getting some publicity, no i just need some.

*Comment by [colin loughlin](#) — February 13, 2007 @ [12:49 am](#)*

10. While I realize opinions are highly subjective, Mr. McConnell's portrait of Peter O'Toole fails miserably. Were it not captioned, I doubt anyone other than Mr. McConnel and Mr. O'Toole would know who it was.

*Comment by [Michael Morris](#) — February 13, 2007 @ [6:54 am](#)*

11. I love that Ken Watanabe and Eddie Murphy are standing in front of Piss Christ backdrops. I wonder if they got the reference.

*Comment by Annabel Clark — February 13, 2007 @ [3:12 pm](#)*

12. wow, really great stuff, thanks.

*Comment by [Dan Otranto](#) — February 13, 2007 @ [6:51 pm](#)*

13. Gareth McConnell has been a new favorite of mine ever since I stumbled upon his monograph in Ursus Books. He brings a unique personal perspective to his work that I think often does an excellent job of overwhelming some of the conventions of more recent fine art photography. I've been cheering on his pictures in the NYT mag for a minute now, but I have to say, I found his work in this Sunday's to be emotionally flat, and a little too contrived.

Don't get me wrong, I'm glad the kid's getting work (maybe there's hope for the rest of us plowing our lives for meaningful pictures) but I found his fashion stuff a month or so back to be far more interesting.

I see the trademark serrano background, and I turn the page now...it just tires me. Reineka Dijkstra on the other hand really suprised me with her picture of Cate Blanchett. Sensual, with a certain lingering Melancholy aftertaste.

Long story short though...I'm glad Gareth is getting some love over here.

*Comment by Sam Logan — February 14, 2007 @ [10:45 am](#)*

14. his stuffs okay. was having a coffee with him today talking about the project he is doing now, sound like it might be fun. i prefered his northern ireland stuff myself.

*Comment by [john](#) — April 25, 2007 @ [2:02 pm](#)*