GAGOSIAN GALLERY

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The Studio, a Beach And Spirited Women

In the Studio: Photographs

◆ Gagosian Gallery 980 Madison Ave. 212-744-2313 Through April 18

This exhibition of over 150 photographs was curated by Peter Galassi, former chief curator of photography at the Museum of Modern Art, as the counter to an exhibition at another Gagosian Gallery of paintings devoted to the studio. There are three parts to the exhibition. The first, "Pose and

ON PHOTOGRAPHY WILLIAM MEYERS Persona," explores the ways in which photographers take advantage of the isolation their

studios provide to craft images.

These are mostly portraits and range from James Stack Lauder's "Official Portrait of Queen Victoria" (1887), showing the monarch wearing a little coronet and voluminous gown, to Peter Hujar's naked "Bruce St. Croix" (1976) sitting in a chair and contemplating his erect penis. André Kertész's wellknown "Satiric Dancer" (Paris, 1926) is in this section, as is Henri Cartier-Bresson's "Pause Between Two Poses" (Paris, 1989), an informal picture of two models relaxing.

The second section, "Four Studios," has pictures by Constantin Brancusi, Lucas Samaras and Josef Sudek of their own studios, and André Kertész's affectionate pictures of Piet Mondrian's. Sudek shot the little garden outside his studio window in different seasons, sometimes with the tree in bloom and sometimes covered with snow.

The final component of "In the Studio" is "An Embarrassment of Images," photographs that capture the wall in their studios that photographers typically devote to pictures they consider significant, their own and others'. Weegee shot his cluttered wall in about 1939 and about 1941. Lee Friedlander took

pictures of himself against such a wall in "New City, New York" in 1997 and again in 2006.