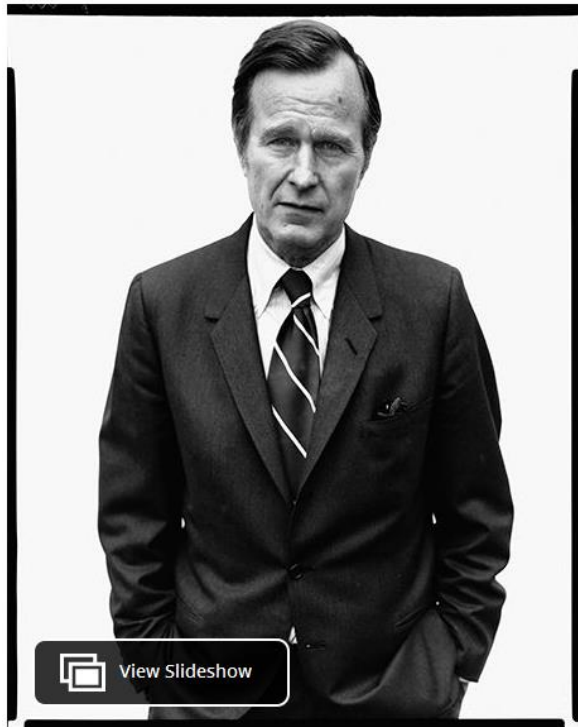


## Richard Avedon's "Family Affairs" to Open in Philadelphia

BY BLOUIN ARTINFO | FEBRUARY 11, 2015



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George H.W. Bush, Director, CIA, Langley, Virginia, March 2, 1976; and Katharine Graham, Chairman of the Board, The Washington Post Company, Washington D.C., March 11th 1976

(Photograph by Richard Avedon © The Richard Avedon Foundation)

[Richard Avedon](#) may be synonymous with iconic fashion photography, but the lensman was known for his striking portraits of powerful personalities too.

While on commission by Rolling Stone magazine to cover the 1976 presidential election, Avedon created black and white portraits of luminaries such as **Jimmy Carter** and **Gerald Ford**; A.M. Rosenthal, a former managing editor of the New York Times who gained fame for publishing the Pentagon Papers; and W. Mark Felt, also known as “Deep Throat.” Sixty nine of these portraits, collectively titled “The Family,” will feature as part of “[Richard Avedon: Family Affairs](#),” now on at the National Museum of American Jewish History (NMAJH) in Philadelphia. They will be displayed alongside four group portraits, comprising iconic beat poet **Allen Ginsberg** and his family; **Andy Warhol** and Members of the Factory; The Chicago Seven; and The Mission Council.

Avedon, born to a Jewish family in 1923, was renowned for exploring the boundaries between high art and social commentary, and “Family Affairs” is a unique look at a time of extraordinary political and social change in American history through his lens.

“‘The Family’ component of the exhibition, given its focus on political power in the days leading up to the 1976 election, seems particularly well-suited for exhibition in Philadelphia, the country’s epicenter for the bicentennial celebrations,” said Dr. Josh Perelman, chief curator and director of exhibitions and collections at NMAJH. “And as the country prepares for a presidential election in 2016, the portraits evoke comparisons between the nature of political leadership then and now.”

*April 1 through August 2, [National Museum of American Jewish History, Philadelphia](#)*