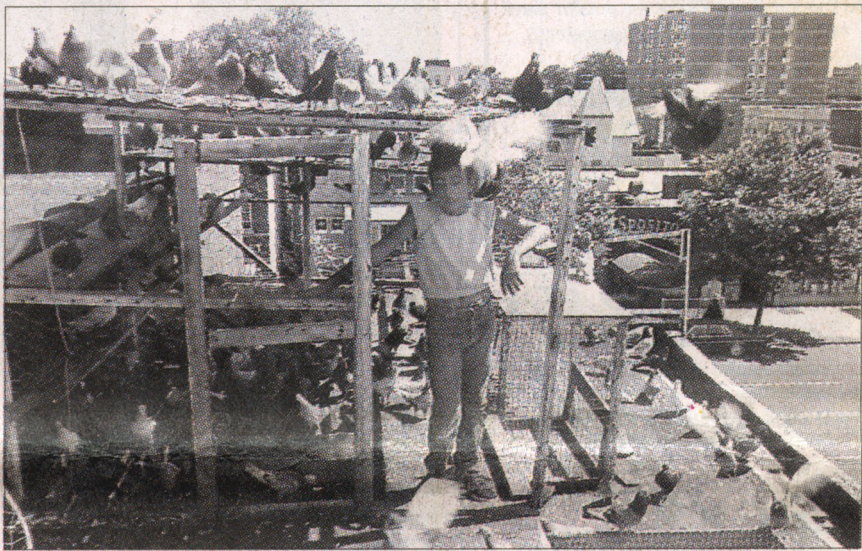


Sunset Park Gallery's Exhibit Focuses on Images of Animals

Roma, Brooklyn-Born Photographer,
Heads Columbia's Photo Program



One of Thomas Roma's photographs featuring animals, currently on display at the Tabla Rasa Gallery in Sunset Park. Roma, who heads the photography program at Columbia University, has photographed extensively in Brooklyn and in Sicily, where his family originated, but this photo looks like Brooklyn to us.

Photo courtesy of Tabla Rasa Gallery

SUNSET PARK — Tabla Rasa Gallery in Sunset Park announces that its current exhibit, *Animutations*, featuring photographs of animal imagery from Brooklyn-born photographer Thomas Roma, will be extended until June 24.

Roma, of Sicilian ancestry, presents his animal imagery in photographs from two of his most popular books, *Sicilian Passage* and *Show and Tell*. In his stunning black-and-white pictures, the ordinary becomes extraordinary. There is poetry in the photographs of the hills of Sicily and the streets of Brooklyn, as described in

the commentary of *Show and Tell*, by his then-10-year old son, Giancarlo.

Twice the recipient of Guggenheim Fellowships, Thomas Roma's work has appeared in one-person and group exhibitions internationally, including one-person shows with accompanying books at the Museum of Modern Art and the International Center of Photography.

His monographs include *Come Sunday* (with an introduction by Henry Louis Gates Jr.), *Found in Brooklyn* (with an introduction by Dr. Robert Coles), *Sunset Park, Higher Ground* (with an introduction by Ian

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Frazier), *Enduring Justice* (with an introduction by Norman Mailer), *Show & Tell*, *Sanctuary* and *Sicilian Passage*.

His latest publication, *In Prison Air* with an introduction by John Szarkowski, was released this past fall by powerhouse Books, Inc. He has taught photography since 1983 at Yale, Fordham, Cooper Union, and The School of Visual Arts, and in 1996 became the director of the photography program at Columbia Uni-

versity School of the Arts.

Roma lives in Brooklyn with his wife Anna and their son Giancarlo.

The gallery is located at 224 48th Street, between 2nd and 3rd Avenues in SPArC (Sunset Park Artists' Community). The "R" train stops at 45th Street. Street parking is available.

Tabla Rasa Gallery is open to the public Fridays and Saturdays, through June 24th, from noon until 5 pm. Call 718-833-9100 for additional weekday afternoon hours.