

Basic Detail Report



Columbus Circle

Date

1936 (printed 1979)

Primary Maker

Berenice Abbott

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

The traffic pulse of Manhattan's West Side is the congested and confusing circle named for the commemorative monument at its center. Located at the intersection of Broadway and Eighth Avenue on Manhattan's West Side, Columbus Circle was central to the city's attempt to improve the undeveloped and still bucolic West Side of the 1880s, in order to attract commercial development. Berenice Abbott has photographed the intersection from high above, behind, and through some of New York's familiar neon signs, the ubiquitous electric billboards that glare down on Manhattan's streets, and that are, in effect, the true subjects of this composition.

Dimensions

Sight: 15 1/2 x 19 3/8 in. (39.4 x 49.2 cm) Mat: 24 x 30 in. (61 x 76.2 cm)