

THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN: ART

ERWIN BLUMENFELD

Some thirty vintage fashion photographs, made between the late nineteen-thirties and the early sixties, establish Blumenfeld's avant-garde ambitions but only hint at the range and the audacity of his work. As one of fashion's most inventive photographers, he brought a distinctly European sensibility to *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar*, where his pictures often put a surreal spin on classical motifs. Although the selection is uneven, the photographs here include his famous image of a windblown model perched high above Paris on the Eiffel Tower, as well as experimental work involving doubling, shadowing, high contrast, and darkroom techniques that allowed him to frame his subjects in eruptions of gestural abstraction. Through Jan. 7.

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