

Edited by Richard Cook

the loop*



Portraits of the artists...

... and astronauts, musicians and film directors

Steve Pyke, whose retrospective opens today at Flowers East in London, is a bold and inquisitive photographer, writes David Baker. His portraits seem to encase their subjects, filling the square frame he favours with an intense sense of colour and detail.

Somewhere between an art photographer and a social historian, Pyke is best-known for his ongoing

personal projects in which he sets out to document what he calls "faces of our time". Pyke has shot writers, musicians (he was a rock musician himself before turning to photography), film directors, philosophers, entrepreneurs and astronauts – as well as those "whose names will never figure in the tabloids or *Who's Who*,

people who survived wars, scratched livings from the street or put on a uniform with pride".

Although he is not a journalist, Pyke's work attracts and unsettles the viewer in the way that the best press images do. This show is a fine chance to enjoy 21 years of an unerring eye. *At Flowers East, 199-205 Richmond Road, London E8 until July 7. Tel 020 8985 3333. www.flowerseast.com www.pyke-eye.com*

Lies, damned lies, and statistics

No 87: Estimated number of PowerPoint presentations made every day worldwide: 30m

THE JARGON

If you want to secure that backstage pass (or "lam") and you don't look like Kate Hudson as übergroupie Lady "Penny Lane" Goodman in *Almost Famous*, you need to be able to pass muster with roadie jargon...

Backlounge Rear section of a tour bus, generally the smoking area (also known as the "emphysema ward")

Cans Headphones

Club mode Scaled-down version of usual band because of space restrictions

Deck Stage

Ego riser Runway between downstage and the barrier so the lead singer can get close to the public

Germ A fan, especially one that hangs around trying not to look like a "germ"

Pignose Amplifier for tuning backstage

Pot Potentiometer, or volume control

Prod tabs Cigarettes paid for by the production company

Scrim Thin fabric backdrop

Snake Thick sound and lighting cable

Spark fairy Lighting technician

Super troupers Very bright spotlights

Teabag English person

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