

D' GISELE FREUND

12, RUE LALANDE, 75014 PARIS

ADRESSE POSTALE : B.P. 9

75661 PARIS CEDEX 14

TEL. 734.77.49

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Dear Laura Gilpin,

two days ago I got your wonderful book "THE ENDURING NAVAHO". I read your excellent texts, most interesting, I looked at your marvellous photographs and thought about the long time it has taken you to do it, with so much understanding and love for those people. I will look many times at your pictures and will also write an article about you and your work and about the kindness you received me.

I don't know how to thank you, because it is an ordeal to send books so far away.

I wonder what I could send you between the books I published, but almost all in French. Now there is a picture book coming out this spring in France, even if the text is in French, I'll send it to you when it appears (some time in May)

This has been my first voyage in the States outside of New York and it was extremely rewarding to meet the Westerners to get a glimpse of California (Yosemite park) of Arizona and New Mexico. From there I still went to Chicago, Rochester and Washington... and came home to Paris... exhausted.

I've written quite a lot about photography (besides my activity as a photographer (photojournalism but also portraits) but my last book, which came out already in 6 countries still hasn't been well translated into American and therefore its publication is delayed. When it will appear you will get a copy.

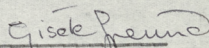
The kind of trip I did, gives one just a glimpse of a country, but it's better than nothing. Anyway I know now that New York is not America, only just one part.

When I studied your book I thought about a very long trip I did, years ago, to Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego where I photographed the last surviving Indians in those unfriendly regions. How similar their type to the Navaho Indians. But civilisation has nearly killed them all. Certain of their customs was very similar to the Eskimos, on the other side of the world.

Dear Laura Gilpin, let me thank you again. I will never forget your charming reception, your wonderful photographs and, perhaps, will I be able to come back to Santa Fe and visit you again.

I wish you a very happy year 1977, and first of all good health.

With all my best and warmest wishes


Gisele Freund