MEET DAVID KOPPEL, TAP Contemporary is hosting David Koppel's Book Launch, Signing and Exclusive Photography Exhibition

Launch Night Friday 20th November

Exhibition – 20th November - 24th December

PUNCHED BY BOWIE. WHACKED BY DYLAN. THUMPED BY JAGGER. HEADLOCKED BY JAMES BOND. SCOLDED BY JOANNA LUMLEY

PHOTOGRAPHER DAVID KOPPEL SPENT YEARS CHASING DIANA, MADONNA, SINATRA, BRANDO, BOWIE, JAGGER AND THE WORLD'S BIGGEST STARS

NOW HE REVEALS THE STORIES BEHIND THE PHOTOGRAPHS — THE BRAWLS, THE BRIBES, CAR CHASES AND BACK-DOOR CAPERS THAT MADE HIS CAREER

SPOTLIGHT, THE SECOND VOLUME OF KOPPEL'S PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE, **LAUNCHES 20th NOVEMBER 2026 at TAP CONTEMPORARY**



David Koppel spent a decade chasing the biggest names in the world — and doing whatever it took to get the picture.

For years, Koppel pursued the biggest names in the world through London's clubs, hotels, restaurants, film premieres and streets — and wherever they went next. Sometimes he was invited. Mostly he wasn't.

Now, in **Spotlight, published in November 2026**, Koppel opens his archive to reveal the stories behind a career spent chasing the photographs that Fleet Street wanted most: the skulduggery, ingenuity, nerve and sheer persistence it took to get the shot.

Punched by Bowie. Thumped by Jagger. Whacked by Bob Dylan. Headlocked by Pierce Brosnan. Stared down by Diana, Princess of Wales. Ignored by Marlon Brando. Scolded by Joanna Lumley.

Before smartphones, social media and celebrity culture became a 24-hour business, Koppel's world ran on tips, drivers, doormen, PRs, informers, phone calls and instinct. He worked through the night, chasing celebrities from clubs to hotels, film sets to restaurants, processing film at 2am and racing prints to the picture desks before his rivals.

The result is a remarkable record of the era — and of the lengths one photographer would go to get the picture.

The archive includes **rare and previously unseen photographs of Princess Diana, David Bowie, Frank Sinatra, Marlon Brando, Mick Jagger, Joanna Lumley, Jack Nicholson, Madonna, Michael Jackson, Prince, Paul McCartney, Kate Moss, Eric Clapton, Elizabeth Taylor, Sting, Bruce Willis, Rod Stewart, George Michael, Bob Dylan** and **The Rolling Stones**, alongside the parties, premieres, clubs, concerts and backstage encounters that defined celebrity culture in the era.

SPOTLIGHT BY DAVID KOPPEL Launches 20th November 2026 at TAP Contemporary

"The perfect artist for our celebrity-obsessed age, catching our gods without their minders, their make-up and the airbrush and reminding us that they, too, have feet of clay." — ***The Sunday Times***

"He shoots from the hip, hoping for a more candid shot than his rivals. He is a celebrity's private nightmare." — ***London Evening Standard*** **LIMELIGHT BY DAVID KOPPEL IN THE PRESS**

"Koppel's book captures the characters and the club that shaped 80s pop culture…" **– The Guardian**

“A family photo album of sorts, filled with a carefree glamour that has increasingly disappeared from public life.” – **HUCK Magazine**

From George Michael to Boy George, photographer David Koppel captured a who's who of celebrities at Eighties nightclub Limelight – **Wallpaper***

“After hours in late 1980s London, the place to be was a former Presbyterian church on the edge of Soho” – **The Daily Telegraph**

TAP Contemporary, art gallery in Chelmsford, is delighted to announce that it will host the book launch and signing for renowned photographer David Koppel on Friday 20th November, from 5pm to 9pm.

The special evening will offer guests the opportunity to meet David Koppel in person and hear first-hand the stories behind his extraordinary career and the photographs featured in his new book.

Alongside the book launch, TAP Contemporary will present an exclusive exhibition of photographs featured within the publication. The exhibition will showcase a selection of Koppel’s iconic images, offering visitors the opportunity to experience his work beyond the pages of the book.

All photographs included in the exhibition will be available to purchase as limited-edition works.

The event promises to be a unique opportunity to celebrate the launch of David Koppel’s new book, meet the photographer behind the images and discover a remarkable collection of photographs capturing moments from music, film and popular culture.

PLEASE RSVP to Guarantee your space at the launch

The book is available to pre-order ahead of the event to avoid disappointment on the night. Contact us at art@tapcontmporary.com

Spotlight £80

For collectors looking for something truly rare, a very small number of signed limited-edition photographs will be available to purchase for £400, each accompanied by a signed book.

With only a small number available, these special editions are expected to be highly sought after. Secure yours early to avoid missing out.