HERE WE ARE

By Panos Kokkinias
Essays by Régis Durand,
Alexandra Moschovi and Susan Kismaric

HERE WE ARE is an anthology of Panos Kokkinias’ widely exhibited fine-art photography, from 1994 through 2007. The monograph consists of four sections, each representing different bodies of work linked by a common theme: Kokkinias’ personal, ongoing obsession with existential subject matter.

Home (1994–1995), was produced during a difficult personal period for Kokkinias, marked by an eating disorder. To help overcome his troubles, Kokkinias turned the camera onto himself. Gradually his physical presence in the pictures gave way to surrogates for his psychological state.

Interiors (1995–1996), contains depictions of uncommon and unfamiliar interior spaces with the apparition of haunting human figures. Seen from a distance, the subjects are trapped, wandering, and lost, without an apparent escape.

In Landscapes (1996–2001), beneath an omnipresent lens, distant figures roam the countryside with urban neuroses in tow, underscoring their remove from nature and the world around them.

Here We Are (2001–2007), the closing section of the book, examines photography’s capacity to consider the existential condition.

Alexandra Moschovi is a researcher, editor, curator, author, and lecturer on photographic theory at the University of Sunderland in the U.K. She earned a BA in Photography from the School of Fine Arts and Design, T.E.I. of Athens, Greece; an MA in Communications from Goldsmiths College, London; and a PhD in Art History from Courtauld Institute of Art, London. Her writing has appeared in multiple publications, and she co-edited a book released in 2007, Ι Ελλάδα μεσα απο τη Φωτογραφία: 160 Χρονια Οπτικές Μάρτυρες (Greece through Photographs), by Melissa Publishing, Athens.

Susan Kismaric, Curator in the Department of Photography at The Museum of Modern Art, New York joined the Museum in 1976. Kismaric has organized many exhibitions for the Museum, most recently, shimmer of possibility: Photographs by Paul Graham, which was on view in spring 2009. Other exhibitions organized by Kismaric include Present Tense: Photographs by JoAnn Verburg (2007), and Photographs by Larry Fink (1980), among many others. The author and editor of the books and catalogs accompanying these shows, she has also contributed essays to other publications issued by the Museum, most recently Modern Women: Women Artists at The Museum of Modern Art (2010). She has been a visiting Senior Critic of Photography at the Yale School of Art since the early 1980s and is currently teaching a history of post-World War II American photography class at Fordham University.