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OBAMA: THE FRESHMAN

Photos from Occidental College

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BARACK OBAMA: THE FRESHMAN | May 28-July 18 @ M+B Gallery

IS SOMEONE BORN TO BE PRESIDENT, or do they become "presidential" through their life experiences and become president?

The inaugural exhibit of black and white photographs by Lisa Jack holds some clues to an answer.

The photographs hold a visual key into how "Barry" Obama transformed from a youthful, undecided, yet charismatic photographic subject into the self-assured, educated and competent man who is now the 44th President of the United States. These photographs are also intriguing, because they were featured in *Time* magazine's 2008 Person of the Year issue, when Obama was only the president-elect.

Barack Obama: The Freshman consists of a series of photographs Lisa Jack took 28 years ago of the young Barack Obama, when Jack was a freshman at Occidental College.

Obama freely explained this time at Occidental in his memoir, *Dreams from My Father*, as a period filled with a sense of

confusion and his search for "self."

Jack was studying photography and searching for subjects for a portrait project when she heard about a freshman named Barry Obama. After photographing Obama, Jack's life took another turn, and she locked the photographs away.

Jack was dared by a friend to bring these photographs out in the open, and this exhibit will be the first time these

photographs are printed and put on display. An artist's opening reception takes place at the gallery May 28 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. ■

M+B Gallery is located at 612 N. Almont Drive, Los Angeles. For more information, call (310) 550-0050 or visit mbfala.com.



Lisa Jack, Barack Obama, Occidental College No. 23, 1980 gelatin silver print