

Cuatro Pescaditos (Four Fish), Juchitán,
Oaxaca, Mexico



Pride of Place

Between 1979 and 1988, Graciela Iturbide created a series of photographs documenting Juchitán's ancient, matriarchal community. For over a century, the socially and politically independent women of Juchitán—in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico—have been viewed as symbols of national strength.



Cuatro Pescaditos (Four Fish), Juchitán, Oaxaca, Mexico, 1986

Take a closer look

The photographs of **Graciela Iturbide (b. 1942)** provide glimpses of everyday life in Juchitán, such as religious festivals and domestic settings. Iturbide's use of sharp angles, low perspectives, and nuanced values of gray lend these fleeting moments a timeless quality.

In her own words

"I just take photos of what surprises me and what I like. I am never looking for something special. No, it is what I find and what makes me feel an emotion that I wanted to photograph."

Who knew?

Iturbide does not hide behind her lens when photographing her subjects. Upon arrival in a new place, she quickly becomes acquainted with the townspeople. In return, the residents invite her into their lives and often let her stay in their homes.

Graciela Iturbide, *Cuatro Pescaditos (Four Fish)*, *Juchitán, Oaxaca, Mexico*, 1986; Gelatin silver print; 18¼ x 15 inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of Charles and Teresa Friedlander, in honor of his mother, Jacqueline S. Friedlander; © Graciela Iturbide

