



SPEED TRAP

OVER THE PAST 50 YEARS GERMAN PHOTOGRAPHER RAINER SCHLEGELMILCH HAS TAKEN SOME OF THE DEFINING IMAGES OF F1 RACING. HE SELECTS SOME OF HIS FAVOURITE SHOTS AND TELLS US THE STORIES BEHIND THEM.

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ainer Schlegelmilch has been photographing Formula 1 for the past 50 years, and his name has become synonymous with the style of imagery we associate with the sport. His body of work has become one of the most important archives of F1's key races, faces and places.

At 14, he was given a simple Kodak Retinette. Taking photographs of landscapes and people, and doing his own darkroom work, the young Schlegelmilch soon abandoned his plans to study law in favour of attending the Bavarian State School of Photography.

This fine art background quickly defined Schlegelmilch's photographic style, setting him apart from his peers. He quit his job as a commercial photographer and became a freelance racing photographer. His independence (and bravado) have allowed him to capture what are now regarded as some of F1's quintessential images.

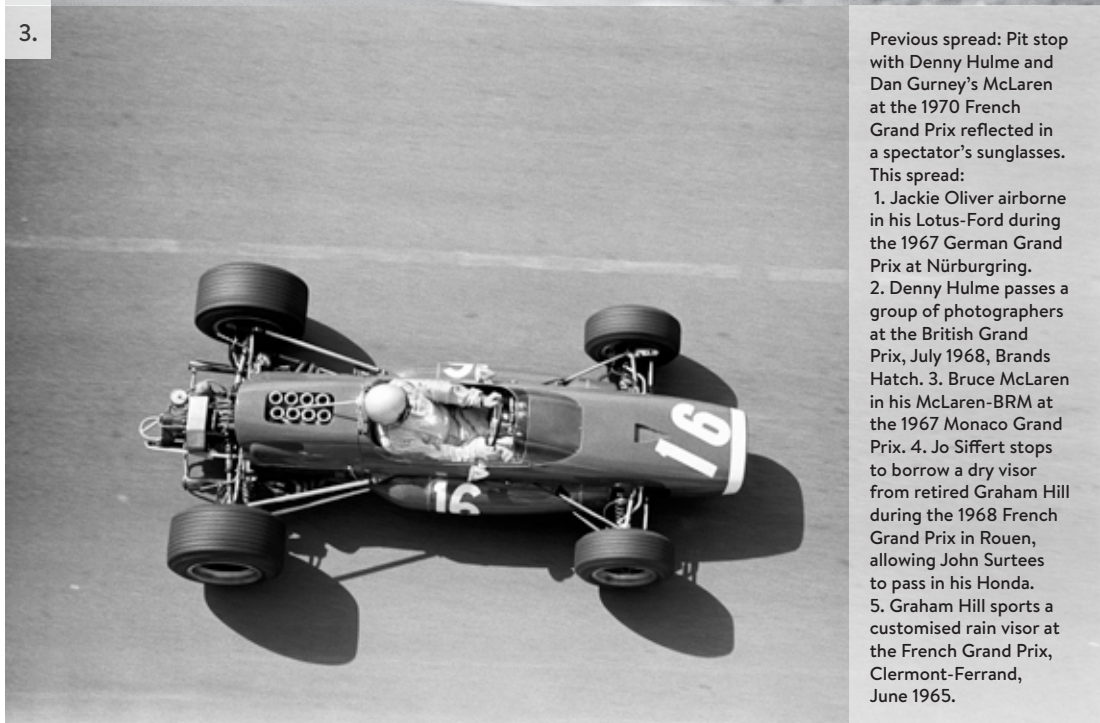
The story behind the image is often as tantalizing as the picture itself. Take, for example, the moment he used a pair of spectator's sunglasses to capture Denny Hulme and Dan Gurney's McLaren at the 1970 French Grand Prix at Clermont-Ferrand. "I saw a woman with mirrored sunglasses outside, so I took her to the pit lane so that I could photograph the cars reflected in her glasses," he recalls. "This was the sort of thing you could do at the time - this was 1970 - I was famous for climbing over fences and walls as I was a freelancer, and normally only photographers from magazines got access passes." What follows here is a selection of some of his favourite shots and some more of the stories behind them. ■



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Previous spread: Pit stop with Denny Hulme and Dan Gurney's McLaren at the 1970 French Grand Prix reflected in a spectator's sunglasses. This spread:
 1. Jackie Oliver airborne in his Lotus-Ford during the 1967 German Grand Prix at Nürburgring.
 2. Denny Hulme passes a group of photographers at the British Grand Prix, July 1968, Brands Hatch.
 3. Bruce McLaren in his McLaren-BRM at the 1967 Monaco Grand Prix.
 4. Jo Siffert stops to borrow a dry visor from retired Graham Hill during the 1968 French Grand Prix in Rouen, allowing John Surtees to pass in his Honda.
 5. Graham Hill sports a customised rain visor at the French Grand Prix, Clermont-Ferrand, June 1965.



JACKIE STEWART IS CONGRATULATED BY HIS WIFE HELEN AFTER WINNING THE DUTCH GRAND PRIX, ZANDVOORT, 23 JUNE 1968



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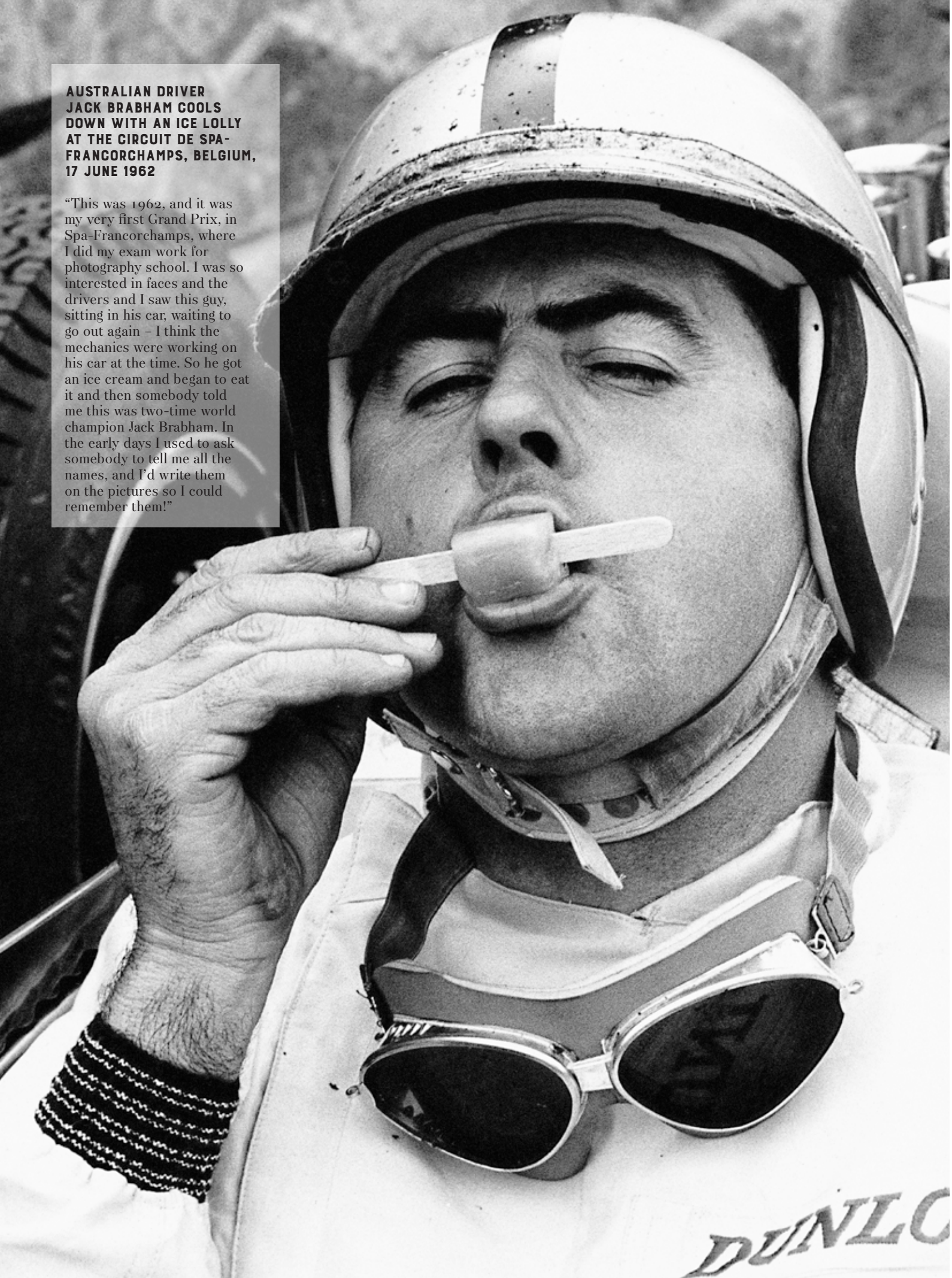
"Jackie had had an accident two months before this win in the Dutch Grand Prix, so he had a plastic cast on his hand. Upon winning, usually the wives or girlfriends of the winner go up on the podium - Jackie wanted to kiss his wife, or she wanted to kiss him, but in order to do that, a nice guy had to hold up his visor, as it was raining, and you see the other cameras around, capturing that moment. For me this story is so beautiful, it's such a nice kiss and I think it's really poignant - Jackie is still one of my best friends today."



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AUSTRALIAN DRIVER JACK BRABHAM COOLS DOWN WITH AN ICE LOLLY AT THE CIRCUIT DE SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, BELGIUM, 17 JUNE 1962

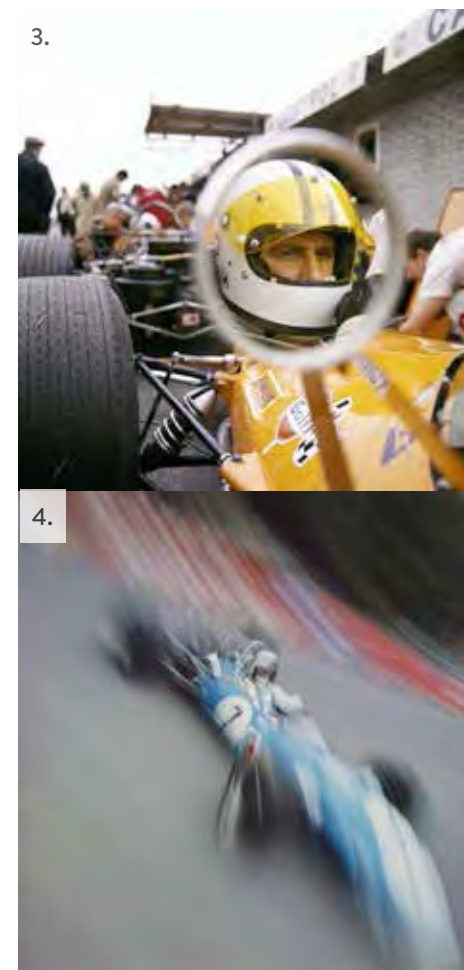
"This was 1962, and it was my very first Grand Prix, in Spa-Francorchamps, where I did my exam work for photography school. I was so interested in faces and the drivers and I saw this guy, sitting in his car, waiting to go out again - I think the mechanics were working on his car at the time. So he got an ice cream and began to eat it and then somebody told me this was two-time world champion Jack Brabham. In the early days I used to ask somebody to tell me all the names, and I'd write them on the pictures so I could remember them!"



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1. Jackie Stewart's wife Helen records laps alongside Matra mechanics at the 1969 Italian Grand Prix, Monza. 2. British driver Piers Courage and his wife Sally at the 1968 Italian Grand Prix, Monza. 3. Denny Hulme at the 1969 British Grand Prix, Silverstone. 4. Jackie Stewart's Matra MS10-Ford passes in a blur of speed at the 1968 Belgian Grand Prix, Spa-Francorchamps.



FANS PERCH ATOP A HUGE AGIP BILLBOARD AT THE 1974 ITALIAN GRAND PRIX, MONZA

“This advertising board at Monza is typical of the time – when the Italian fans figured out this was a fantastic place from which to watch the race, they climbed up from the back and began to make holes in the façade. This went on for about two years, I think – then one day the whole thing fell down and a lot of people were hurt so that ended there. But it’s a nice photo – you get a crazy sense of what it was like to watch the race.”



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1. Nanni Galli of Italy is reflected in his car’s mirror during practice for the 1972 British Grand Prix, Brands Hatch. 2. Time out at the 1973 Austrian Grand Prix, Zeltweg. 3. Niki Lauda has his pulse taken before the 1977 German Grand Prix, Hockenheimring. 4. James Hunt, 1973. 5. Jochen Rindt, 1970. 6. Mike Hailwood of Great Britain at the 1972 German Grand Prix, Nürburgring. 7. Jack Brabham in his Brabham-Cosworth at the 1970 Monaco Grand Prix.



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1. Race leader Ayrton Senna, Monaco Grand Prix, 1989. 2. The 1984 British Grand Prix, Brands Hatch. 3. Gerhard Berger, 1989. 4. Manfred Winkelhock, 1983 Austrian Grand Prix, Spielberg. 5. Renault's RE24 at the 1980 US West Grand Prix, Long Beach. 6. Keke Rosberg, 1982. 7. Off-duty track marshalls, Monaco Grand Prix, 1982.



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NIKI LAUDA DURING THE AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX, AUGUST 1984.

"This was a photo taken when Lauda was with his last team, McLaren, which he joined after a break of two years. Here you can see the wrinkles caused by the burns around his eyes and there is such great light on his face. He was never emotional, Niki, he's a tough guy - I love this picture as it could be right out of that movie, *Rush*."



**STEFAN JOHANSSON IN
HIS FERRARI AT THE 1985
MONACO GRAND PRIX.**

“This is my most perfect zoom shot ever! My camera zoom was totally synchronized with the car. There was a fire flare from the burning gas behind the exhaust, and it happened just at that fraction of a second. And the sense of speed comes from the zoomed background of the Rascasse corner of the circuit.”



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1. Olivier Beretta during practice at the 1994 Monaco Grand Prix.
 2. Michael Schumacher celebrates victory at the Hungarian Grand Prix, 1998. 3. Damon Hill, San Marino, April 1993.
 4. Winner Mika Häkkinen on the podium of the 1999 Hungarian Grand Prix, Budapest. 5. The 1992 Monaco Grand Prix. 6. Gerhard Berger, Monza, September 1993. 7. Nigel Mansell, Monaco, 1992.



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**MICHAEL SCHUMACHER
WINS THE 2001 HUNGARIAN
GRAND PRIX,**

“Here we have Michael Schumacher at the centre of a zoom shot (my signature style, which I’ve been doing since the very beginning). I move with a long exposure lens, holding the autofocus on the driver’s helmet – it creates this visual effect of an explosion, as the rest blurs. I think this is partially the result of me being a freelancer – I was never bound by strict editorial or magazine guidelines, I was never told ‘shoot this’ or ‘stand there and wait for the driver to appear’ or anything like that. I was able to shoot what I wanted, and just do what I liked – for me it’s the pleasure of painting with speed and colour.”

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1. Jenson Button on the Marina Bay Street Circuit, Singapore, 2012.
2. Rubens Barrichello prepares for the 2000 Italian Grand Prix, Imola.
3. The 2002 Austrian Grand Prix, Spielberg.
4. Giancarlo Fisichella during the Malaysian Grand Prix, Kuala Lumpur, 2002.
5. Nico Hülkenberg in a practice session at the 2015 Bahrain Grand Prix, Sakhir.
6. Michael Schumacher in his Ferrari at the 2001 French Grand Prix, Magny-Cours.



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ALL PHOTOGRAPHS GETTY IMAGES.

