Jerome Liebling (1924-2011) was a photographer, filmmaker and teacher. Born in Brooklyn, he signed up as a teenager for the US Air Force, returning to New York after the war to study design and photography, and to document life on its streets. In 1947 he joined the Photo League, a collective of politically active artists that included Paul Strand, Aaron Siskind and W Eugene Smith. He went on to teach at the University of Minnesota and Hampshire College. The above image, ‘Gnarled Apple Tree with Blossoms’, is one of a series of prints he worked on during the last decades of his life, and is included in a show of his work, curated by his daughter, which opens in New York next week.

‘Jerome Liebling: Matter of Life and Death’, Steven Kasher Gallery, from March 13. For a slideshow, visit ft.com/snapshot