

PHOTOGRAPHY AND CREATIVITY

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"Photography is not, as is commonly believed, a simple chemical operation. Everything that touches man receives an imprint; the soul is visible through a few rays".

Théophile Gautier, on the photograph, 1857.

Thanks to the French inventors Joseph Nicéphore Niépce and Louis Daguerre, France has been known as the birthplace of photography, and Paris is with no doubt the best historical hub for **image-makers!**

Photography as the art of the images is tracking movement and light, But **Photography** is also a way to see, to look, to criticize, to witness, to learn, to investigate, to inform, to state, to manipulate, to distract and to act, to generate new ways of seeing, to compose, to propose, to apply and to get involved...!

Photography is a multidisciplinary arena between the fields of science, communication, documentations, offering, at times, direct and factual information, but most often proposing an angle, a point of view, and therefore somehow generate manipulated perceptions of evidences, that can reflect also opinions, feelings, impressions, and a subjective vision, and by so doing proving infinite points of view of things as of places or of beings.

Images, carry elements of multiples languages, can be addressed to all, although all different, they can share common familiar references of the world.

Intuitive and sensitive knowledge spring from innate human capacities to observe, to see, to hear, to sense, to understand and to attribute sense or wisdom to elements of nature as of the body and of the natural cycle, while also posing philosophical, practical and theoretical inquires and hypothesis.

The arts, in its multiple forms of expression reflect this journey of inquiries of humanity throughout time. Photography, as all medium of expressions, aims also to portrait time, situations and realities, as to offer explanations, propositions or visions.

Humanity deployed its ability for discovery in many various forms of complex symbolic languages. The intellectual and spiritual expressions of human beings are evidence of their attempts to understand the forces of nature and life. These expressions reflect man's intuitive ways of observing and perceiving and expressing an inner self by using their sensitive and intuitive process of memorizing and questioning, giving birth constantly to new messages and tales.

The artist "lets the world and himself melts together in his imaginary space, and by so doing, letting not only himself be in contact with his Observations and conceptions, but he also, in parallel,

attributes interpretations and sense to them.’ (Ernest Cassirer)¹

The expressions of humankind are a universal consequence of humanity’s abilities to interact with the world and to leave traces, building individual identities and collective cultures, in constant social, mechanical, and cultural evolution and progress.

Hence, the birth of what we call the human culture: The ability to create technology and art.

The poetic singularity of each within a whole, maintains the asset of being unique and non-predictable.

Photography, as technological relatively modern tool, is certainly one ultimo tool to prove certain singularities, expose differences, identify pluralism, demonstrate the common and universal sphere we share, and is a form of communication reachable to the “other”: “The observed patterns of activation and of overlap with language circuits suggest that tool making and language share a basis in more general human capacities for complex, goal- directed action. The results are consistent with co-evolutionary hypotheses linking the emergence of language, tool-making, population-level functional lateralization and association cortex expansion in human evolution.¹ where “Human brains and technologies have been coevolving Since the appearance of the first intentionally modified stone ²

Artistic photography will manage image within individual sittings promoting imaginations, concepts, ways to propose ideas in a singular way,

If photography aims at times for super realism, realistic photography is always also imprinted by the eye beyond the lens. The photography of Walker Evans or Dorothea Lange will be totally different by their unique singularity. Still life photography is offering also a manmade space and compositions, and certain photography can be used as documentary and editorial taking pictures.

In our present contemporary world, Photography become a daily tool of each, and has a definite role within societies, where beyond the frame an artist must take an action!

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¹ Philos Trans R Soc Lond B Biol Sci. 2008 Jun 12; 363(1499): 1939–1949. Published online 2008 Feb 21. doi: [10.1098/rstb.2008.0001](https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2008.0001) PMID: PMC2606694 **Neural correlates of Early Stone Age toolmaking: technology, language and cognition in human evolution**

² Semaw S, Renne P, Harris J.W.K, Feibel C.S, Bernor R.L, Fesseha N, Mowbray K. 2.5-million-year-old stone tools from Gona, Ethiopia. Nature. 1997;385:333–336. doi:[10.1038/385333a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/385333a0) [PubMed]