



Landmark: The Fields of Landscape Photography

William A. Ewing

Publication date: 6 October 2014

Price: £39.95



'William A. Ewing has curated what is surely the defining overview of the contemporary approaches to landscape...he gives us here a chance to reclaim landscape photography from its fractured state and see it in the round.'

Francis Hodgson, Financial Times

At a time when landscape photography defines the cutting edge of contemporary image making, Thames & Hudson is proud to publish *Landmark: The Fields of Landscape Photography*, a defining survey of this vibrant and diverse genre. Featuring more than 230 images by over 100 leading photographers of today, all of whom present an individual viewpoint about our changing landscape and environment, this is a book that demonstrates why landscape is currently, unquestionably, the richest field of photographic practice.

In this ground-breaking new survey, renowned photography expert William A. Ewing presents a thought-provoking meditation on the meaning of landscape in today's world. Organised into ten themes - Sublime; Pastoral; Artefacts; Rupture; Playground; Scar; Control; Enigma; Hallucination; Reverie – and complemented by concise statements by the artists themselves, *Landmark* features work by such distinguished practitioners as Edward Burtynsky, Andreas Gursky, Stéphane Couturier, Mitch Epstein and Sally Mann, as well as younger rising stars including Lauren Marsolier, Pieter Hugo and Penelope Umbrico.

From Thomas Struth's wry reflections on how we take in landscapes today (mostly from a quick stop by the side of the road) to Darren Almond's still and poetic meditations on time; from Richard Mosse's hallucinogenic explorations of killing fields to NASA's sublime images of stars and planets, *Landmark* covers the full range of the genre. Bucolic images picturing the last vestiges of nature contrast with disturbing images of a sullied earth and artificial landscapes, where nature is channelled, controlled and regulated. Entirely fictive landscapes by artists like John Stezaker and Levi Van Veluw complete this rich overview of the field.

In addition to essays at the start of each chapter and concise statements by the photographers themselves, William A. Ewing's thoughtful, erudite introductory essay contextualises contemporary practices within a history of landscape photography since the nineteenth century, demonstrating how the genre has moved away from the long-standing traditional definition - that of a landscape devoid of human habitat that functions as a source of enlightenment – to a richer, more open, more subjective characterisation that rejects the idea of simple, fixed readings of our increasingly man-altered world.

Extent

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In *Landmark: The Fields of Landscape Photography*, Ewing achieves the rare distinction of creating a survey of both great breadth and depth. The first truly international survey of twenty-first-century landscape photography, *Landmark* is set to be highly coveted by all photography collectors and enthusiasts.

Author

William A. Ewing is a well-known curator and writer on photography. From 1977 to 1984 he was Director of Exhibitions at the International Center of Photography, New York, and between 1996 and 2010 he was Director of the Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne. His exhibitions have been shown at many museums in America and Europe, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Centre Pompidou, Paris; the Hayward Gallery and the Serpentine Gallery, London; the Kunsthaus Zürich; and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. He is the author of numerous books on photography, including *Arnold Newman: Masterclass*, *The Unseen Eye*, *reGeneration 2: Tomorrow's Photographers Today*, *Edward Steichen: In High Fashion*, *Face: The New Photographic Portrait*, *reGeneration: 50 Photographers of Tomorrow* and *The Body*, all published by Thames & Hudson.

This new title follows the success of, and expands upon, *Landmark: The Fields of Photography*, a major, critically-acclaimed exhibition held at Somerset House in 2013, curated by William A. Ewing and organised by The Positive View Foundation.

Positive View will be holding a Gala Reception hosted by Chairman, Lord Palumbo and Patron, Lady Elena Foster this November at Christie's. The gala will feature a private auction of ten signed photographic works (including works from the book), and the sale of an exclusive Positive View limited edition of *Landmark: The Fields of Landscape Photography*. For more information visit www.positiveview.org.uk

Andrew Page, founder and CEO of Positive View Foundation, said: "The exhibition promises to be the most innovative and ambitious exhibition on the theme of landscape for many years." Landmark: The Fields of Photography is on at Somerset House in London until 28 April 2013. Share this story About sharing. Email. Facebook. Messenger. Messenger. Twitter.