



David Levi Strauss: Words Not Spent Today Buy Smaller Images Tomorrow: Essays on the Present and Future of Photography (Aperture)

By David Levi Strauss

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At this transitional moment in the field of photography, how should we consider what is to come for the medium? Can its past and present practitioners help guide us, both as creators and as observers? David Levi Strauss--eminent author, critic and teacher--rises to the challenge of these questions and more in "Words Not Spent Today Buy Smaller Images Tomorrow: Essays on the Present and Future of Photography." In the course of 25 essays, some of which appear for the first time in this volume, Strauss discusses the work of artists who provoke us with revealing, clear-eyed investigations of the ostensibly patent world in front of us, and others who transport us to new realms, poetic and unreal--creative minds ranging from Frederick Sommer, Helen Levitt, Daido Moriyama and Joseph Beuys to contemporary photographers Sally Mann, James Nachtwey, Susan Meiselas, Tim Davis and many others. Also considered are the groundbreaking theoretical writings of Susan Sontag and Jean-Luc Nancy, the films of Chris Marker and Stan Brakhage, and issues and events that have irrevocably altered the way we consider the medium of photography and how it communicates: 9/11, Abu Ghraib, the death of Osama bin Laden, the Arab Spring and Occupy Wall Street. Published in the "Aperture Ideas" series, "Words Not Spent Today" is an incisive exploration of photography's changing role as a tool of evidence and conscience as we move forward into--can we say it?--a post-photographic era. David Levi Strauss is the author of "From Head to Hand: Art and the Manual" (2010); "Between the Eyes: Essays on Photography and Politics," with an introduction by John Berger (2003); and "Between Dog and Wolf: Essays on Art and Politics" (1999, updated in 2010 with a prolegomenon by Hakim Bey). Strauss was a Guggenheim fellow in 2003 and received the Infinity Award for Writing from the International Center of Photography in 2007. He is chair of the graduate program in art criticism and writing at the School of Visual Arts in New York.

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Editorial Review

Review

David Levi Strauss is an art critic of exceptional quality and depth. I can think of none in this field I would rank ahead of him in terms of his knowledge, his seriousness, his adventure, and the power of his writing.--Arthur Danto"Arthur Danto" (05/31/2014)

In the night by his intelligence and compassion, David Levi Strauss talks about what has been forgotten, what is being systematically erased, and what we need to remember for tomorrow.--John Berger"John Berger" (05/31/2014)

He is photography's troubled conscience.--Luc Sante"Luc Sante" (05/31/2014)

About the Author

David Levi Strauss is the author of *From Head to Hand: Art and the Manual* (2010); *Between the Eyes: Essays on Photography and Politics*, with an introduction by John Berger (Aperture, 2003); and *Between Dog and Wolf: Essays on Art and Politics* (1999, updated in 2010 with a prolegomenon by Hakim Bey). Strauss was a Guggenheim fellow in 2003 and received the Infinity Award for Writing from the International Center of Photography in 2007. He is chair of the graduate program in art criticism and writing at the School of Visual Arts in New York.

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