

Manfred Bator

Medium? Painting? Or mirror of nature? A voice in the discussion

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MEDIUM? PAINTING? OR MIRROR OF NATURE? A VOICE IN THE DISCUSSION

Debate on the possibility of a comprehensive, qualitative and more adequately intellectualized phenomenon on the photographic image in its ontological and axiological aspect, entered a new phase. This is promised in the introduction to the latest book by Scott Walden *Photography and Philosophy: Essays on the Pencil of Nature*. Since the question of whether the work edited by S. Walden is systematic and comprehensive can not be considered, because it was not the plan of the author, I decided it was worth answering another question: the question whether, after reading the above-presented essays, the reader can elaborate upon certain issues that were not included or insufficiently scrutinized by authors such as Walter Benjamin, Roland Barthes, Susan Sontag, John Berger, Vilém Flusser or Jean Baudrillard. Basically whether the readings contained in the book explain the contemporary status of the photographic image. It seems that the essays included in the book are a rather solid foundation for further consideration. This should not be abstracted from the current perspective which is postmodern in practice, a way of deciding on what the reality is and the socially globalized communications operating with image as universal language. This book makes clear the need to implement yet another important task - to create in the Flusser spirit a comprehensive lecture on the status, role and provenance of the photographic image. An image which took over the function of text and became an instrument in communication.