



GALERÍA ESPACIO MÍNIMO

Martin Parr

Martin Parr is a chronicler of our age. In the face of the constantly growing flood of images released by the media, his photographs offer us the opportunity to see the world from his unique perspective. At first glance, his photographs seem exaggerated or even grotesque. The motifs he chooses are strange, the colours are garish and the perspectives are unusual. Parr's term for the overwhelming power of published images is "propaganda". He counters this propaganda with his own chosen weapons: criticism, seduction and humour. As a result, his photographs are original and entertaining, accessible and understandable. But at the same time they show us in a penetrating way that we live, how we present ourselves to others, and what we value. Leisure, consumption and communication are the concepts that this British photographer has been researching for several decades now on his worldwide travels. In the process, he examines national characteristics and international phenomena to find out how valid they are as symbols that will help future generations to understand our cultural peculiarities. Parr enables us to see things that have seemed familiar to us in a completely new way. In this way he creates his own image of society, which allows us to combine an analysis of the visible signs of globalisation with unusual visual experiences. In his photos, Parr juxtaposes specific images with universal ones without resolving the contradictions. Individual characteristics are accepted and eccentricities are treasured. The themes Parr selects and his inimitable treatment of them set him apart as a photographer whose work involves the creation of extensive series. Part of his unusual strategy is to present and publish the same photos in the context of art photography, in exhibitions and in art books, as well as in the related fields of advertising and journalism. In this way, he transcends the traditional separation of the different types of photography. Thanks to this integrative approach, as well as his style and his choice of themes, he has long served as a model for the younger generation of photographers. Martin Parr sensitises our subconscious – and once we've seen his photographs, we keep on discovering these images over and over again in our daily lives and recognising ourselves within them. The humour in these photographs makes us laugh at ourselves, with a sense of recognition and release.

Thomas Weski

Biography

Martin Parr was born in Epsom, Surrey, UK, in 1952. When he was a boy, his budding interest in the medium of photography was encouraged by his grandfather George Parr, himself a keen amateur photographer. Martin Parr studied photography at Manchester Polytechnic, from 1970 to 1973. Since that time, Martin Parr has worked on numerous photographic projects. He has developed an international reputation for his innovative imagery, his oblique approach to social documentary, and his input to photographic culture within the UK and abroad. In 1994 he became a full member of Magnum Photographic Corporation. In recent years, he has developed an interest in filmmaking, and has started to use his photography within different conventions, such as fashion and advertising. In 2002 the Barbican Art Gallery and the National Media Museum initiated a large retrospective of Martin Parr's work. This show toured Europe for the next 5 years. Martin Parr was appointed Professor of Photography in 2004 at The University of Wales Newport campus. Martin Parr was Guest Artistic Director for Rencontres D'Arles in 2004. In 2006 Martin Parr was awarded the Erich Salomon Prize and the resulting Assorted Cocktail show opens at Photokina. In 2008 Martin Parr was guest curator at New York Photo Festival, curating the New Typologies exhibition. At PhotoEspaña, 2008, Martin Parr wins the Baume et Mercier award in recognition of his professional career and contributions to contemporary photography. Martin Parr will be curating the Brighton Photo Biennial in Oct 2010.ç

Selected solo exhibitions:

2010 Luxury, Galería Espacio Mínimo, Madrid
2010 Luxury, Janet Borden, New York
2010 Stephen Daiter Gallery, Chicago
2010 Playas, Centro de la Imagen, Mexico City



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2010 Martin Parr at PHOTOINK, New Delhi
2010 Working Men's Clubs, Earlswood Working Men's Club, Cardiff

2009 Parr-O-Rama, Janet Borden, New York
2009 Planete Parr, Jeu De Paumme, Paris
2009 Playas, Kamel Mennour, Paris
2009 Martin Parr at Paris-Beijing Photo Gallery, Beijing
2009 Luxury, GunGallery, Stockholm
2009 Luxury, Nicola Von Senger, Zurich
2009 ParrWorld, Baltic, Gateshead, UK.
2009 Assorted Cocktail, CasalSolleric, Palma, Majorca
2009 Martin Parr 'Sei Fotografie', Macro, Rome
2009 Retrospective of Books, Rocket Gallery, London

2008 Dubai, The Third Line, Dubai
2008 ParrWorld, Haus der Kunst, Munich
2008 Assorted Cocktail, Santralistanbul, Turkey
2008 ParrWorld, Breda Design Museum, Netherlands
2008 Small world, Breda Photo, Netherlands
2008 Melbourne Cup, Niagara Gallery, Melbourne

2007 Retrospective, Seoul Arts Centre
2007 Autoportrait, ZPAFiS-KA Gallery, Krakow
2007 Fashion Magazine, Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography
2007 Fashion Newspaper, Paul Smith Space, Tokyo
2007 Retrospective, Kulturhuset, Stockholm
2007 Assorted Cocktail, C/O Berlin

2006 Food, Nordic Festival of Light,
2006 Port Elliot House, Port Elliot Literary Festival
2006 Retrospective, Forma Gallery, Milan
2006 Assorted Cocktail, Photokina, Cologne
2006 Mexico, Janet Borden Gallery

2005 Presentation House Gallery, Vancouver
2005 PhotoEspana, Madrid
2005 Bon Marche, Paris
2005 Die Kunsthalle, Mannheim
2005 Rocket Gallery, London
2005 Montreal Festival of Photography
2005 Nicola von Senger Gallery, Zurich
2005 Kamel Mennour Gallery, Paris
2005 Fashion Show, Rocket Gallery, London
2005 Fashion Show, Bon Marche, Paris
2005 Stephen Daiter Gallery, Chicago
2005 Retrospective, MEP, Paris
2005 Common Sense, Niagra Gallery, Melbourne

2003 Studio Trisorio, Naples
2003 National Museum of Photography, Copenhagen
2003 Kunsthalle Rotterdam
2003 Renia Sofia, Madrid
2003 20/21 Essen, Germany
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2002 Martin Parr: Photographic Works 1971-2000, Barbican Art Gallery, London
2002 c The Phone Show, Rocket Gallery, London
2002 Rose Gallery, Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica USA
2002 Sirieuze Zaken, Amsterdam
2002 Martin Parr Photoworks 1971 - 2000, Barbican Art Gallery and major European tour
2002 Rocket Gallery London
2002 Rose Gallery, Los Angeles.

2001 c Think of England, Rocket Gallery

2000 20/21 Gallery, Essen, Germany
2000 c Autoportrait, Tom Blau Gallery, London
2000 Japonais Endormis, Kunsthalle, Rotterdam
2000 Gallery du Jour, Paris
2000 Kulturbeutel, Old Post Office, Mitte Berlin

1999 c Common Sense, 43 locations worldwide
1999c Benidorm, Sprengel Museum, Hanover

Group exhibitions

2010 Dreamlands, The Pompidou Centre, Paris

2009 Georgian Spring, Uferallen, Berlin
2009 Rencontres d'Arles
2009 No Such Thing As Society, Various European locations.

2008 Street & Studio, Tate Modern
2008- No Such Thing As Society, Various European locations.
2008 Three From Britain, Rose Gallery, Santa Monica, USA

2007 Our Land! Photographs from Finland, Tennis Palace Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland
2007 Turkey by Magnum, Istanbul Modern Art Museum
2007 How We Are, Tate Britain

2006 Making History, Tate Gallery, Liverpool
2006 c Click Double Click, Haust der Kunst, Munich

2005 Exposures, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
2005 c Eurovisions, Pompidu Centre, Paris

2004 Pingyao Photography Festival, China
2004 About Face, Hayward Gallery, London

2003 c Cruel and Tender, Tate Modern, London

2002 c Sand in der Vaseline, Kerfelder, Kunstmuseum, Germany

2000 At Sea, Tate Gallery Liverpool

1999 c Our Turning World: Magnum Photographers 1989-1999, Barbican Art Gallery, London



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Collections

Arts Council of Great Britain
Union Bank of Finland, Helsinki
Museum for Fotokunst, Odense, Denmark
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
George Eastman House, Rochester
Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris
Museum of Modern Art, New York
Philadelphia Museum of Art
Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
Calderdale Council, Halifax
Getty Museum, Malibu
Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool
Kodak, France
Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
Seagrams Collection, New York
Museum of Modern Art, Tampere, Finland
British Council, London
Irish Arts Council
Australian National Gallery
Paris Audiovisual
Sprengel Museum, Hannover, Germany
Yokohama Museum of Art, Japan Tokyo
Metropolitan Museum of Photography
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
Tate Modern, London
National Centre for Contemporary Arts, Moscow
National Museum of Fine Arts, Buenos Aires

Prizes and Awards

1986 3rd Prize European Photography Awards.
1995 Wilkins Photography Prize.
2003 Photo Espania book prize for " Martin Parr, by Val Williams."
2005 Honorary FRPS. Royal Photographic Society.
2006 Eric Solomon Award for Photojournalism, Photokina.
2006 Moscow House of Photography, International photography prize.
2006 Honorary Masters degree, University of Creative Arts, Farnham.
2007 Krasna Kraus book prize for " Photobook, A History, Vol 1&2" with Gerry Badger.
2008 Photo Espania Award for Photographic achievement.
2008 Japanese Photographic Society, International Award for contribution towards promoting Japanese photographic book publishing.
2008 Centenary Award, Royal Photographic Society.
2008 Honorary Degree, Manchester Metropolitan University.