The Lie of The Land

The Photographic Meaning of Landscape



John Constable, *The Haywain* (1821)

Landscapes only become such when they are both made and noticed, acted or lived or thought with some degree of consciousness. They require our participation to be landscapes. Without this, the tree falls unheeded in the forest.

Elizabeth Helsinger, Landscape Theory - Art Seminars (London: Routledge, 2008). p.323.

Keywords & Phrases

The Beauty Spot

Nostalgia

Wilderness

Viewing Point

The Sublime

Pictorialism

Man Made

Arcadia

The Black Spot

The Contested Landscape

The Natural World

Vista

Blood and Soil

The Picturesque

Leisure

The Contemporary Sublime

Green and Pleasant Land

Commodity

‘The landscape’ is, as Wolfgang Sachs puts it, ‘the construct of a society that no longer has an unmediated relationship with the soil’. The concept of landscape encodes, measures and reproduces the viewer’s alienation from nature. Landscape measures our distance from land.

Rod Giblet and Juha Tolonen, Photography and Landscape (Bristol: Intellect Press, 2012). p. 55.



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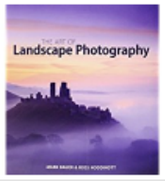
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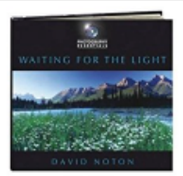
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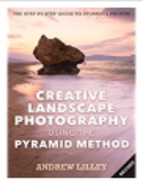
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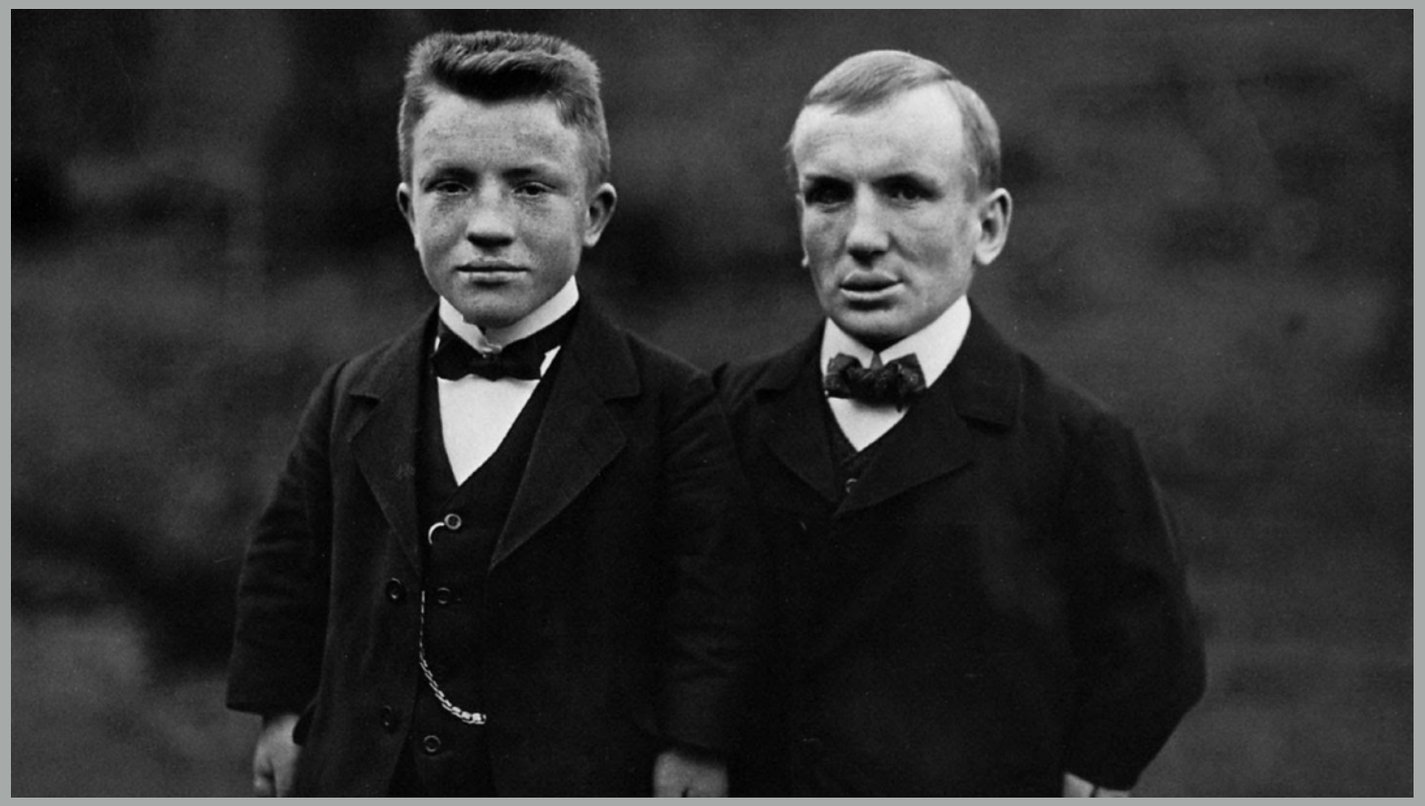
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Gustave Le Gray - *The Great Wave Sète* 1856









August Sander

August Sander













Henry Peach Robinson







Peter Henry Emerson - Suffolk, circa late 1890s



Roger Fenton, Crimea 1855

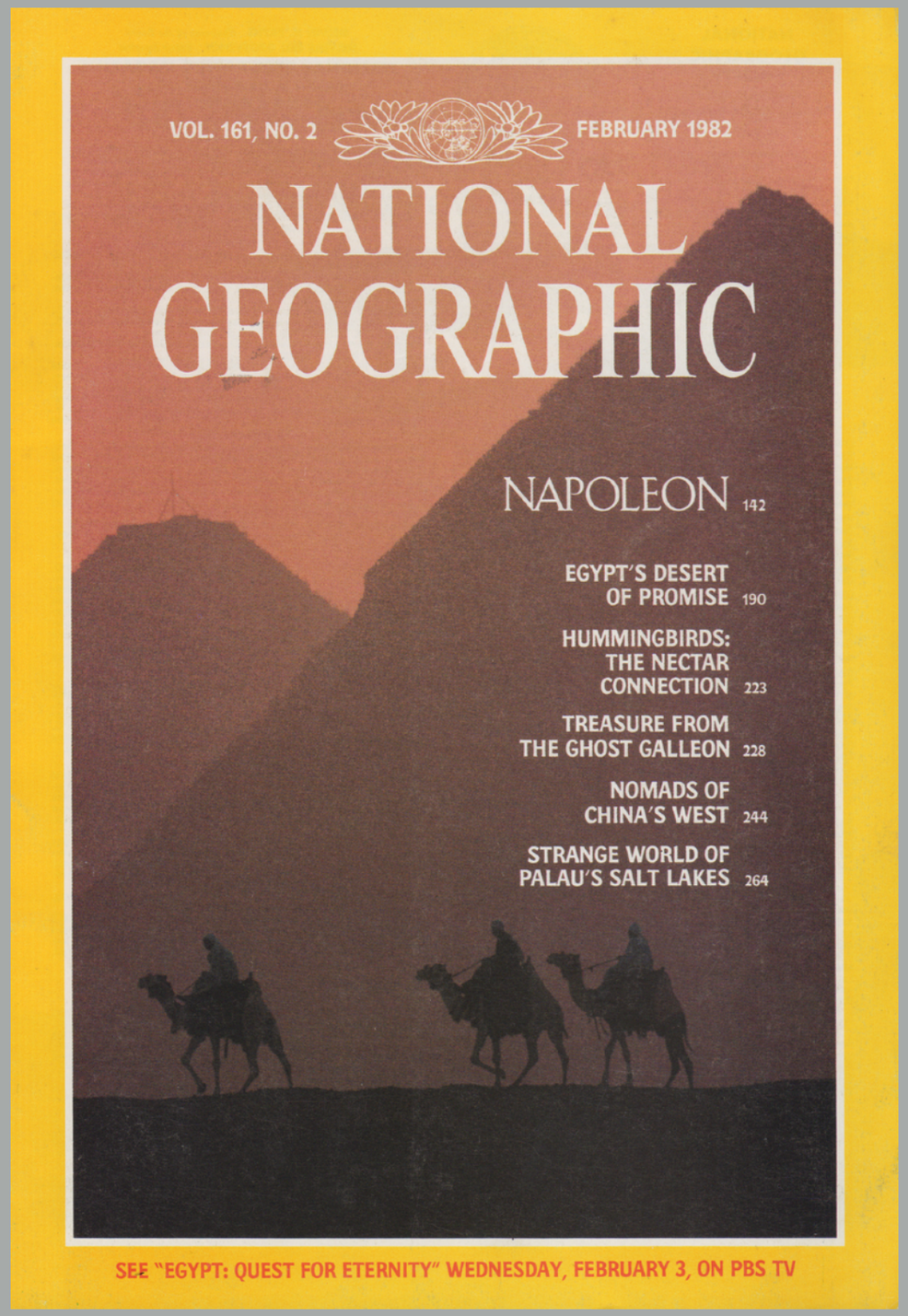


Francis Frith - 1856



Gordon Gahan





Gordon Gahan





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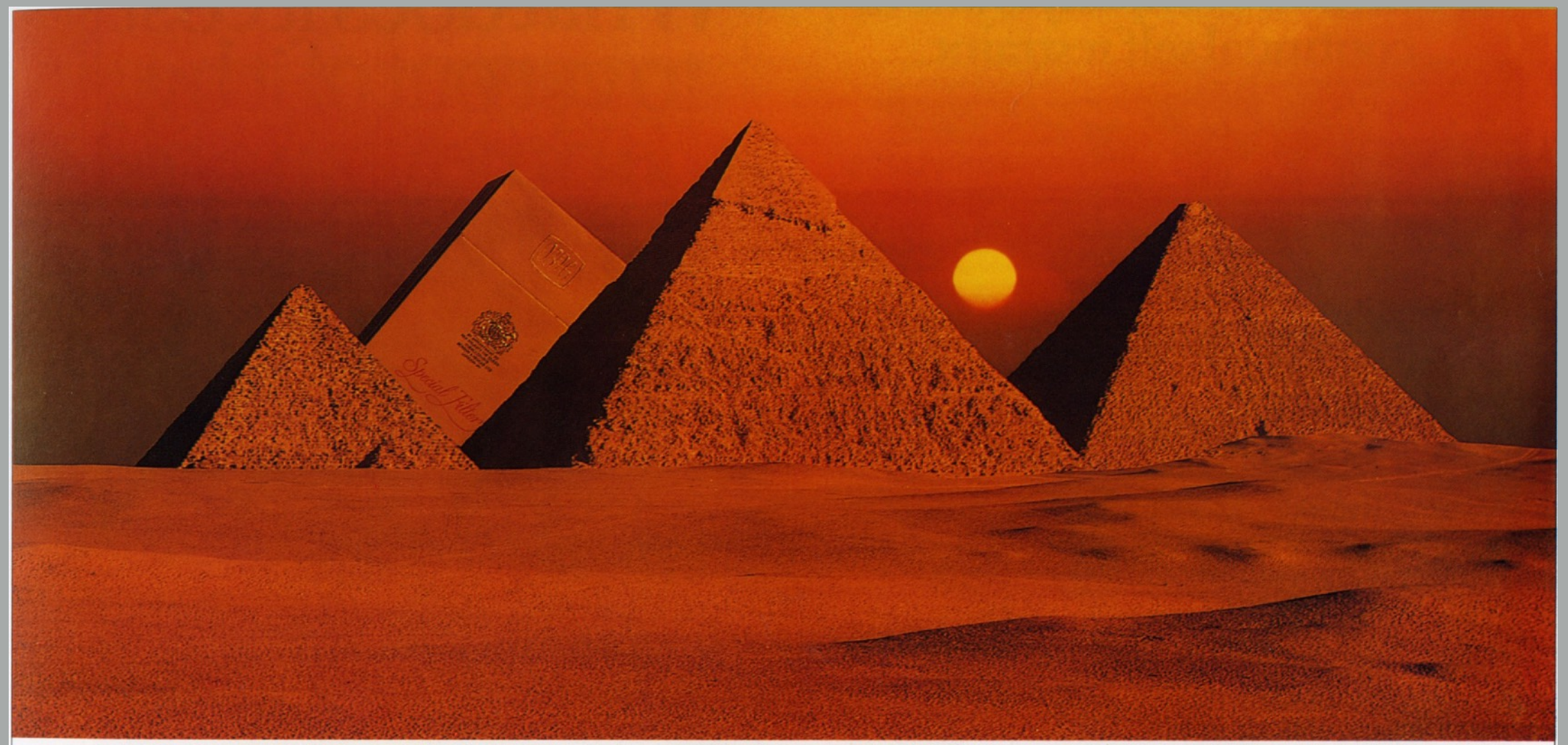








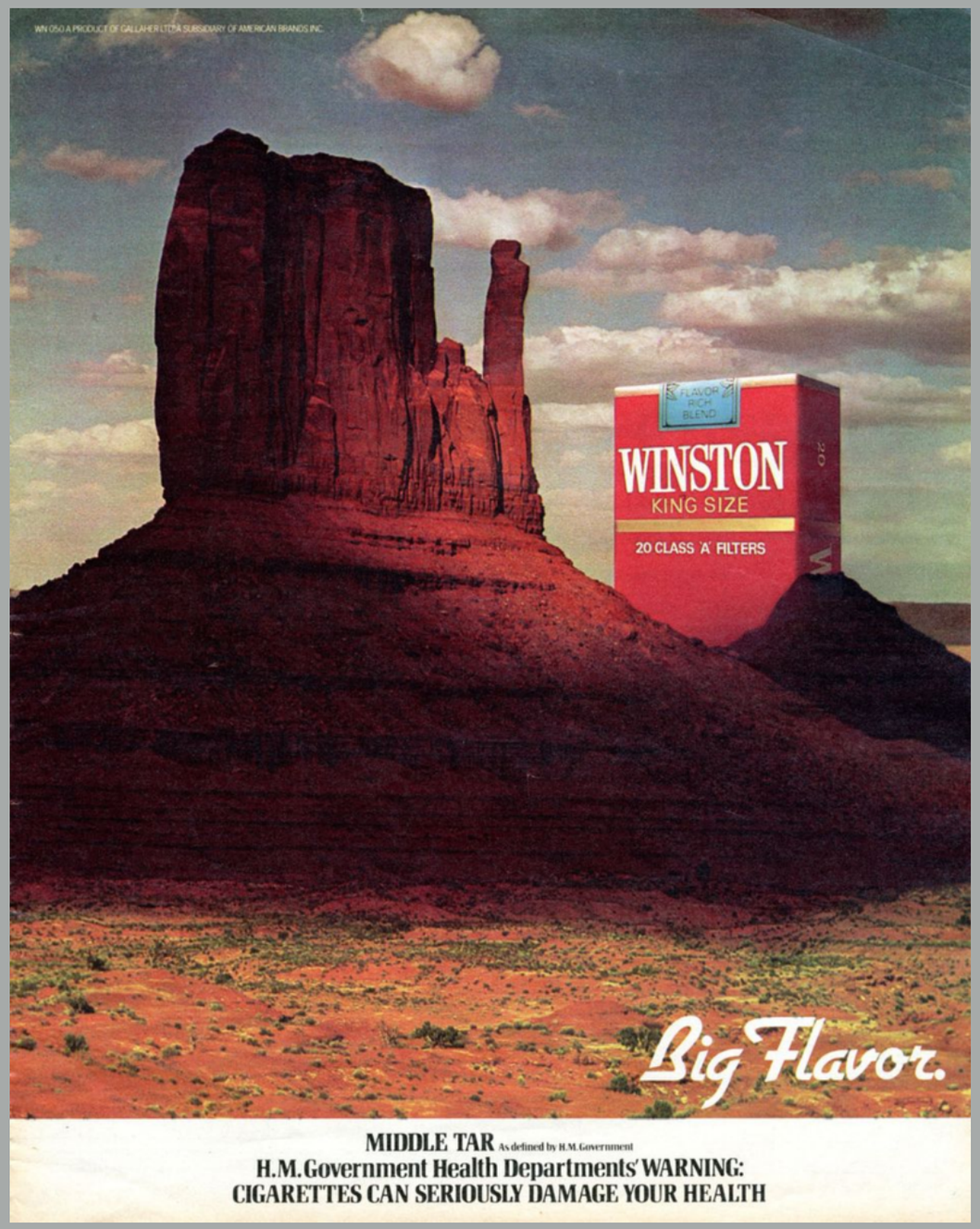
Luxor Hotel, Las Vegas



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Caspar David Friedrich - *The Wanderer above a Sea of Fog* (1818); *The Monk by the Sea* (1809)

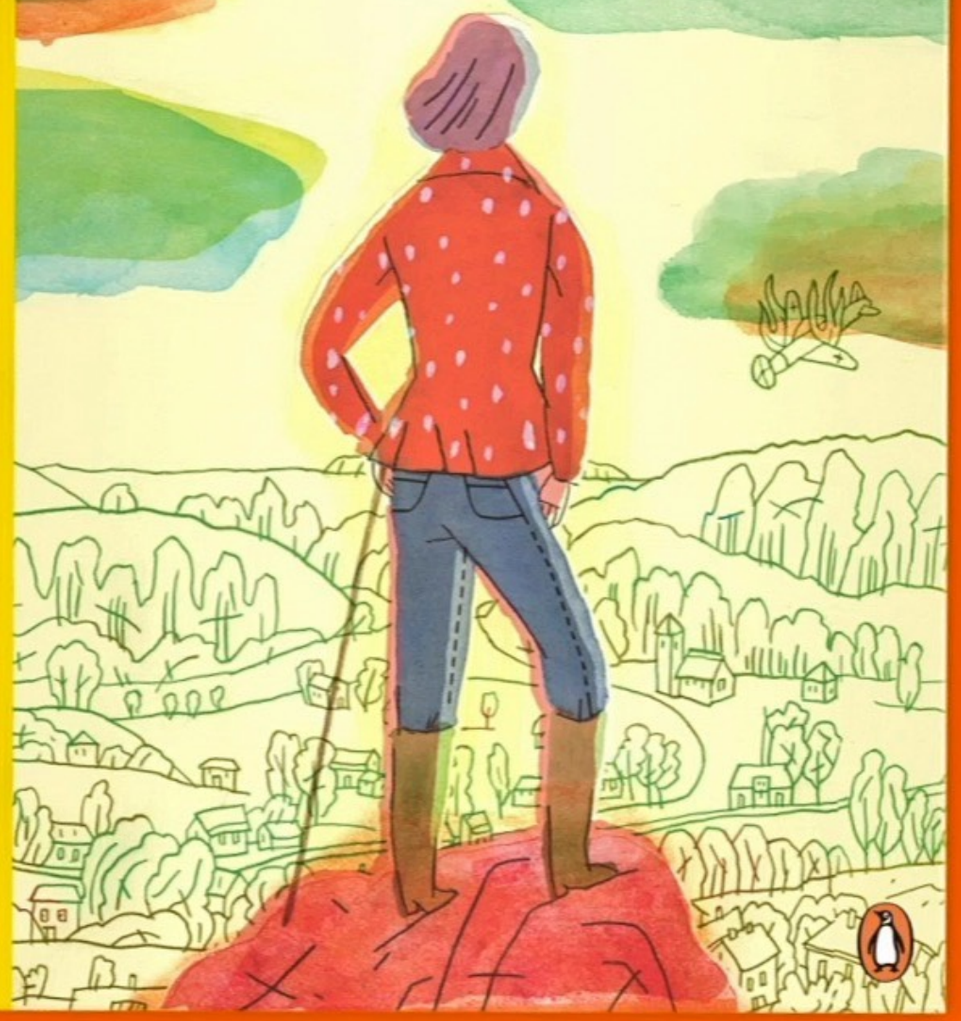



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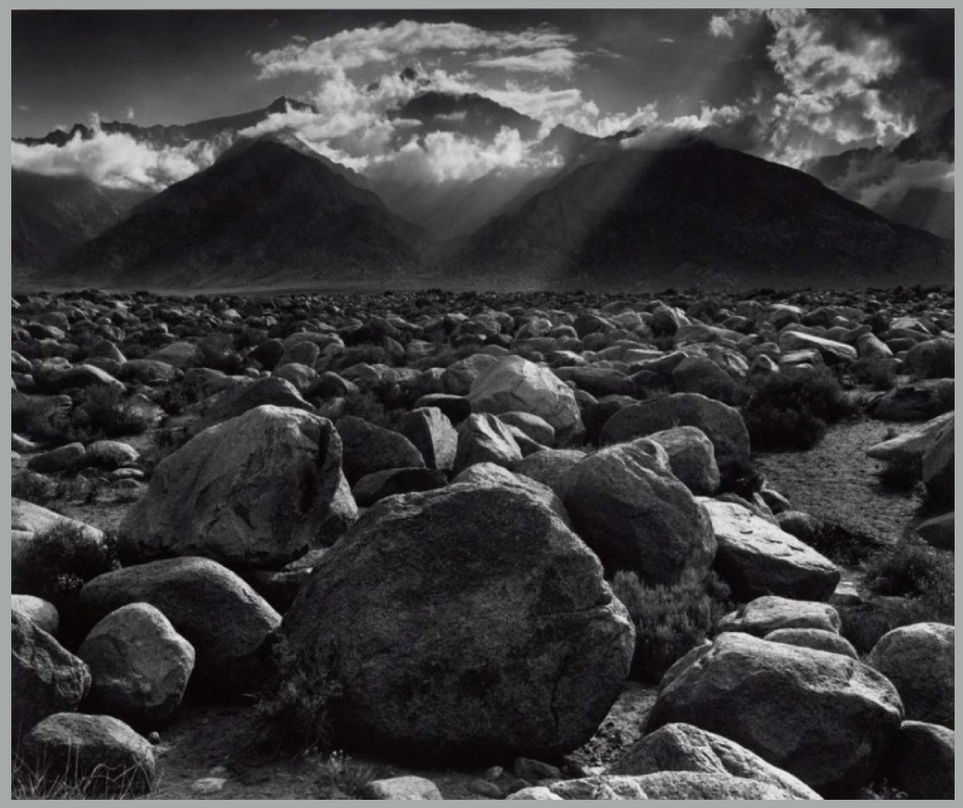


Carlton E. Watkins



Edward Steichen - *The pond - Moonrise* (1904)





Ansel Adams

Yosemite Valley had, during his (Ansel Adams) decades of photographing it as wilderness, a golf course, a luxury hotel, several camp sites, stores, a school, churches, and even a beauty parlour. Adams cropped it out in the name of Beauty, of formalism, of composition, but all his heirs learned to leave it out too and thus was nature photography created. And what he cropped out, his fellow Americans learned not to see, leaving the American landscape as a chequer-board of scenic wonders and blank spots.

Rebecca Solnit, `Landscape and Amnesia', in Creative Camera. (Aug/Sept. 1998). p. 35.





Robert Adams





Stephen Shore - *Merced River, Yosemite*

South of Klamath Falls, Oregon





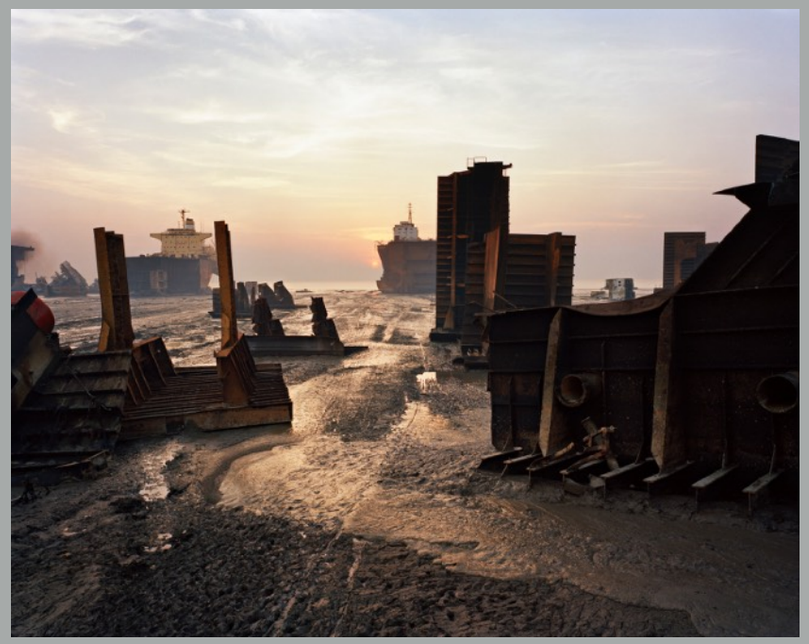




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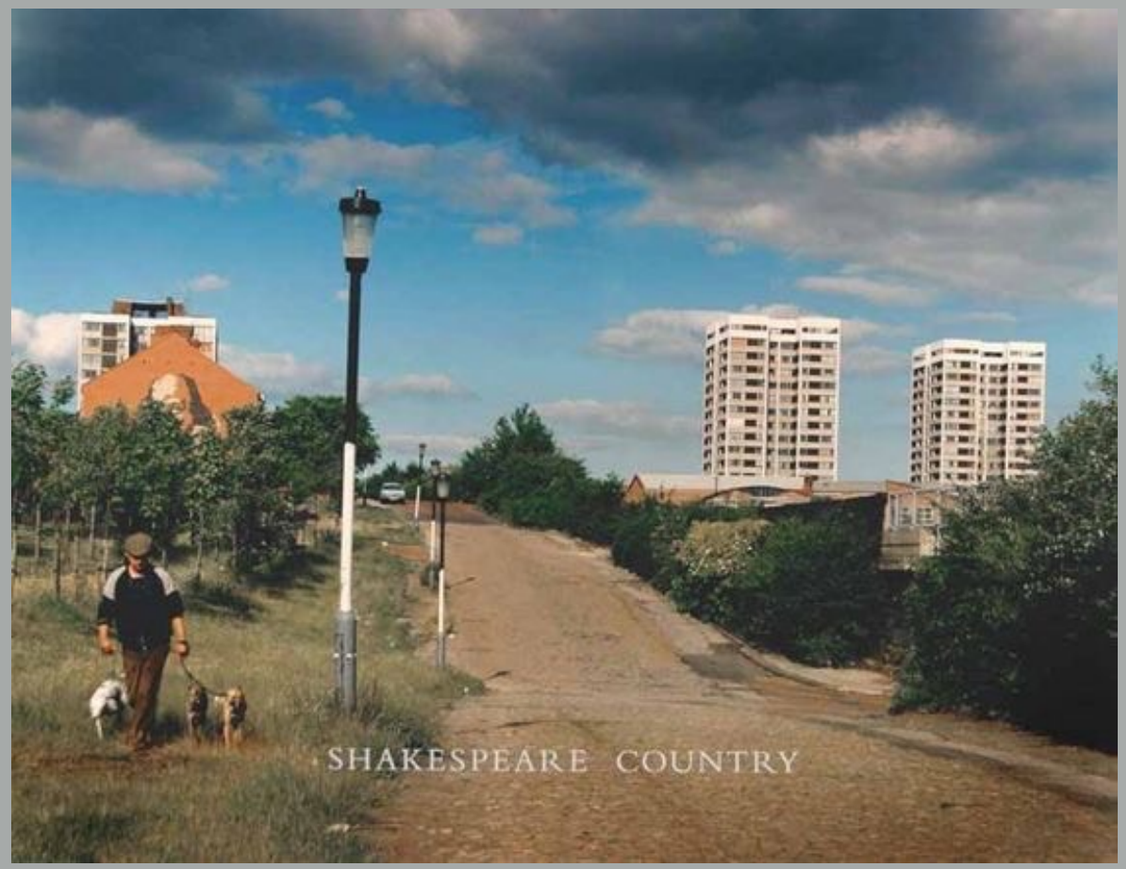


Paul Reas, Constable Country. Thetford Mill

John Kippin


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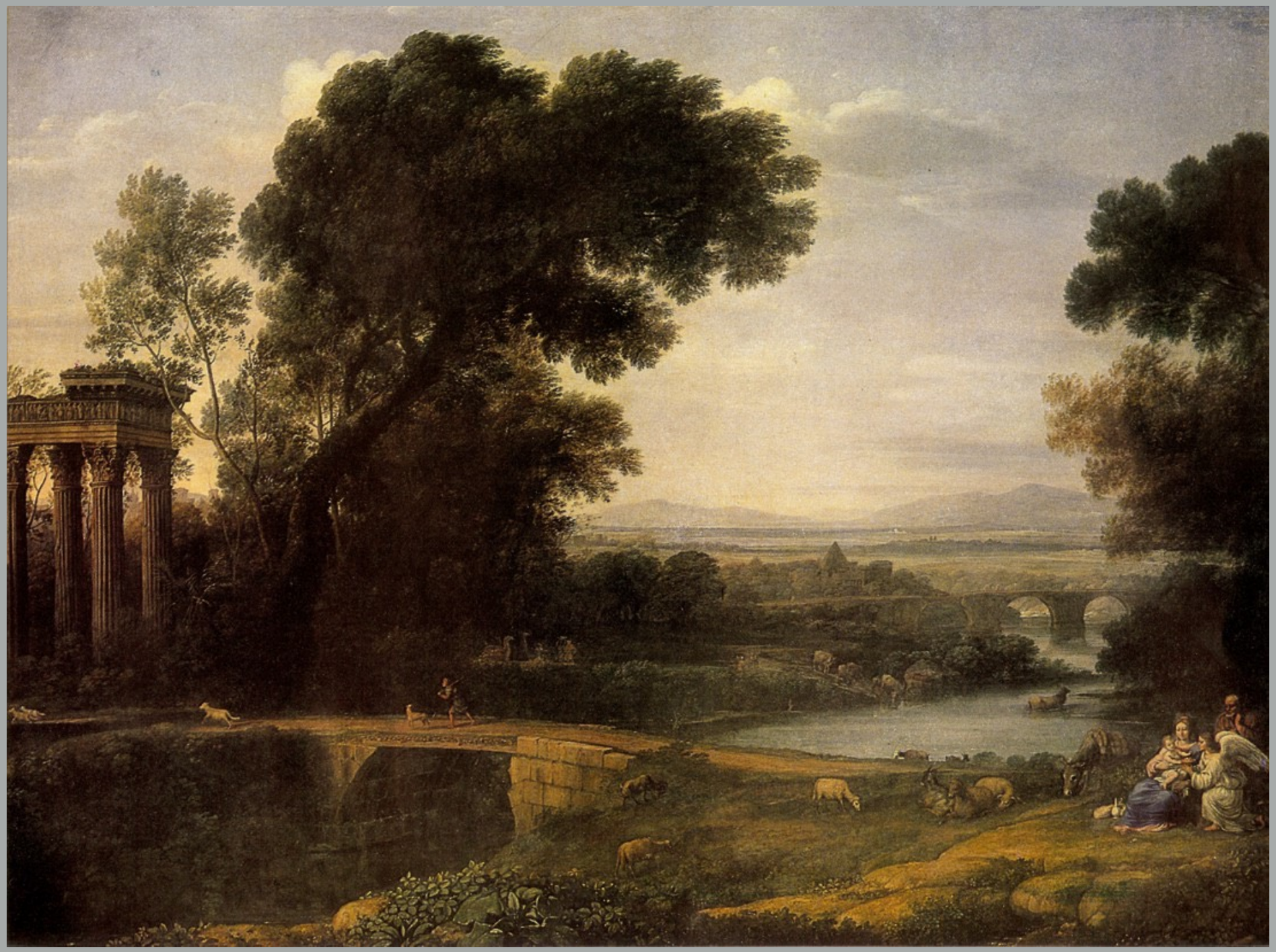


Stourhead, Wiltshire

Chatsworth, Derbyshire



Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown



Claude Lorrain - *Landscape with the Rest on the Flight into Egypt* (1666)



... death is the bottom line. The owners of these fields; these trees and sheep want me off their **GREEN AND PLEASANT LAND. No Trespass**, they want me **DEAD. A slow death through eyes that slide away from me** ...



"pastoral interlude"
... **it's as if the Black experience is only lived within an urban environment. I thought I liked the Lake District; where I wandered lonely as a Black face in a sea of white. A visit to the countryside is always accompanied by a feeling of unease; dread** ...

Ingrid Pollard









Martin Parr



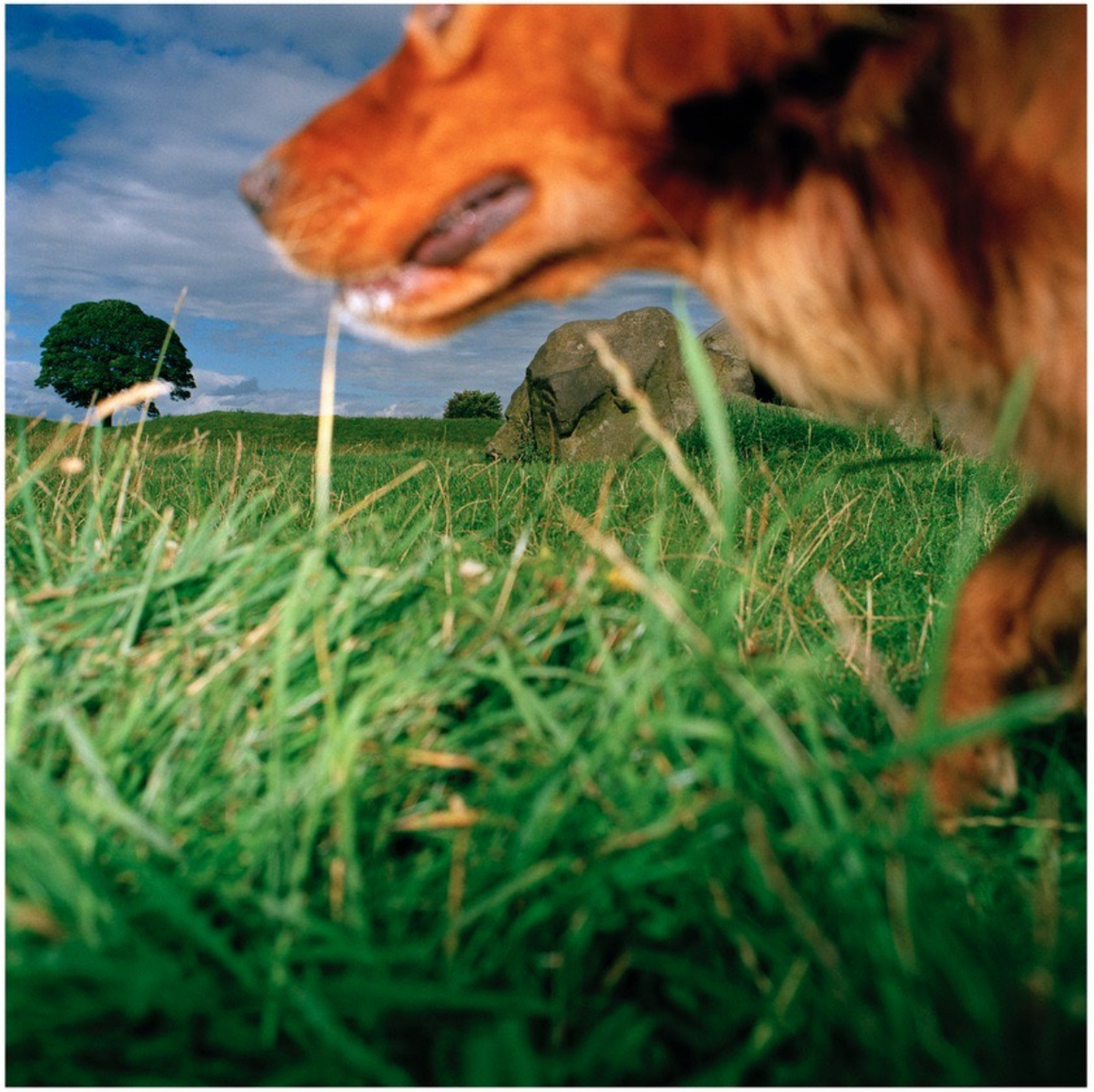
Paul Graham, Troubled Land







Paul Graham, Troubled Land



Friday 25th May 1973

'The murdered mans body was found lying at the Giants Ring beauty spot, once used for pagan rituals. It has now become a regular location for sectarian murder.'

Paul Seawright



Friday 22nd September 1972

'The man left home to go to a bar for a drink, and never returned. He was found the following morning dumped on waste ground behind the Glencairn estate. He had been stabbed in the back and chest, and his body showed signs of torture.'



Tuesday 3rd April 1973

'Late last night a 28 year old man disappeared from a pub. It wasn't until this morning that his body was found abandoned in a quiet park on the coast.'

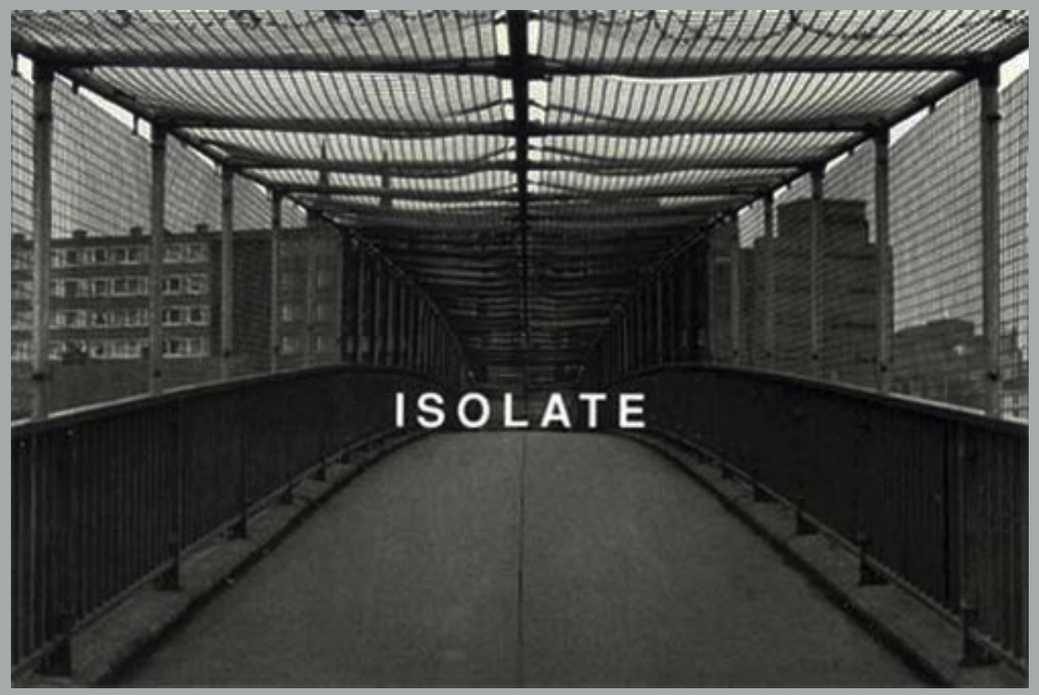


Thursday 14th December 1972

'The sixteen year old youth was standing at the corner of Dandy Street talking, when a motorcycle with two youths on it drove by. The pillion passenger was carrying a Sterling sub-machine gun and opened fire on the group. The boy fell dying in a hail of bullets.'

Paul Seawright







Willy Doherty



Paul Seawright - *Hidden*







Peter Kennard - The Haywain with Cruise Missiles



Luc Delahaye, Afghanistan



Simon Norfolk









Simon Norfolk, Claude Lorrain, Nicolas Poussin



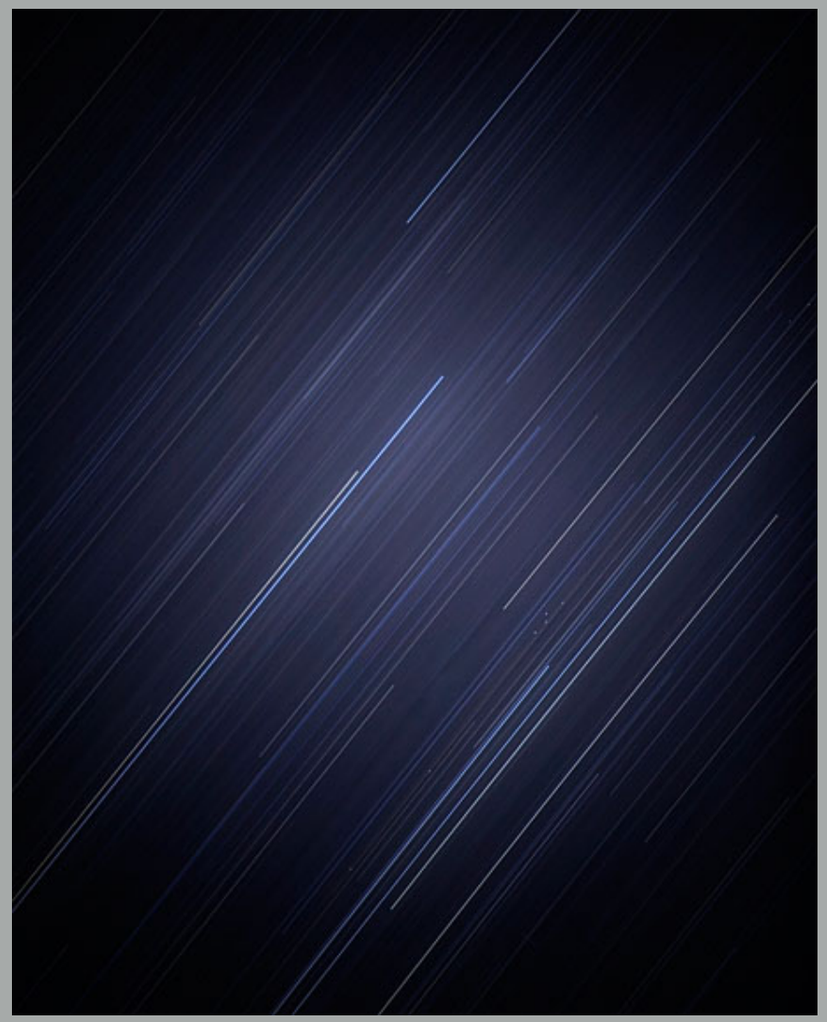






Simon Norfolk





Trevor Paglen

Chloe Dewe Mathews





Shot at Dawn



In Search of Frankenstein



Xavier Ribas *Nitrate*



Andreas Gursky, *Engadin*, 1995

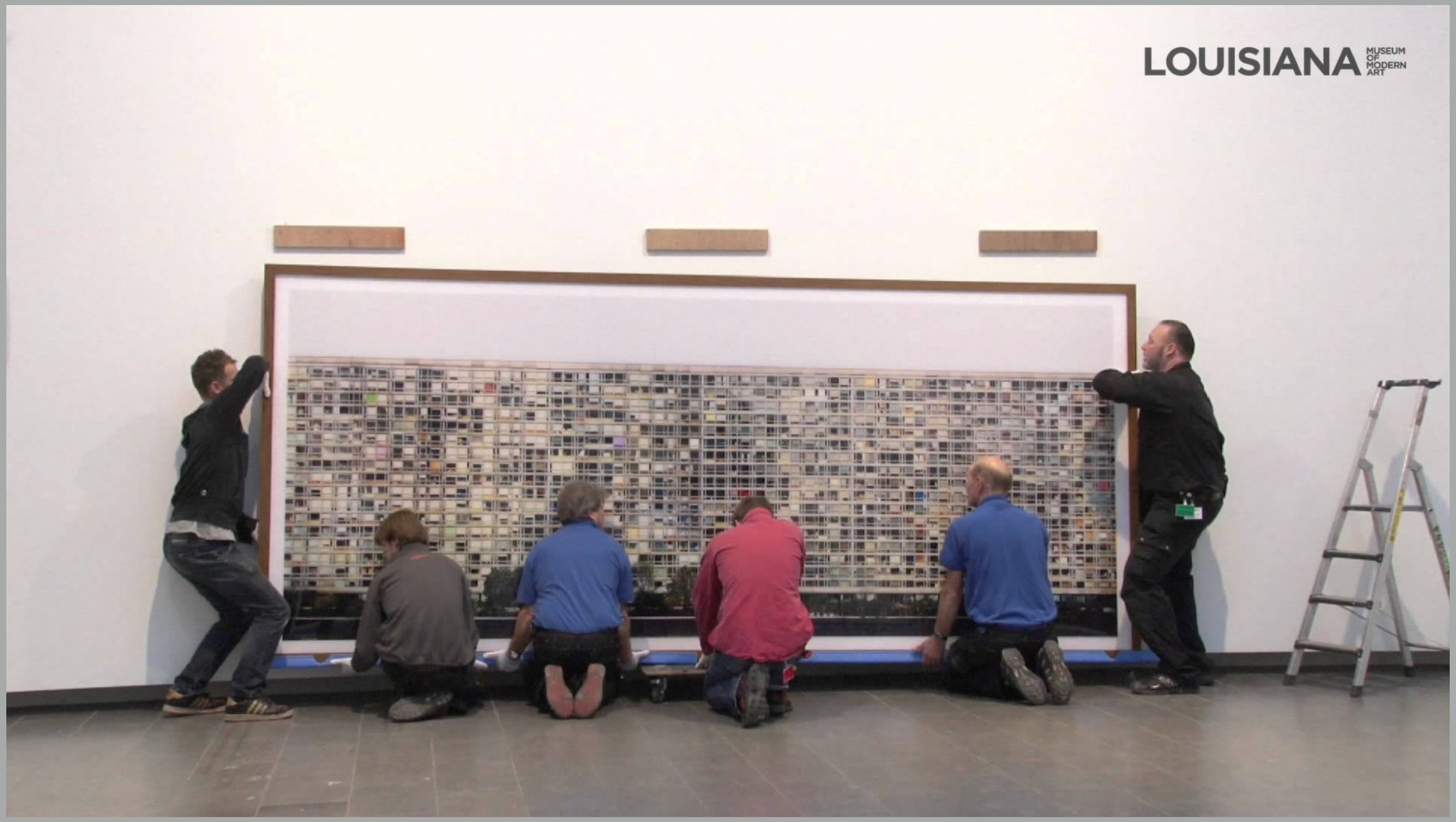


Ansel Adams - Winter Sunrise from Lone Pine, Sierra Nevada



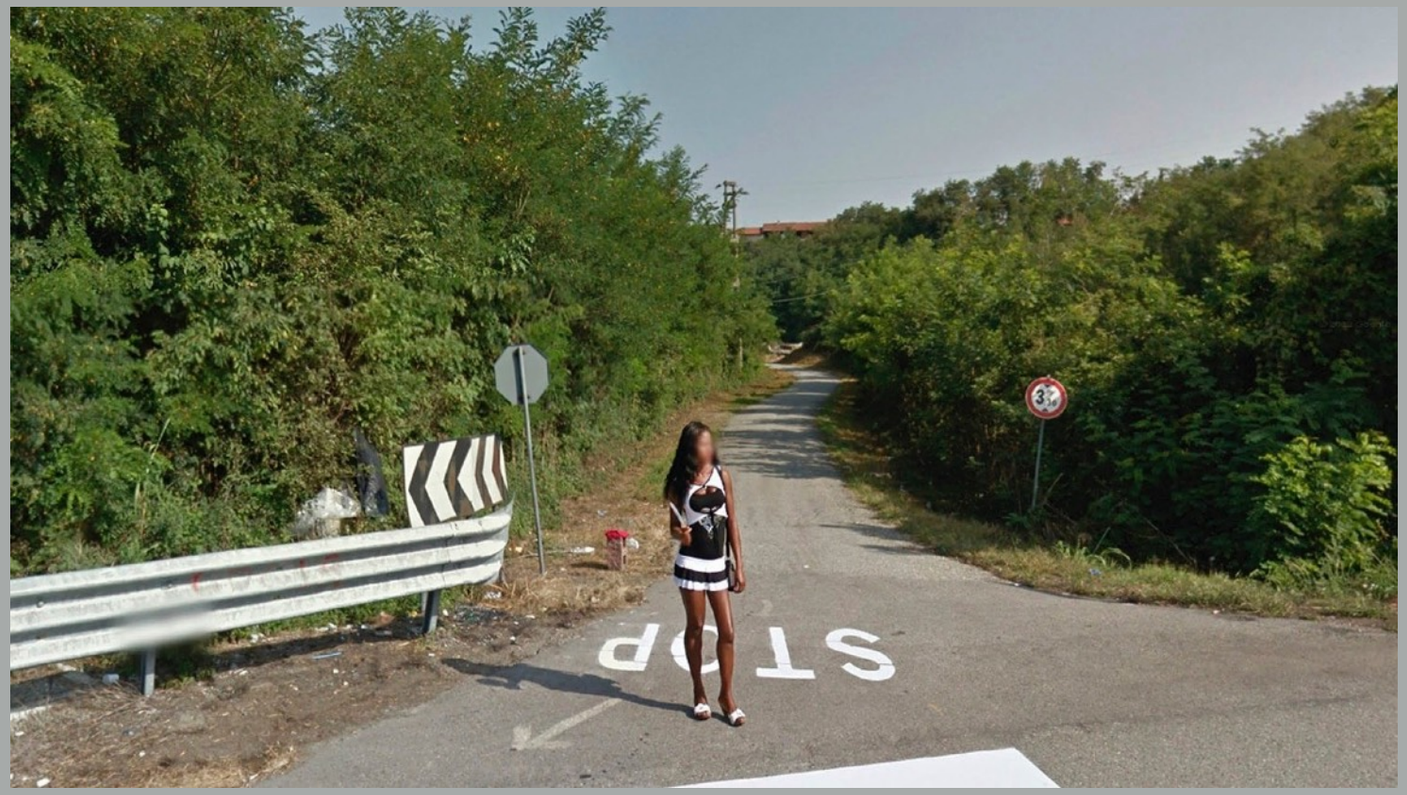
Andreas Gursky, *Rhein II*




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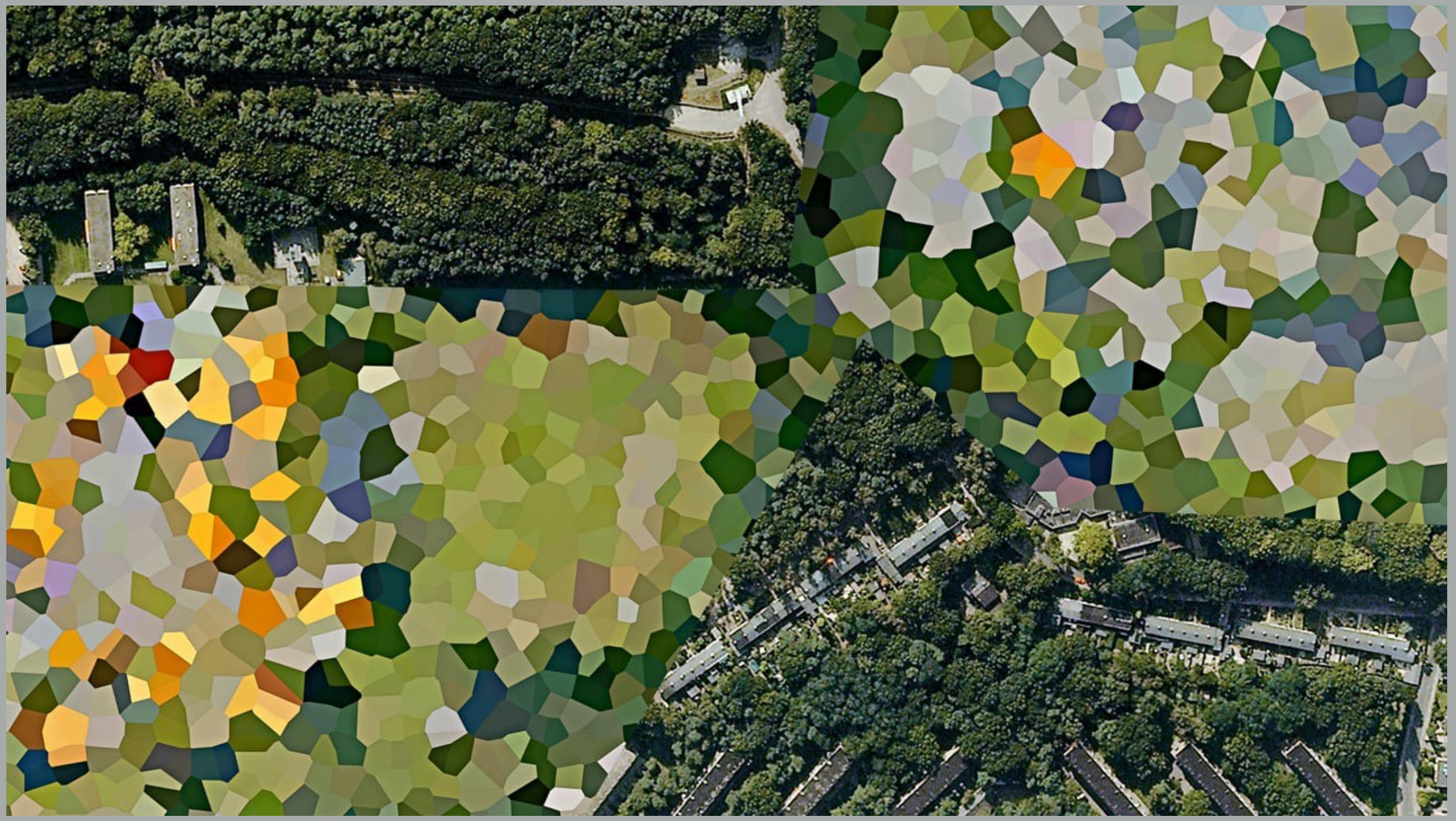
Mishka Henner - Coronado Feeders, Dalhart, Texas



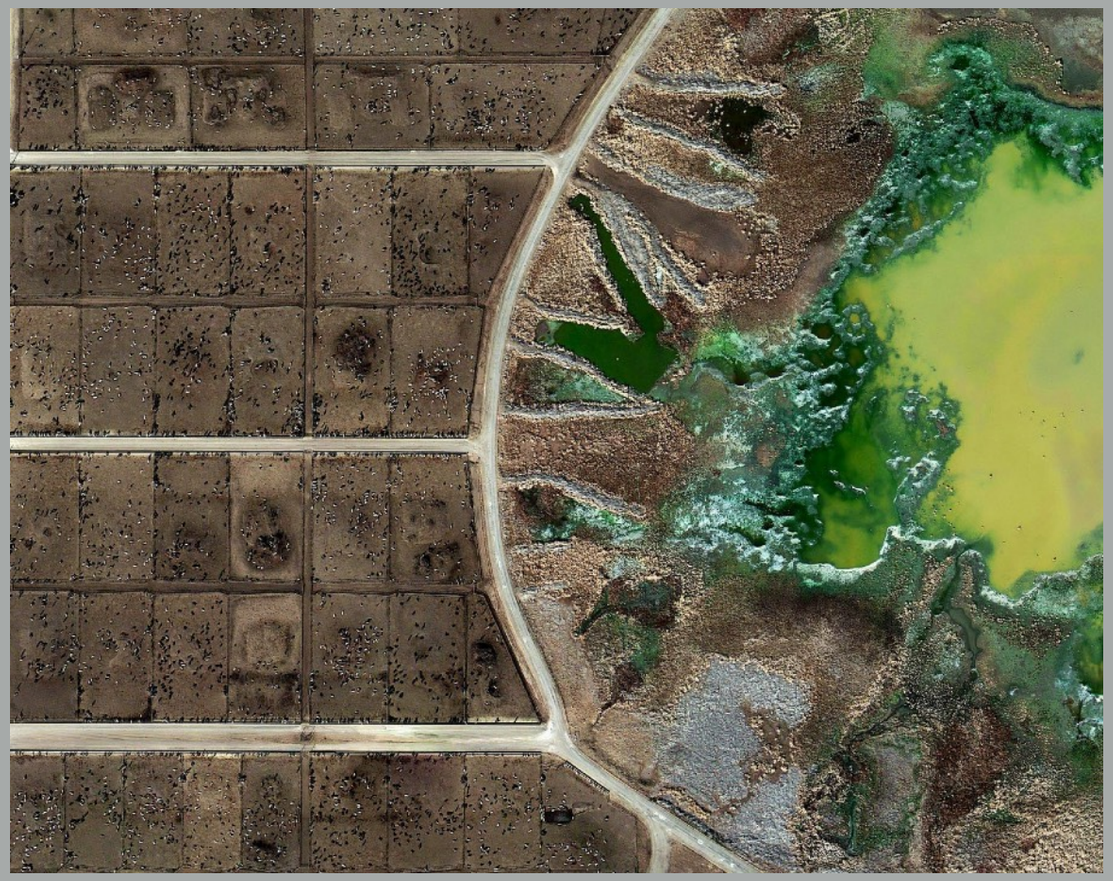




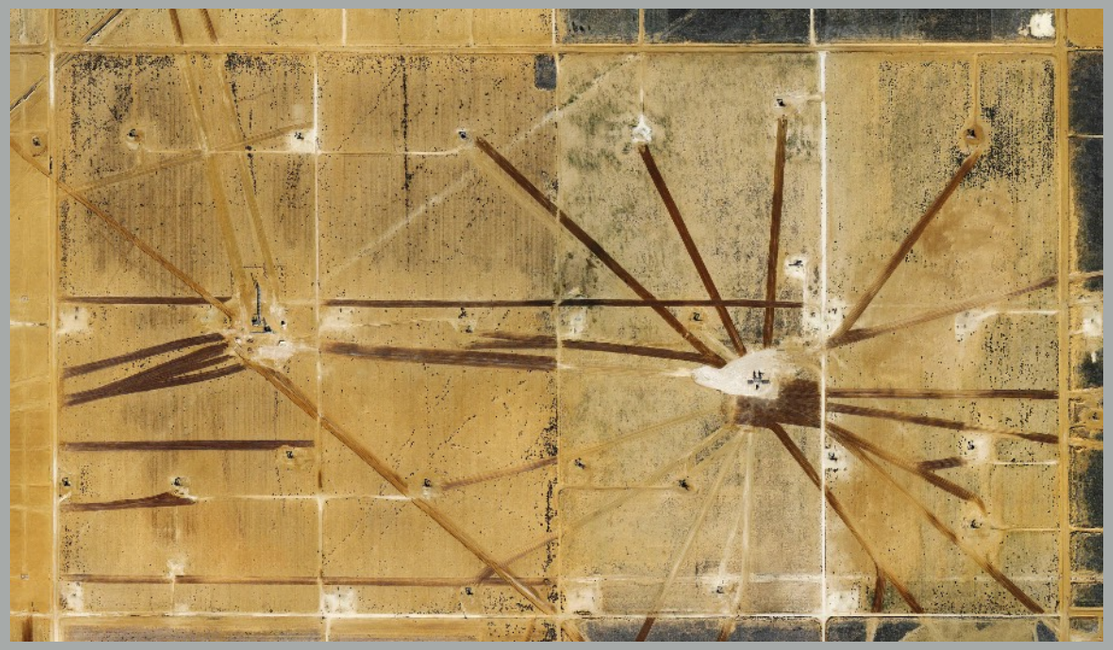
Mishka Henner - No Man’s Land



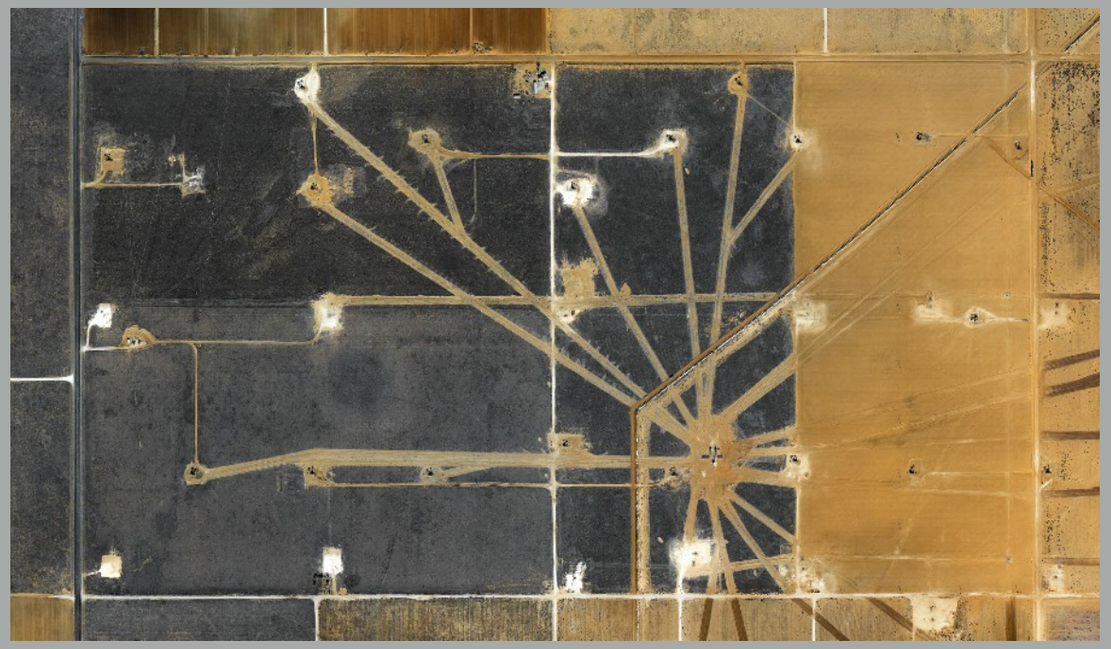
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