

The title of the book I was given was *Appearances* by John Berger. In the essay Berger talks about the ambiguity of a photograph and the enigma of appearances. He also talks about the various features and how one single image can be simplified differently depending on its context and its history. In order to explain this concept Berger suggests the idea of a circle and its diameter. He says, "The diameter of the circle depends on the amount of information to be found in the event's instantaneous appearances. The diameter (the amount of information received) He also mentions in the book that "Photographs quote from appearances. The taking out of the photograph produces a discontinuity, which is reflected in the ambiguity of a photograph meaning . All photographed events are ambiguous, except those whose personal relation to the event is such that their own lives supply the missing continuity. Usually , in public the ambiguity of photographs is hidden by the use of words which explain more or less truthfully, the picture's events."

From reading the book, I learned that photographs create some sort of meaning and language, they all have their own personal narrative or way of speaking and explaining this problematic world around us.

For my final outcome I choose to use portraits of strangers I had taken on my travels in Thailand. The images show how different their lives are and how my experiences differentiates the meaning of the image to the viewer. I like how each photograph in the video creates further truth and knowledge about their life story. In my video I used specific quotes from John Berger to make the images more powerful and meaningful.

My final piece relates to the original book because the portraits show some sort of language and narrative and reveals how my images are seen in a totally different way by different people and different cultures.

Margaret Bourke-White, Andre Kertesz and Paul Strand have influenced my work the most throughout this project.

Paul Strand inspired me to focus on the portraits, by capturing emotion to tell a story and to make the viewer feel more connected to my work.

I liked how Andre Kertesz arranged his photographs, I took aboard the composition and perspectives of his work to add an effective impact to my work.

Margaret Bourke-White inspired me to document the lives of other people to reveal truth and history.