

# HERVE SAINT HELIER

## MEDIA KIT 2021

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## BIO

To be born at the solstice on the longest day may be Hervé Saint-Héliér's first sensory experience of 'phototropism'.

His story as a photographer actually began on his twentieth birthday with a gift from a friend: his first camera, a Nikon FG.

One week later he talked his way into a two-month gig in the photo laboratories of renowned publisher Hachette Filipacchi, before landing a job with ELLE Studios, where he quickly familiarized himself with photo development techniques and cut his teeth on snapping with a Rolleiflex. He never quit film photography.

The young Saint-Héliér started with no press card... He invented his own, and fought his way to begin snapping alongside reporters from major agencies.

His shots of the French-speaking countries Summit in Paris in 1991 gained attention from the press department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Thanks to their support, he entered the world of political photographers.

From Queen Elizabeth II to Pope John-Paul II to French navy's legendary training ship 'Joan of Arc', Saint-Héliér captured the essence of the waning twentieth century. He snapped the silhouettes, pouts and postures of great men and women and grasped the aesthetics of sovereign institutions in a very personal manner, with resolute artistic sensitivity.

**In the 90s, Sygma and Sipa Press started distributing his photographs.**



QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND PRINCE PHILIPP



BB KING

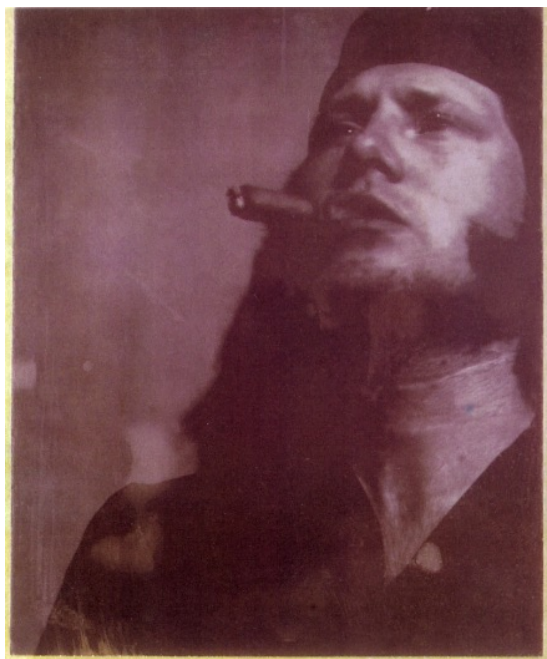


ZAO WOU-KI

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SELFPORTRAIT 'CHE'

From the United States to Japan to Siberia to China to India to Amazonia, Hervé Saint-Hélier has circled the world, exploring and unveiling unexpected discoveries captured through a meticulous and delicate process in photo laboratories.

Regardless of so-called technical boundaries and photo development standards, he soon began exploring in labs too – combining techniques, flooding, eroding, irradiating, triggering eruptions of light - on a systematic chromatic quest.

**Hervé Saint-Hélier is keen to shape raw living material, hence his ongoing preference for roll films, even if he also explores digital photography.**

*Co-produced and distributed by film production company CAPA, the work 'Concorde in the August 11, 1999 eclipse' was a turning point in his career. He was supposed to go to Moscow but his plans changed when the president of production company Première Heure, Patrice Haddar, convinced him to shoot the making of films: shed a first light onto the film in pending creation, shoot the filming process, the assistants and the atmosphere. Hervé Saint-Hélier's first production was none other than the making of the commercial for 'Trésor' by Lancôme. The man really got caught up in the game and set a foot in the cinematographic world, far beyond snapping behind-the-scenes.*

Maïa de Martrin, in Chronic'Art

**After 'Argos Project', his first group exhibition in Vevey, Switzerland, Jean-Michel Ribettes, who acted as a curator for the 2000 'Wounded Narcissus' exhibition, Passage de Retz, Paris, chose his self-portrait as 'El Che' to be displayed alongside those of Andy Warhol, Cindy Sherman or Jean-Michel Basquiat among others.**

**It paved the way for a series of group exhibitions in Europe, Asia and the US, soon followed by solo shows notably with R&L Beaubourg gallery in Paris and in New York with Marlborough Graphics, that has represented him since 2008.**

**In 2010, he entered private bank Société Générale's Art Collection. His photographs have also been part of the Carmignac Foundation's collection for more than fifteen years, and will be displayed at the Foundation's Museum, set to open in 2017 on Porquerolles Island.**

## MINI BIO

Hervé Saint-Hélier's story as a photographer began in 1989 on his twentieth birthday with a gift from a friend:

his first camera, a Nikon FG. One year later, after landing gigs with Hachette Filippachi and ELLE Studios, Sygma and Sipa Press started distributing his photographs.

A perpetual explorer, Saint-Hélier began circling the world, capturing and revealing the unexpected through a meticulous work on colors in photo laboratories. He is keen to shape raw living material, hence an ongoing preference for roll films, even if he also explores digital photography.

'Argos Project', his first group exhibition in Vevey, Switzerland, laid the groundwork for a series of group exhibitions in Europe, Asia and the US, soon followed by solo shows notably with R&L Beaubourg gallery in Paris in 2000 and in New York with Marlborough Graphics, that has represented him since 2008.

In 2010, he entered private bank Société Générale's Art Collection. His photographs have also been part of the Carmignac Foundation's collection for more than fifteen years.



SELF PORTRAIT CHINA 2006

## TECHNICS

Saint-Hélier shoots with traditional

cameras, notably using Nikon, Rolleiflex, Hasselblad, Linhof, Canon, Leica, Contessa and pinhole cameras.

Shot on silver halide photographic films ranging from 35mm to 5x7", Saint-Hélier's photographs are developed by hand in black-and-white and color, enlarged and printed on Fujiflex, Ilfoflex, Kodak shining and soft perle paper or black-and-white baryta paper, according to the subjects.

Ilfochrome is used when printing original E6 photographs (ektas) or for specific projects.

# EXHIBITS

## GROUP

### WINTER GROUP SHOW DEC 19 / JAN 20

N'oblige Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### COSMOS DEC 19

Cercle de l'Union Interalliée Comply Art (Paris FRANCE)

### BOL D'AIR JUN 19

Comply Art (Mézières-en-Drouais FRANCE)

### FONDATION CARMIGNAC JUN / NOV 18

Carmignac Foundation (Porquerolles Island FRANCE)

### REGARDS DE PROVENCE FEV / AOU 18

Museum (Marseille FRANCE)

### MARTIN ASBAEK GALLERY PRINTEMPS ÉTÉ 17

Galerie Martin Asbaek (Copenhagen DANEMARK)

### PARTIR... JUN / JUL 16

Bogéna Galerie (Saint Paul de Vence FRANCE)

### ART PARIS 2016 AVR 16

with Bogena Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### KOSMOS SEVEN OCT / NOV 15

Pörnbach Contemporary (Pörnbach ALLEMAGNE)

### ART IS HOPE 2014 DEC 14

with LINK for AIDES (Paris FRANCE)

### FIAC OCT 14

In Chambre à Part IX – VIP (Paris FRANCE)

### POPULAR HYMNS WITH THE AMERICAN'S PEERS AND THE YOUNG BRITISH GENERATION NOV 10 / JAN 11

Alexia Goethe Gallery (Londres R-U)

### PALAIS DES BEAUX ARTS DE LILLE OCT 10 / JAN 11

with Société Générale Collection (FRANCE)

### ART CHICAGO MAI 09

with Marlborough Graphics New York (Chicago USA)

### ARMORY SHOW MAR 09

with Marlborough Graphics (New York USA)

### INK ART FAIR 2008 DEC 08

with Marlborough Graphics New York (Miami USA)

### SUMMER SHOW JUN / SEP 08

Marlborough Graphics (New York USA)

Marlborough Galeria (Madrid ESPAGNE)

### CONSTELLATION AVR / JUL 08

Herve Van Der Straeten Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### ART CHICAGO 2008 AVR 08

with Marlborough Graphics New York (Chicago USA)

### INK ART FAIR 2007 DEC 07

with Marlborough Graphics New York (Miami USA)

### SUMMER SHOW JUN / SEP 07

Marlborough Graphics (New York USA)

### STORY DEC 06 / JAN 07

Alexia Goethe Gallery (Londres R-U)

### SLICK 01 OCT 06

Vanessa Suchar (Paris FRANCE)

### L'AIR OCT 05

Festival L'OEIL EN SEYNE Villa Tamaris (La Seyne-sur-Mer FRANCE)

### ERRANCES URBAINES JUL 05

Arles 2005 in the Le Off du Off au couvent (Arles FRANCE)



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## EXHIBITS GROUP

### ART PARIS 2005 AVR 05

with R&L Beaubourg Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### ARGOS PROJECT SEP / OCT 00

Festival Toit du Monde (Vevey SUISSE)

### TOUTAZEUNETRI DEC 03 / JAN 04

Loevenbruck Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### NARCISSE BLESSE JUN / SEP 00

Retz Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### SCOPE MIAMI 2003 DEC 03

Vanessa Suchar (Miami USA)

### PARIS PHOTO NOV 03

Thierry Marlat Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### MUSE SEP / NOV 03

Tangsi Gallery (Kuala Lumpur MALAISIE)

### ART PARIS 2003 SEP 03

with R&L Beaugourg Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### TERRE D'IMAGES MAI 03

Festival (Biarritz FRANCE)

### CHAMBRE 305 AVR / JUN 03

Hotel Art Gallery (Florence ITALIE)

### ARCO ART FAIR 2002 FEV 02

with Galerie R&L Beaubourg (Madrid ESPAGNE)

### JOLIS MOMES NOV 01

ACTE 2 Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### FACE A FACE JUN / SEP 01

R&L Beaubourg Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### 3 EXHIBITIONS: ROUGE / BLANC / TEMPETE SOUS UN CRANE NOV / SEP 00-01

Valérie Cuéto Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### LE SALON FOR ART COLLECTORS JAN / FEV 01

Vanessa Suchar (London New York)

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## EXHIBITS GROUP

### TIMECOLORS 3-5 FRIEDLAND NOV 19

Sisley-d'Ornano Foundation (Paris FRANCE)

### TIMELESSNESS OCT / NOV 19

N'oblige Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

### MZANING SEP / OCT 19

Air & Space Museum (Le Bourget FRANCE)

### MEANING DEC 18

Talleyrand Hotel (Paris FRANCE)

### VOYAGE JAN / FEV 08

Marlborough Graphics (New York USA)

### ETOILES ET VILLES AUG 05

ES Gallery produced by Yukari-Art inc. (Tokyo JAPON)

### COULEUR MAR / AVR 02

Nobu White Room by Vanessa Suchar (LondonR-U)

### VOYAGES URBAINS NOV / JAN 01-02

R&L Beaugourg Gallery (Paris FRANCE)

## DIVERS

### ART BASEL 2014 JUN 14

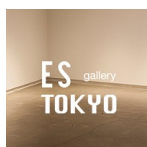
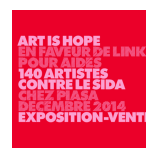
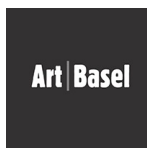
Photographs exposed in the VIP Room (Paris FRANCE)

### SOCIETE GENERALE COLLECTION SINCE 2010

(FRANCE)

acte2galerie

ALEXIA GOETHE  
ARTS & Co



HERVÉ VAN DER STRAETEN

GALLERY  
Hotel Art

GALERIE  
THIERRY MARLAT



Loevenbruck  
Galerie

Marlborough  
Graphics

PALAIS BEAUX-ARTS LILLE



PASSAGE RETZ



Tangsi Galeri  
KUALA  
LUMPUR

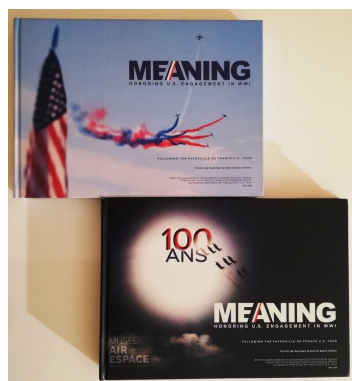


SCOPE  
Miami

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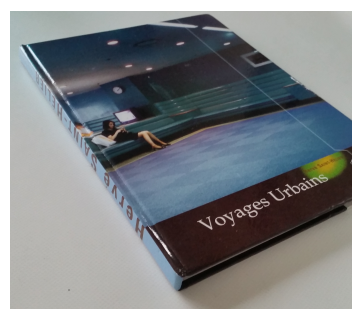
MEANING



PHOTOTROPISME



CONTE ÉTHIOPIEN



VOYAGES URBAINS

## BOOKS

### MEANING

2019

Text by Yorick de Guichen  
Published by MEANING COMPANY  
& HERVE SAINT HELIER

### PHILOCALIE

Collective book 2013

Published by Valérie Solvit  
With the support of L'Oréal (Paris FRANCE)

### CONTE ETHIOPIEN

(ETHIOPIAN TALE)

Limited Edition 2011

Text by Roland Brival  
Published by Chez Higgins (Paris FRANCE)

### PHOTOTROPISME

Limited Edition 2008

Text by Marwan Hoss  
Published by Chez Higgins (Paris FRANCE)

### VOYAGES URBAINS

(URBAN FARES)

2001

Published by R&L Beaubourg Gallery  
With ETC Pollak Prebon (Paris FRANCE)



## QUOTES

French snapper Hervé Saint-Hélier brings new grit to the glossy world of travel photography with grainy images more evocative of documentary than travelogue.

*Evening Standard*

Hervé Saint-Hélier, a keen wanderer on unexpected chromatic journeys.

Christophe Quillier, about *L'air* exhibit

His photographic journeys evoke head-turning colors and fragrances.

*Maïs de Martrin, Chronic'Art*

Circling the world from Russia to Japan to Cuba, [Saint-Hélier] captures recurring abstractions on a series of celluloid canvases: brash industrial lightning, brutal architecture, blurred journeying souls.

*Evening Standard*

A dandily reporter, Hervé Saint-Hélier surveys the curves of modern cities (...). He extracts their mysterious fragrances; his eye points out human softness, treats at the corner of the streets, electric blusher and architectural delicacy.

He brings their cinemascope femininity forth.

*Charlotte Leouzon, Jalouse magazine*

I dreamt of a city which I could dream of like a woman's winter sunkissed body

and which would move around in people's heads like the mirror of their desires, the mirror of their most precious moments...

I saw this city surge up little by little like a mirage made to order where I traveled with Hervé Saint-Hélier. Rimbaud's mystical Abyssinia is unveiled here. But it has changed its face. It now dresses itself in glass.

The fragility of human existence is even more singular in the middle of such a setting.

Roland Brival, in *Voyages Urbains*