

Civil Rights Photography and Contemporary Art

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Facts

The Fire That No Water Could Put Off is in the civil rights photography, a banner done by Ernest Withers (American 1922-2007). It was a strike conducted by sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee, on March 28, 1968. It is a gelatin silver print. This picture examines the history and legacy of the civil rights movement. The image draws the attention of the viewer by showing the ability of the photos during that era to demonstrate the continuing fight for equal rights. The picture shows a mass protest; there is a significant crowd of men holding banners reading "I AM A MAN." This strike was due to racism and injustices conducted by a specific group of people who considered themselves better than others. This photo shows how powerful images can shape history by showing the current what was practically happening then. (Johnson et al. 2015).

Terminus was done by a southern artist who is an African American, Mark Steinmetz (American, born 1961), and was printed by gelatin silver print through the courtesy of the artist and Jackson Fine Art at Atlanta, Georgia. The image of airplanes is captured, there is a passenger who looks frustrated outside in a waiting bay with his luggage, sitting on top of his luggage which is on the trolley. On the other side of the wall, it is evident that there are a lot of activities happening. It seems that the passenger just got overwhelmed and sought a quiet area for refreshment. The photo was captured at the Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The photo points out various activities that happen in most of the heavily trafficked airports in the world. The picture shows the differences between individuals' characters and the unique nature of the built environment.

Design in the Digital Age is a photography work done by Joris Laarman Lab and a Dutch designer, inventor, and artist, Joris Laarman (born 1979). The Joris Laarman lab was started in 2004 by Joris Laarman and his partner Filmmaker Anitar Star brought their designs into view on May 13, 2015. It was then that they started working together. They are designed pioneers and idea detonators whose intelligence and mind's approach to design are shown by bringing together science, technology, a high-level need for know-how, and creativity with lyrical aesthetics. Their presentations show digitally fabricated chairs, rococo voxel tables, an array of inventive, etc. The designs are so convincing to any viewer, and this shows that the work was done by expertise. They are located in Amsterdam. They brought together engineers, programmers, and artisans who dig more in-depth into the possibility of design through research, tests and applying new technology. (Adams, 2018).

Interpretation And Evaluation

It is true to say that unity is a strength. On the fire that no water could put off, it is evident that the mass demonstration involved a massive number of workers, which shows that in a place of mistreatment, people unite to fight for their rights. And the placards that these men carried show that they were poorly treated so they tried to emphasize that there was no man that was not a man. These also show that there was another group of people who were treated better than others. (Johnson et al. 2015). In this context, these were the title of a speech by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. just before he was assassinated in the year 1968. The Americans became so heartbroken by the injustices that were happening. It is unfair and unacceptable to treat people with the same abilities and potential and do the same work differently just because of their race or color. This can be by subjecting them to different working conditions, paying them a different rate, etc. Every person, regardless of their race or color, deserves an equal right to the other.

In Terminus Mark Steinmetz tries to show how congestion has become evident in the airport, the place is so busy that one can quickly become frustrated in the process, as conflict increases with some exiting and others entering the process become so tiresome. Due to the bloated numbers and the process that has to be followed, the activities do so fast, thus constraining the elaborate process, and this results in limited access to possibilities and opportunities. The difference in personalities and the different ways in which people respond to various activities is demonstrated by this frustrated passenger sitting on his luggage outside on the trolley. (Weaver, 2016)

Joris Laarman and Joris Laarman labs, in their beautiful designs, show how pleasant it can be when different people with diverse knowledge bring together their skills. The work is so attractive. Thus challenging every individual to work with others to better their skills and even to bring to the market acceptable goods or services.

Participation

Ernest Withers in the fire that no water could put off is so convincing since one can be able to read the environmental happenings by just looking at the banners and the words this placard carries.

Mark Steinmetz in the Terminal is not convincing since he fails to show the activities happening in the airport; thus, the viewer depends on the prior knowledge of what happens inside the airport and what could have led to the frustration of the passenger. (Weaver, 2016)

Joris Laarman and Joris Laarman in the Design in the Digital Age is very convincing. Joris can make very clear presentations that are attractive to any viewer. They also demonstrate exceptional professionalism in their work due to the diverse designs that they present. (Adams, 2018).

It is a lesson to be learned that if you want to walk fast, walk alone, but if you wish to go far, walk as a

group. This is where achieving credible results needs a group, and also, to sustain it, there is a need for different minds and skills to be brought together.

Works Cited

Adams, Laurie Schneider. *The methodologies of art: An introduction*. Routledge, 2018.

Johnson, Larry, et al. *The NMC Horizon Report: 2015 Museum Edition*. New Media Consortium. 6101 West Courtyard Drive Building One Suite 100, Austin, TX 78730, 2015.

Weaver, Stephanie. *Creating great visitor experiences: a guide for museums, parks, zoos, gardens & libraries*. Routledge, 2016.