

The Pocket Polaroids Series

Poetry's commitment to concreteness and to the autonomy of the poem's language parallels photography's commitment to pure seeing. Both imply discontinuity, disarticulated forms and compensatory unity: wrenching things from their context (to see them in a fresh way), bringing things together elliptically, according to the imperious but often arbitrary demands of subjectivity. (Susan Sontag, On Photography)

Fifty years ago Lawrence Ferlinghetti launched the now-famous Pocket Poets Series in San Francisco. Respectfully alluding to that achievement, the Pocket Polaroids Series devotes itself to the truthful reproduction of original instant prints – Polaroid or other, amateur or professional – and humbly strives to develop into an index of the medium as it has enriched and empowered us in the 20th century.

Polaroids are originals. No free second set, no negative, no backup. Anxiously anticipated, superstitiously put aside, never discarded, they convey a sense of immediacy and uniqueness that their digital successors fail to imitate. It is a bittersweet irony that we have to flatten their aura, deprive them of their mortality and reduce them to ordinarily reproduced photos in order to

celebrate their singularity. Then again: it's the reproduction that makes the original.

Each volume in the Pocket Polaroids Series is dedicated to one concept or photographer, one location or idea – from shaky party-shots to commercial studio work, from dead serious mugshot to arty amateur porn. No credentials needed. Poetry wanted.

Shot of the Day

Hungry for real analog, good smelling pictures in a digital world, we decided to swim against the stream and to reset our focus and start the biggest, best and most instant online photo community ever. Stuffed with millions of Polaroids, collected and uploaded by Polaroid addicts all over the planet. (founders of POLANOID.NET)

In September 2005 POLANOID.NET was launched. The website was meant to be a platform for everybody addicted to the instant fun of Polaroids. Soon the first 100 members were registered and the first 10.000 Polaroids were uploaded.

The collection in this third volume of the “Pocket Polaroids Series” presents Polaroids that members of the website voted as their “ShotOfTheDay” from the pictures uploaded on every day. But it is not only an excellent “first-year-of-POLANOID.NET”-selection of the very best Polaroids of the community, but also gives an amazing overview of the creative options the analog Polaroid material offers to its users.



lars.blumen (Berlin, DE): »PFIS: new level of resistance«
SX-70 with SX-70 camera
Shot of the Day 2006-03-02



mathieu (Nantes, FR): *»tell me the truth!«*
SX-70 with SX-70 Model 2
Collage, typewriter, fire ...
Shot of the Day 2006-09-29



Retina (Aachen, DE): »*One Day ...*«
600 with SX-70 camera
Shot of the Day 2006-03-19



granthamilton (Chicago, US): »*El Dorado*«
SX-70 expired with SX-70 Alpha 1
Shot of the Day 2006-04-11



granthamilton (Chicago, US): »Sin«
SX-70 with SX-70 Alpha 1
Handheld
Shot of the Day 2006-05-29