

## Human choices

Hi, I'm Paul. I've just completed my first module, PHO710 on the Photography MA.

I am investigating our relationship with the countryside and the effect our surroundings have on how we feel and behave.



Paul Gaffney, We Make The Path By Walking, 2013

Following a series of *derive's*<sup>1</sup>, my photographs are titled using What3Words. In the relation between the photograph and words, the photograph begs for an interpretation, and the words usually supply it<sup>2</sup>.



blink.turkeys.bracing

evolution.befitting.glossed

hopes.aimed.purified

obviously.surging.seagulls

Paul Williams, 2021/22

## Further development



The Queen Elizabeth Oak

Majesty

Avenue of Oaks

The Bowthorpe Oak

Beth Moon, Portraits of Time, 2014

The following images taken on my *derive's* are edited for a more sculptural aesthetic. 'Evidence of time is revealed in the furrowed bark of an ancient tree, gnarled, crooked, and beautiful' (Beth Moon<sup>3</sup>).



goats.highly.canny

pace.scream.happier

trombone.owls.ple

Paul Williams, 2021/22

The photographic typology has the ability to reshape perception, heighten and focus attention, and transform everyday objects into a thing of art (Paul Davis<sup>4</sup>). An observation of fence posts where nature has made its mark with rot, moss, lichen, and fungi show that although the posts are similar, each is unique and original, and more impactful when put together as a series.

<sup>1</sup> Debord, Guy (November 1956). Translated by Ken Knabb. 'Theory of the derive'. Les Lèvres Nues.

<sup>2</sup> Berger, J. and Mohr, J. (1989). Another way of telling. Cambridge: Granta Books.

<sup>3</sup> <https://bethmoon.com/portraits-of-time>

<sup>4</sup> <https://pdtv.medium.com/can-the-photographic-typology-be-defined-bfa38d5699f3>



48 Posts, Paul Williams, 2021

Chrystel Lebas comments on her pinhole images that ‘the viewer loses all sense of reality, the sense of vision diminishes’<sup>5</sup>



Chrystel Lebas, Night 2, 1996

I used light and time together to produce an ethereal image documenting the passing of time overnight.



hypocrite.bitter.monk

skim.bags.nutrients

Paul Williams, homemade pinhole camera, direct positive paper, 21-hour exposure (left), 20-hour exposure (right), 2022

What makes a photography a strange invention – with unforeseeable consequences – is that its primary raw materials are light and time.<sup>6</sup> Within Informing Contexts I would like to continue to explore the concept of light and time to capture with the camera what we cannot always see with the eye.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.chrystellebas.com/Night2/night%202.htm>

<sup>6</sup> Berger, J. and Mohr, J. (1989). *Another way of telling*. Cambridge: Granta Books.p.85.