

Pierre Boogearts - Clip 4

Photography gave me a world through which I could live instantly

Why photography? It's quite simple –

It was a change of tools.

Pop art at the time, and its particular form of questioning greatly influenced me, as it did all young people at that time. Pop art interested me because it questioned art. It was set in an everyday environment, in daily life: consumer products, the urban landscape of advertising and so forth, sporting events on television, photography, all those things that no longer required the use of the hand, the sense of touch. And so, moving away from the manual seemed important as well as being in the present. To live at the time that I lived and not in the past. That's how I saw the matter, how I thought at the time. And so abandoning the pencil, the brush and eventually painting for photography, gave me a world through which I could live instantly. It was not a question of the hand, of the body, as I learned to recognize little by little, [but] of the index finger, just a simple button to push, no more, and the world was there, visible, recognizable. Not the world that had existed, but the world that surrounded me, the world I perceived around me, the contemporary world – that's what made me switch to photography.

