

Roland Okoń

ARTIST STATEMENT

Hard-pressed and asked why I am involved with photography, I'd answer *I make photos because this is my way of creating a new universe, frozen in the image, and deep as the horizons of human imagination can only be* . I find unbelievable the plentitude of pleasing esthetic impressions that come from contact with beauty.

I adore people, the time I spend with them and the adventures we share. Photography can freeze these moments for years. Although their meaning and interpretation may change, a photography lives its own life since the instant it was made, regardless of people and places it immortalizes.

My favorite subject matters of photography are people. I strive to present their merciless mirror reflection.

On a human face there are over 200 muscles. Their countless combinations allow to express a wealth of emotions and moods. We all use them to communicate nonverbally our thoughts, emotions, feelings, impressions. Polish dramatist Wojciech Bogusławski in his work from 1812 wrote that *mimicry is an art of imitation, it is a pleasure and a truth of all movements of human body imagining numerous feelings and desires affecting its soul* .

I always pay particular attention to the composition of my works. I prefer images with the perfect proportion both in portrait photography and in dynamic documentary photography.

I use analog and digital cameras. With the analogs, I await with impatience the moment when the photos appear on the film as only then I discover what and how I managed to capture. Though of course digital photography has its advantages as well, and is irreplaceable in professional work.

I am most pleased with my work when I can hear that my photos present regular people in an irregular way, in a beautiful light.

I am inspired by the classics, artists whose works became icons of 20th c. photography. Nonetheless, the modern photography is in its renaissance, thousands of people are involved in photography and hundreds of thousands search for good pictures. I am inspired by this trend, the fact that among thousands of photos that are being made, I can find some that are truly exceptional.