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(selected by Xiaopeng Yuan)



Xiaopeng Yuan



Damien Maloney



A Game of Association: Image-conversations with A New Nothing & Parallelograms

Run by artists Ben Alper and Nat Ward, **A NEW NOTHING** invites a series of artists to pair up for two-person, image-based conversations. The artists take turns responding to each others' photographs and upload them to an ever-evolving series of conversations that unfold on the website in real time.

PARALLELOGRAMS is an online project initiated by artists Leah Beeferman and Matthew Harvey. Mining the infinite recesses of the digital realm, Beeferman and Harvey use Google to search for selections of images to send to artists, and ask them to create web-based responses to one of them.

Parallelograms and A New Nothing are two online curatorial projects that play with the interpretation and re-interpretation of images. Using the Internet as their medium, they each hone the qualities of immediacy and open-endedness that come from living online, and allow for a project to continually develop in 'real time'.

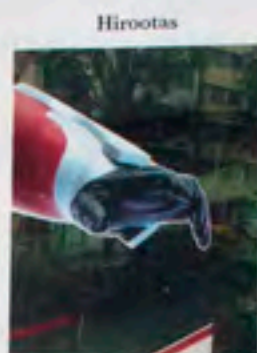
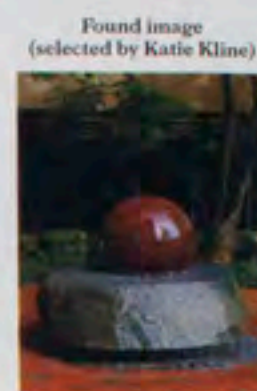
In a new collaboration for Unseen, A New Nothing and

Parallelograms have worked together to find a meeting point between their respective projects, and commission a group of artists to engage in a brand new series of image-conversations. The process began by each artist choosing one image found online by Parallelograms and making an image in response. These photographs were then sent to another artist in the group to make a visual response to,

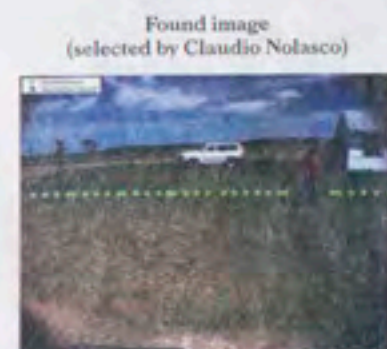
and thus began the chain. The conversations are closed with found images selected by the artists and chosen in response to the penultimate round.

The participating artists are: *Matthew Connors, Joy Drury Cox, Hirootas, Katie Kline, Catharine Maloney, Damien Maloney, Yamini Nayar, Claudio Nolasco, Anastasia Samoylova, Courtney Stephens, Daniel Terna and Xiaopeng Yuan*

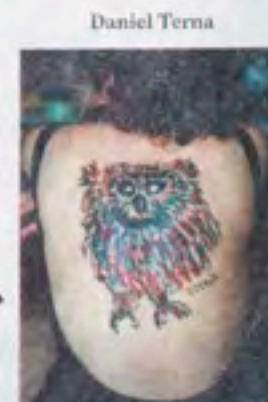
The 12 resulting image-conversations are full of subtle and clever photographic responses, triggered by form, colour, symbolism and metaphor. In a game of association, Unseen invites you to take these small journeys, and find the connections in each one.



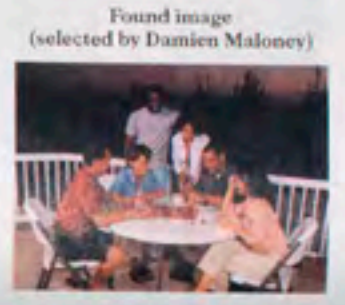
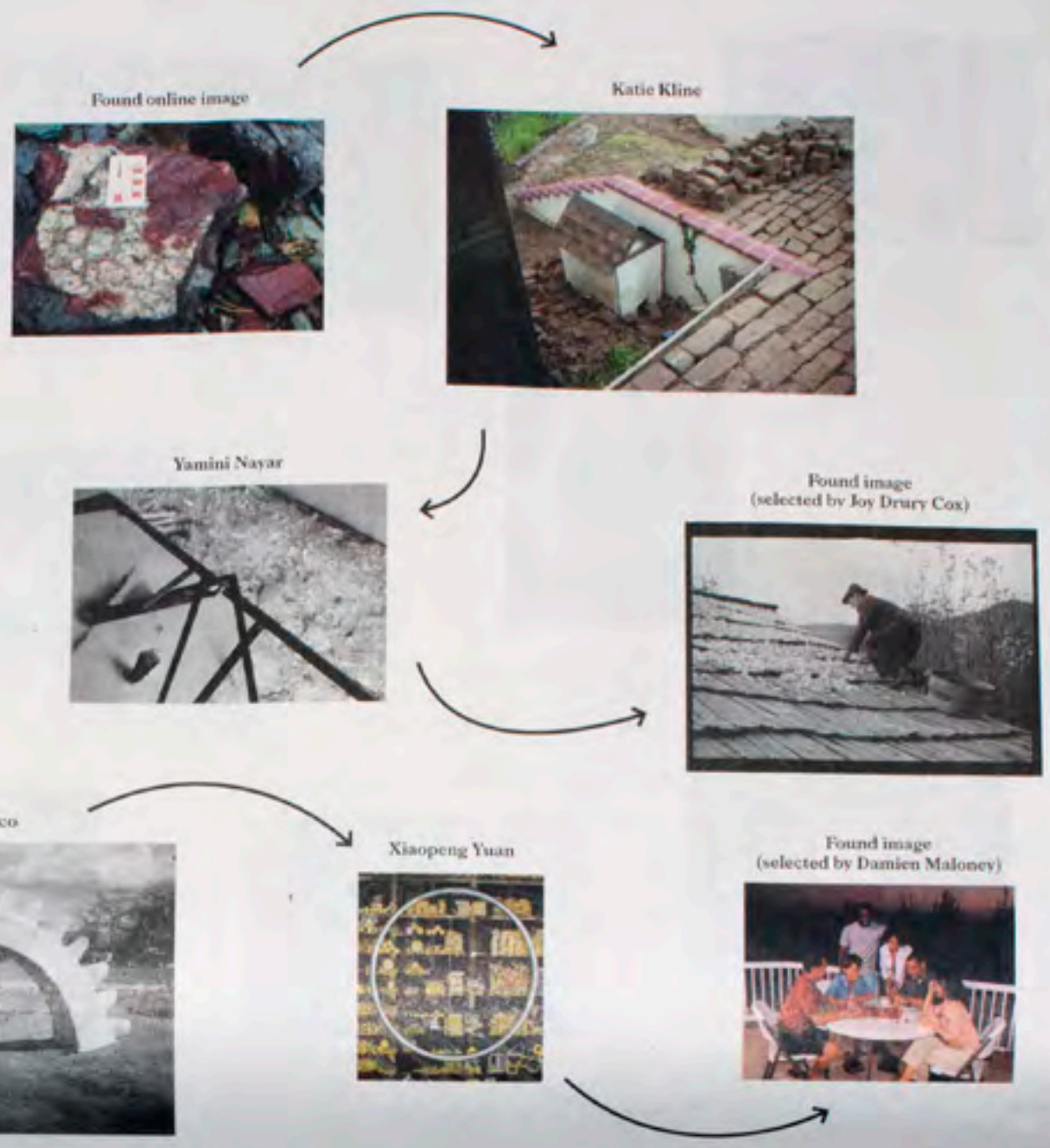
“A New Nothing has allowed me to think about image-based communication in similar terms to written or spoken language. I consider how images might operate as metaphors, clichés, innuendos, hyperboles, poems or alliterations.”
—Ben Alper



“The kind of staring that happens on the Internet is very different to the kind of contemplation afforded by a more traditional space, such as a gallery. The magnetism of a socially creative space on the web has a lot to do with the transparency of interaction. It’s fascinating to watch visual and personal relationships develop out in the open in real time.”
—Nat Ward



“Rather than thinking about this mass proliferation of images in society as a threat to the nature of photography, or as something photography has to stand up to, it seems more compelling to think about what potential it can open up for the medium.”
 – Leah Beeferman





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Hirootas



Matthew Connors



Found image (selected by Hirootas)

“The Internet has changed how everyone lives with images, not just artists. We communicate with each other in a way that is vastly different to any other time in the past. Not only does everyone now communicate on a daily basis through photographs, but also through a variety of other forms of media such as blog and Twitter posts, videos, group video games and Skype. It is not a question that is unique to photography. It’s about how we experience images and how images communicate with us.”

– Matthew Harvey



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Joy Drury Cox



Yamini Navar



Found image (selected by Yamini Navar)

THE PHOTOBOK PROCESS

The photobook is an important tool with which an artist can communicate their vision to a wider audience. For the viewer, a photobook offers an intimate, accessible and tactile experience of an artist’s work. The photobook process is comprised of three main roles: the artist, the designer and the publisher. In the age of self-publishing, these roles are often blurred and artists become polymaths, tackling more than one of these roles at a time. Publisher Roger Willemms, Roma Publications and artist Batia Suter discuss the nuances of each role in the process of making Suter’s new photobook *Parallel Encyclopedia 2*, a second volume to an earlier publication of the same name.