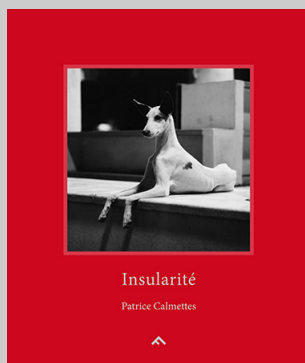


Insularité Patrice Calmettes

Judith Benhamou-Huet, Pierre Passebon



Always fascinated by photography (his great uncle was a friend and patron of Eugène Atget), Patrice Calmettes, when he was not yet 20, was offered by Diana Vreeland to become a photographer for Vogue USA. A complicity that will last several years before Andy Warhol asked him to collaborate *Interview*.

After all these years of cosmopolitan life and overflows, Patrice Calmettes takes refuge in work on timelessness. Portraits, landscapes and architecture are all subjects that we are the roots of our Western civilization. The most of his photos were taken in Ibiza, Mediterranean island of excess passage and tranquility, since the Phoenician period.

Meticulous and lonely, his black and white are stylized and whatever the subject, they retain a conventional size, shared mind with Robert Mapplethorpe. The latter was an unknown young man of 18, Patrice Calmettes was then dazzled by his talent when he entered his studio. Most often he works with Hasselblad, his pictures are graphics, always in natural light (its blacks are bright) and great elegance. His photographs have the power of images that stores at first glance.

Pierre Passebon

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