

seaofsurrealism What shall I compare my work with? Perhaps with the labour of a diamond miner. To find only one precious stone, he has to search tons of rubble. The value of such a find, however, is uncertain until the stone has been cut. I am searching the unconscious for surrealist archetypes.

The great difficulty in surrealist art is to discover pictures of paradoxical evidence. Salvador Dali's painting of the dissolving watches is unforgettable owing to the evidence of the underlying idea.

My metaphysical photographs are intended to break common habits of vision. They are also created for the delight of escaping from the laws of nature, for a moment at least. In every respect they are paradoxical. They are in continuous contradiction to reality. I do, however, intend to conceive surrealist logics as the reverse of natural laws. Each side contains a hidden key to the other. Yet my images do not pretend to disclose one sphere or the other. They are meant to be part of a



The library of forgetfulness

surrealimageryby**Wolfgang Straub**



TOP: The nutritive value of mandolins. ABOVE: The unbearable lightness of falling

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greater motion, like a snapshot of the falling coin. The spectator may foresee which way the coin will fall, like an illiterate who tries to read a dictionary. At first he will only guess the sense of the words. With his first efforts, however, he initiates a learning process that may lead him to understanding.

Wolfgang Straub is a photographer based in Switzerland. Special thanks to Mr Rolf Sutter, Studio Fotografica, Huttwil, Switzerland

BELOW: The Royal Watermusic. BOTTOM: The discovery of times lost

