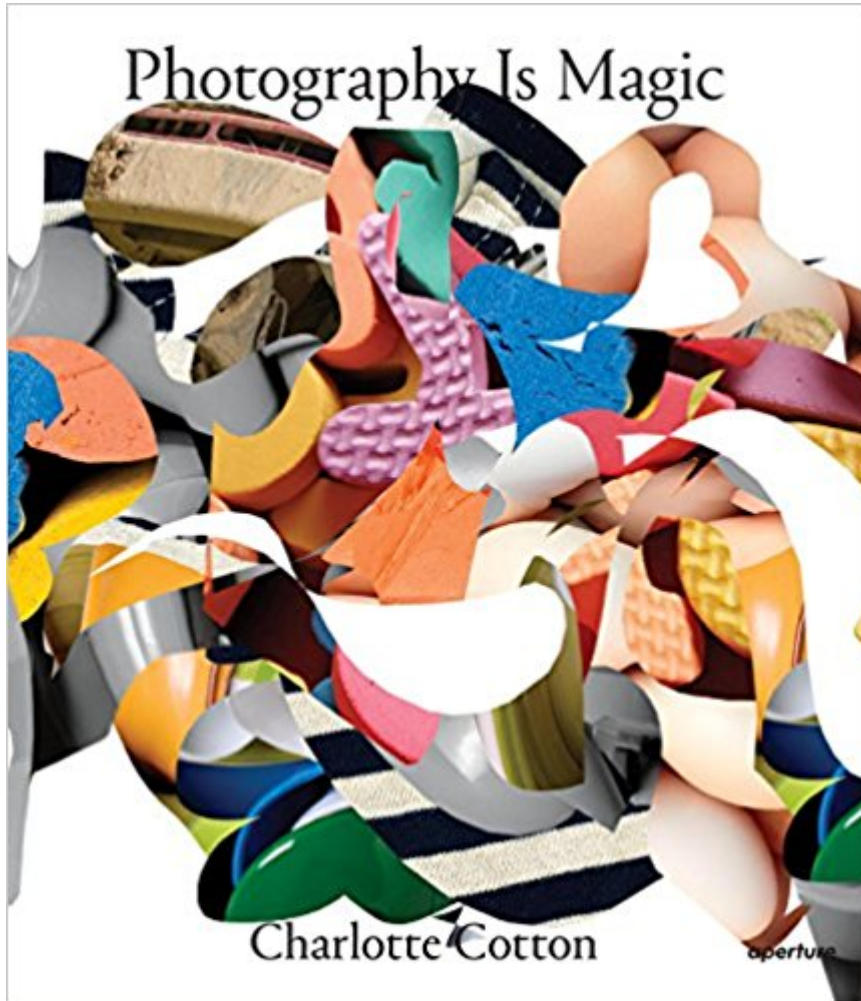


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## The book was found

# Photography Is Magic



## Synopsis

Photography Is Magic draws together current ideas about the use of photography as an invaluable medium in the contemporary art world. Edited and with an essay by leading photography writer and curator Charlotte Cotton, this critical publication surveys the work of a diverse group of artists, many working at the borders of the "art world" and the "photography world," all of whom are engaged with experimental ideas concerning photographic practice and its place in a shifting photographic landscape being reshaped by digital techniques. Readers are shown the scope of photographic possibilities in the context of the contemporary creative process. From Michele Abeles and Walead Beshty to Daniel Gordon and Matthew Lipps, Cotton has selected artists who are consciously reframing photographic practices using mixed media, appropriation and a recalibration of analog processes. Cotton brings these artists together around the idea of magic, the properties of illusion and material transformation that uniquely characterize photography. Beautifully produced and critically rigorous, Photography Is Magic is aimed at younger photo aficionados, students and anyone interested in gaining a deeper understanding of contemporary photography. It includes images and text by more than 80 artists, including Sara Cwynar, Shannon Ebner, Annette Kelm, Josh Kline, Elad Lassry, Jon Rafman, Shirana Shahbazi and Sara VanDerBeek, among many others.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The book addresses the present moment: an incredibly rich image environment, freely circulating,

disembodied, destabilized, precarious, and in flux. *ArtSlant*[Cotton] shares some of that wisdom with a sense of joy and sparkle, showcasing highlights from the world's most incredible image-makers. *W Magazine* Charlotte Cotton casts a spell with her magnificent new book that celebrates the art of photographic magic. *Another* A thorough primer in the present-day scene of art photography. *Surface*

Photography is Magic surveys more than eighty artists whose practices shape the possibilities of our contemporary photographic landscape.

This is a very interesting book however, that is not a new book is, which has left me a bit puzzled trying to figure out why it doesn't do what I thought it would (or should).

"Photography Is Magic" is indeed a wide-based survey of work made in the past decade or so, but it is in many ways much more of an edited source or reference book than an original analytical work. Still worthwhile to peruse.

Great selection of photos, but the author provides scant insight into the individual artists and their work. The writing is dull and laden with jargon. Most people will find the text it unhelpful, unless they thrill to academese.

This is a terrific overview of contemporary photographers doing abstract and semi-abstract work.

I was definitely looking forward to another great Charlotte Cotton Photography book, but was unfortunately terribly disappointed with this purchase. There is minimal text from Cotton, and while the pages are flooded with some trending Contemporary Photographs and Photographers, the book falls short of a good critique on the current state of photography.

This book is wonderful if you enjoy abstract photography.

Charlotte's idea of photographic magic is to throw a bunch of images against the wall, pinterest-style. There is no critical thinking at play, no art history references, no real tangible connections, save image fillers aggregated into an ambiguous monograph. Pass, actually FAIL.

Amazing!

Wonderful book, glad it was still available, I've been having a hard time finding it elsewhere.

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