

PAUL SMITH

• photographer // videographer

www.pauljulesmith.com

French, born in 1988 April 21st
Driving licence A, B
Langages : French, English

BIO

My work confronts the unknown.

Several explorations combine a polished aesthetic with a hybrid narration, between fiction and documentary. Conceived as poetic ballads, they play with randomness, survey normality, shake the imaginary and unveil the intimate.

I am first and foremost a voyeur. I admit it and recognize a certain perversity is inherent to my process, which I keep pragmatic, sober and playful.

ARTWORK

in progres ... **Filmmaker assistant // Filming of *La langue rouge* of Violaine de villers**

Documentary about the flemish painter Walter Swennen . Assitant director of Violaine de Villers since leaving school, I follow the project since the senario's developement .

in progres ... **18 Shades // Short film**

Still in writing process, this film is about power relations between humans. The character interaction are governed by sets of rules established by a higher court. None of them can escape their destiny, manipulated by a system doomed to repeat the same schematics .

2014 **Ritournelle (At work #3) // Video // 6"14**

Working at the Tetouan tannery involves tremendous daily physical labor. The workers' skins get transformed equally to the ones they manipulate. The notion of work is here brought back to its etymology : suffering, torture. Constantly repeating mechanical contortions, they enter a trance state. Their instruments produce rhythms setting the beat, joining the same flow, in harmony.

Group show *Restrankil #7* // Brussels, Belgium // www.restrankil.com

Selected by *la vidéothèque nomade* of Brussels // <http://www.6870.be/>

Exhibition at *la Saline Royale d'Arc-et-Senans* // *Puisqu'on vous dit que c'est possible*

<http://www.isba-besancon.fr/spip.php?article408>

Group show *Foreseen project* <https://www.facebook.com/events/102939846713452/>

2013 - 2014 **Les bonnes du sud // Video // 12"20**

Following with the TANGER MED project, I decided to travel to southern Tunisia, two years after the revolution. It's around the intercity zones of Gafsa that the uprisings got sparked. Interested by the idea of struggle representation, I depicted, through a variety of portraits, a landscape of protests in a post revolutionary atmosphere.

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2013 **In Between**

The serie stages my acquaintances. In a more polished style, the pictures share aesthetics with the advertising world. Where the mercantile image stops at the surface, at the artificial masks, the characters here reveal their intimacy. They expose their doubts, publicizing them in their own way, as if playing for a moment with their difficulty to find their place in this world.

Group show // *Botanique*, Brussels // Department of photography // ENSAV La Cambre

2013 **Tanger Med // Video // 11"01**

This film presents itself as a journey through one of Tanger's franc-zones, a new industrial port whose construction was initiated in 2003, 40 km outside the city. Constantly expanding, Tanger might well become Africa's largest port. Territory of transit and trade, strategic point for worldwide fluxes, Tanger Med (name of the franc-zone) is also a large restricted zone whose access is closed to the local population.

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Diepfestival, exhibition *D'une rive à l'autre Dieppe*, France www.diepfestival.wordpress.com/dune-rive-a-lautre

Festival Premiers Courts Lyon, France http://www.premierscourts.fr/Premiers_Courts/Accueil.html

Group show // *Botanique*, Brussels // Department of photography // ENSAV La Cambre

2012 **Icons**

This project was an order focused on the notion of icons. I worked with a flemish teacher in an underprivileged Brussels area. She chooses her icons (her parents), flemish, who have hand-built their house. Bricks, henhouses constitute the background.

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• photographe // videaste

pauljulesmith@gmail.com
0032 483 052 484
vimeo.com/user19170586

2012 **As if born again // Internship at the mental health Centre ANTONIN ARTAUD**
Interested with the idea of madness, I took a series of pictures in a day psychiatric center. After several months of observation and participation to workshops, I proposed a collaboration, a photographic dialog where each expresses his own mental-distress and lunacy.
Group show *Au Gré des Arts Festival // La Rochefoucauld, France*
<http://www.augredesarts-festival.org/Expo-Photo>

2011 **Snapshot #1**
My process was simple: I fixed a camera on my back which I activated from my pocket via a hidden remote. I walked through transit zones such as the metro or train stations full of people who are not leaving. They wander, waiting around...They are in the moment of the shot, while also being in an other uncertain location.

COMMISSIONED WORKS

In progress ... **Photographer for Métropole Properties agency**
Photography of luxury real estate.

02/ 2015 **Editing the film Répliques // Short film of Violaine de Villers**
Documentary on Bernard de Villers' practice including his use of color. Released for the exhibition: LIEU(X) COMMUN(S)

2014/ 2015 **Fashion Photography for Aventures des Toiles // Summer 2015 collection // Winter 2014**
Photo shoots with different models and sophisticated lighting to promote the clothing brand.
Brussels, Belgium <http://aventuresdestoiles.com>

2014/ 2015 **Book photographs // Large Designers**
Several photo shoots with elaborate lighting in order to enhance the work of two parisian designers on their website. The photos will be published in october in the parisian design magazine *Etapas*.
Brussels, Belgium <http://large.la/studio/>

11/2013
– 01/2014 **Workshop at the Tunisie Bondy Blog // Photo and video trainer.**
Raising awareness around photography and video to develop a personal artistic project. The goal of the workshop is to link a theme with a social and local reality through the construction of a series of coherent images (or short videos) in which the individuals express their singularity and personality, as image creators.
Gafsa, Tunisia <http://tunisiebondyblog.com/>

2013/ 2014 **Book photographs // Wolfcouronne Typographer Artist**
Several photo shoots with elaborate lighting in order to enhance the work of two typographers Artist on their website.
Brussels, Belgium <http://wolfcouronne.com/>

05/ 2012 –
15 jours **Fashion Photography for Degré 7 // 2012 Summer collection**
Photo shoot in Bouthan to promote the sportswear brand, insisting on the recurring colors and patterns inspired by the local traditional culture.
http://www.mediaconseilpresse.com/fr/press-kits/tendances-degre7-colors-ete-2013-bienvenue-au-bhoutan-pays-du-bonheur-national-brut_114.html

10/ 2009 –
06/2010 **Communication agency internship // Making institutional films**
Agence Naturine, 67, route de Paris - BP 28 69811 TASSIN CEDEX, FRANCE
Video department, Leewood.tv <http://www.leewood.tv/realisations.php>

EDUCATION

03 / 2015 **Artist project Workshop // Îles a.s.b.l**
The workshop is addressed to artists who wish to boost their professional career and acquire tools to increase their independence in the development of their projects.

2010 - 2014 **Master of Photography // ENSAV La Cambre**
Master of Fine Arts at the École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels La Cambre.
First class honours degree

2006 - 2010 **Master of Film Studies // Université Lumière Lyon 2**

2008 - 2009 **Exchange at the Chung Ang Univerity , Cinema and photography department.**
Total immersion in English for a year with multiple trips : Japan / China / Thailand / Laos / Mongolia