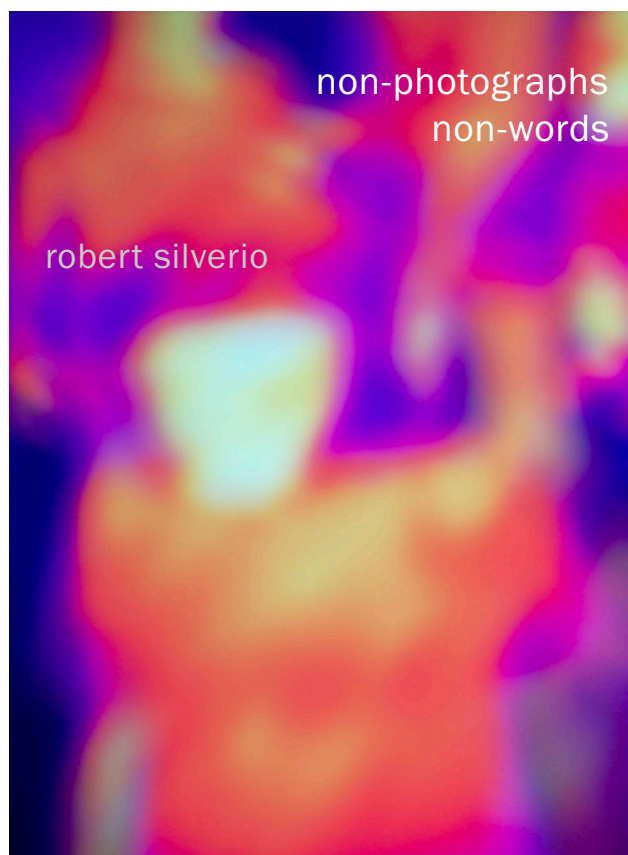


Press Release

Robert Silverio: NON-WORDS, NON-PHOTOGRAPHS

The Academy of Performing Arts is releasing *Non-Words, Non-Photographs*, the second book by photography historian and theorist Robert Silverio. This new work is dedicated to the way in which photography constructs our world.

There are billions of photographs, but most realities have never been photographed. There are millions of turns of phrase, but many realities we still cannot name. The limits of our media are the limits of our culturally constructed world. Thus, the author's objects of interest are the limits of human understanding and communication. He discusses how photography, and lack of photography, influences our attitudes to the world around us, both positively and negatively.



The author does not see photography as a uniform medium, but as a grouping of various imaging techniques and visual strategies; however, the common denominator is a dependence on older visual artforms. This is to say that the painter's 'eye' is not only adopted as part of the photographer's mode of vision and choice of subject, but is also used to determine the photographic technique as such. Photography thus carries within itself the whole history of displaying the world. Photographers, art historians, media theorists, and semioticians will find much of interest to their fields, but specialist knowledge isn't required for this book – a reader only needs to be intrigued by the functions of media, as it both expresses and confines human life.

Robert Silverio (born 1965) is a photographer himself, as well as a historian and theorist of photography and image. His book, *Postmodern Photography*, was published in 2007 by the AMU Book Series, and he has been an associate professor at FAMU since 2006, where he wrote

his dissertation, *On the Principal Texts of Philosophy of Photography*. He is also the author and co-author of monographs on Karel Cudlín and Jaroslav Rössler, and of *Condition Report*, a collective monograph of young photographers, as well as several other texts on photography. He studied English and Italian philology at Charles University in Prague 1989–1994, and was formerly assistant director at Short Film Prague (Krátký Film Praha).

The book *Non-Words, Non-Photographs* was produced at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague as part of the 'Photography in the Background of Other Media' project. The book is produced with the support of the Institutional Endowment for Long-Term Conceptual Development of Research Institutes, provided by the Czech Ministry of Education 2014–2016.

Find more information about this book and other NAMU publications at:

www.namu.cz

If you want to write about this book, you are wellcome to ask for a review copy.

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