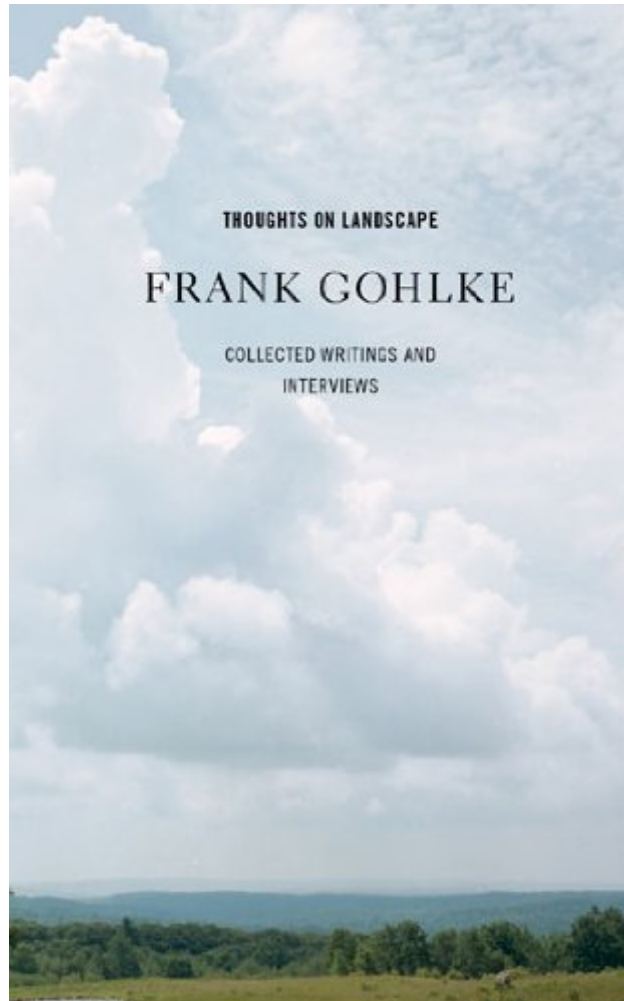




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Thoughts On Landscape: Collected Writings And Interviews



Synopsis

Frank Gohlke has been a leading figure in American landscape photography for over thirty years. He has photographed grain silos in Minnesota, the aftermath of a tornado in Texas, the destruction and rebirth of the land after the Mount St. Helens eruption in Washington, and a river's quiet course in Massachusetts. His is a career of deep, unbroken contemplation of the enduring landscape and of our place within it. And for nearly as long as Gohlke has been photographing the landscape, he has been writing about it. In the spirit of Henri Cartier-Bresson's seminal book, "The Mind's Eye", and Robert Adams's "Beauty in Photography", Gohlke's writings on photography span from the philosophical to the personal. In interviews, essays, artist statements, and lectures, Gohlke focuses both on his own work and life, and on the works and lives of the photographers around him. Woven throughout is his affection for and loyalty to the landscape around him, and his uncanny ability to convey the richness of his experience to readers—in words just as in images.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fantastic book for photographers who are concerned with more than making pretty pictures. One of the smartest men I have ever met and talked with. If you are interested in exploring the meaning of photographs and why you are taking pictures to begin with, this book is one of the most treasured books I have ever read.

Just received this small paperback book entitled Thoughts on Landscape by the photographer Frank Gohlke. If you make photographs, regardless of the content, you should have this book. Gohlke does a wonderful job of expressing what's on his mind when he trips the camera shutter, and what goes on before and after. The writing is down to earth, articulate, and insightful from a photographer that has been involved in making photographs for most of his life. If you have passion for photography, get this book. If you don't have passion for photography, this may begin to move you in that direction. Ron Evans Charlottesville, Virginia

Frank, you were right to question the fattening up of this collection. Three hundred pages might have been two. Though, when you do realize return on your academic investment, the depth of your considerations finds wonderfully adroit expression. A reader might begin this book with the last section; "Stories in the Dirt, Stories in the Air" then wander backwards and stop at moments like "Looking for Lee Friedlander". It is a book through which to cherry pick. (There is too much redundancy to call it clearly or succinctly comprehensive, but what is good really plumbs deep.)

Gohlke writes very well, and what he says sets off sparks of understanding and new ideas. A great book for anyone interested in landscape, photography and humans in the landscape.

It's great to track a photographer's career through his own words, especially when, for the most part, the person can write well. Gohlke's book is a time travelogue that provides a personalized window on the progress of photography from marginalized art and personal passion in the early 1970's to full fledged museum-worthiness today. Illuminating and very worthwhile to anyone interested in contemporary photography.

a wonderful read that you can return to time and again.

There are some interesting parts of this book but not nearly as much as I was hoping for.

Transcripts of multiple interviews tend to be repudiative which isn't really surprising but it starts to feel like filler. At least in my e-book edition they don't have photographic images from reviews so reading a review of a photographers images is a waste of time without the photograph being discussed to look at. So there is some interesting information but a lot of wasted space.

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