

~~Karl~~ de Haan

photographer



Karl de Haan started doing photography 5 years ago and has established himself as being highly individual and dynamic with no time for compromise.

The following remarks, observations and convictions are the result of an interview with him on one of his flying visits to South Africa from Europe, his very recently established home.

"I believe that photography and art are the same thing. When I started photography it was as a means to live - then I got cheeky - I do what I want to do, not to be offensive - that is not the intention."

"I discovered that one photograph does not make the picture and found that a lot of pictures together make something - then you can put them between two covers, and then you discover that what is between those two covers is a movie - so you do movies and then I discover that I am back at the beginning - that I am disciplined again and I am bound by a story, happening - not just one pretty picture after the other."

"To my way of feeling, inspiration does not mean a thing - something just happens and you arrive at a point which can't be explained. What might seem to be inspiration is the result of an impression - it's a matter of seeing and feeling. When I see a set of irons for golf, I see the ball being hit."

"Photography for advertising is handicapped right from the start - you're told to do what's on the paper - it won't ever turn out like that - you photograph and you get your interpretation and it's completely something else."

"Another thing I find - photography is not the art in itself - it's a medium, like using brushes or clay but I have no patience for them. I use a camera to capture modern times at modern speed. For me it's not the execution - I'm interested only in the result. By the time something is completed, it has had time to get stale."

"I do not believe in a beautiful model - it is the character that expresses beauty and the soul comes out."