

WHAT IS CINEMA?

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© CABOOSE 2009. ISBN 978-0-9811914-0-9

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*Ontology of the Photographic Image*

The automatic way in which photographs are produced has radically transformed the psychology of the image. Photography's objectivity confers upon it a degree of credibility absent from any painting. Whatever the objections of our critical faculties, we are obliged to believe in the existence of the object represented: it truly is re-presented, made present in time and space. Photography transfers reality from the object depicted to its reproduction. The most faithful drawing can give us more information about the model, but it will never, no matter what our critical faculties tell us, possess the irrational power of photography, in which we believe without reservation.