# George Barker

Artist Statement

# Touching upon dreamscapes and the visually strange, George Barker’s work examines the internalized perception of social segmentation, resulting in a moment of introspective psychological isolation.   His photographs function as a method of looking into an internalized visual memory functioning as momentary flashes of reminiscence which invoke an elusive emotional response that in turn triggers a succession of questions on the part of the viewer.  By inquisitional intent and personal analysis of the images, the viewer becomes involved in a cycle of reexamination, calling into question their interpretation of the images. Structuring figurative and non-figurative visions, these images are heavily informed by cinema graphic stills.  Sequencing in non-narrative structure, Barker shoots in multiple series. However, the order of the images may be irrelevant.  He is more concerned with the observer’s internal process than with actual story telling. These images are highly theatrical and informed by 19th and early 20th century photographic experiments as well as the still imagery of mid-20th century Noir iconography.   Barker’s images cannot exist within the world, as we know it; however they do hold a place in the realm of the unconscious. These phantasmagorias often examine social situations, which imply something forbidden or dangerous.  The camera is placed in the role of voyeur, secretly spying upon and visually recording a private vision or scene as it unravels.

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