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# Trying To Make It Real Part 1 & 2

## Bruno V. Roels

### Bruno Roels

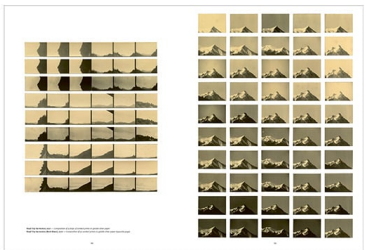
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- Contemporary photography resulting in unique prints
- Analogue and dark room developing
- Nostalgia and melancholy meet

All prints have value: instead of fussing over making the perfect gelatin silver print, for example, Bruno V. Roels realized that all printed versions of an image have value, and he decided to not show that one perfect print, but all of them, in one composition. Some of his compositions consist of hundreds variations of one single negative, all printed in the dark room. Photography is a mimetic art, it imitates life. But Roels pushes it further: when printing variants of one image; he creates a mimetic feedback loop. He uses the iconic image of a palm tree to prove his point. All palm trees look alike, and as a symbol the plants are highly recognizable. Because palm trees are so widely recognizable, he's free to deconstruct his own notions of photography, while trying to get away from the "tyranny of camera viewfinders and rectangular boxes of enlarging papers". Introduction for the book written by Simon Baker.

Text in English and Dutch.

**Bruno Roels** (°1976) lives and works in Ghent, Belgium. Bruno divides his time between writing and photographing. He considers the act of printing (turning a photograph into a tangible object) as important as the act of photographing itself. He photographs almost nonstop, documenting his entire life, building a sizable archive. In his dark room he uses that archive to explore the analogue photographic process. Rather than trying to make 'the perfect gelatin silver print' he assumes that all prints are perfect and gives all variations equal attention. He's looking for poetry, and photographic truth, in sequences and fluctuations. Details in his photographs may become lead motives in bigger compositions, and obvious subject matter is reduced to abstract information through numerous reiterations.







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