



Eugène Atget photograph of street musicians. (Library of Congress)

exhibitions, with accompanying monographs, under the head stewardship of John Szarkowski. These exhibitions firmly consolidated a place for Atget in the photography canon that reflected the influence his work had already had on American photographic practice, particularly the genre of documentary and reportage.

The influences of Atget's pictorial style—lustrous and velvety black-and-white images of vernacular spaces—can be seen in the work of Abbott, Evans, and Adams and also in the work of Robert Frank, Lee Friedlander, and Edward Weston. All have, at one time or another, mimicked both Atget's melancholic style and his subject matter. The influence of these photographers in turn demonstrates the huge overall impact of the style and aes-

thetic sensibility of Atget's work, something all the more striking in that it hides the quiet and unassuming career that the photographer himself pursued.

Sally Stewart

See also: Evans, Walker; Photography; Ray, Man; Surrealism.

References

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ATLANTICISM

A concept of Western European–North American cultural similarity and policy cooperation that existed fitfully from the early twentieth century.

U.S.-British relations were most important to this concept, but U.S.-French relations also determined its fate. Emerging most strongly after each world war, Atlanticism by the twenty-first century appeared in decline.

In the World War I era U.S. and British elites led by President Woodrow Wilson and Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey envisioned a dissemination of Anglo-Saxon ideals that could foster not only a liberal empire but also universal peace. France in the 1930s also sought Atlantic integration as the only insurance for French security against Germany. But various factors discredited Atlanticism at the time, including its racist implications, Wilson's collapse, transatlantic breakdowns over the League of Nations and war reparations, and the Depression.

Nazism sparked Atlanticism's revival, signaled in the Atlantic Charter of 1941. The concept enjoyed its heyday during and after World War II. Especially with the rise of the cold war, Atlanticist writers and journalists, including Walter Lippmann, Clarence Streit, Jacques Godechot, Edward Murrow, and R. R. Palmer, argued that Americans and Europeans shared a Western heritage and democratic values of protection of citizens against the state. These values were confirmed, not challenged, by the American and French Revolutions. Atlanticism provided the philosophical foundation for the Marshall Plan and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Britain sought to deepen its "special relationship" with the United States, while conservatives of the French Fourth Republic embraced Atlantic cooperation and U.S. aid.

The cooperative impulse alternately declined and rose until the 1980s. The Berlin crisis of 1961 helped foster a Franco-German rapprochement. Franco-American relations were strained by developments in Egypt, Algeria, and Vietnam. The formation of the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1958 (renamed in 1992 as the European Union) created a potential rival to close relations spanning the Atlantic. Under President Charles de Gaulle, France cultivated itself as leader of a European confederation not subject to Anglo-American leadership. De Gaulle blocked Britain's attempt to make the EEC a transatlantic free trade zone and also removed France from NATO's military structure in 1966. Gaullism, West German establishment of direct relations with East Germany, and the "realpolitik" of U.S. president Richard Nixon limited Atlanticist alignment in the 1970s.

In the 1980s, however, U.S. president Ronald Reagan, French president François Mitterrand, and British prime minister Margaret Thatcher cooperated over both installation of U.S. missiles in Europe and encouragement of reforms in the Soviet Union. The end of the cold war was celebrated as the vindication of Atlanticist beliefs and doctrines.

But in the post-cold war era the prospects of Atlanticism again dimmed. In 1995 U.S. president Bill Clinton reluctantly organized military intervention in the war-torn Balkans, when European nations failed to prevent ethnic conflicts in the region. In 2003 the United States under President George Bush led an invasion, joined in by British prime minister Tony Blair, of Iraq, whose dictator Saddam Hussein was under UN investigation for developing weapons of mass destruction. U.S. and British actions received heavy criticism by French president Jacques Chirac and other leaders as a show of disregard for UN authority. The Iraqi invasion challenged Atlanticist assumptions of an Atlantic community and of U.S. consultation of Europe in determining U.S. positions on global matters.

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See also: American Revolution; Chirac, Jacques; Foreign Policy, 1945–Present; French Revolution; Gaulle, General Charles de; Iraq War; Marshall Plan, The; Mitterrand, François; NATO; Wilson, Woodrow; World War I; World War II.

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