

Eumseles

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY: SHAPING AN IMAGE
The Photography of Evangelos Dousmanis '03

OCTOBER 8, 2004
BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM

WELCOME

Lynn Gamwell Director of Art Museum

REMARKS

Lois B. DeFleur President

Marcia R. Craner
Senior Associate Vice President for Alumni and Development
Executive Director of the Foundation

Evangelos Dousmanis '03

ARTIST'S STATEMENT Evangelos Dousmanis '03

WHEN I WAS A BOY, MY GRANDFATHER taught me the mechanics of photography. During long hours spent in the darkened bathroom of our apartment in the projects, he showed me the magic. We watched together as



images emerged from a blank page. I remember the smell of chemicals and the sound of constantly running water. Magic.

My mother taught me the social impact of photography, its power to influence and bear witness. She would assign me exercises in seeing – holding my hand as she moved me inches left or right and asked, "Do you see?"

During undergraduate study at Binghamton University, Cinema Chair Ralph Hocking encouraged "thoughtful vision." He described photography as a tool of personal exploration; a litigious vision for deeper understanding. I was encouraged to make my camera a bridge between self and society. Twenty years as a photojournalist honed my understanding of the power of photography and the responsibility of the photographer.

A shape, a shadow, an emotion caught forever in time to be deciphered by the viewer. Photography is a powerful communicator, reinforcing society's perception of itself. A cultural negotiator and barometer of our values, it is our mirror.

During my years at Binghamton University, I found through my camera a microcosm of our culture that I tried to faithfully capture with all its complexities and dreams. Digital imaging has replaced the smell of chemicals and the sound of running water, but photography is still magic. And, I hope this collection of photos taken over the past 10 years will give readers the opportunity to share some of the magic I found at Binghamton University.

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