



A HIDDEN WHOLENESS: The Zen Photography of Thomas Merton



In Australia for the first time

July 10 - 24, 2013

Australian Catholic University Gallery
26 Brunswick Street Fitzroy, Melbourne

Gallery hours: Mon - Fri, 10am to 5pm. Sat - Sun, 11am to 5pm

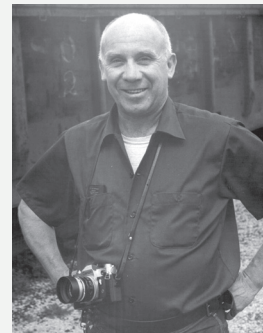
Official Opening: Thursday 11 July 6.00 pm

Opening Address: Rev. Fr Michael Casey, OCSO - Tarrawarra Abbey

RSVP by 5 July 2013 - Linda Espie - Imespie@optusnet.com.au / 0418 568 166

... he photographed the natural, unarranged, unpossessed objects of his contemplation, seeking not to alter their life but to preserve it in his emulsions... these photographs do not need to be studied, they need to be contemplated if they are to carry their full impact.

Griffin, A Hidden Wholeness, 49-50



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Thomas Merton was a Trappist monk at the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani in Kentucky. Known in the monastery as Fr. Louis, he was born on 31 January 1915 in Prades, southern France. Merton died by accidental electrocution in Bangkok, Thailand, while attending a meeting of religious leaders on 10 December 1968, just 27 years to the day after his entrance into the Abbey of Gethsemani.

Merton is best known today for his spiritual writings on contemplation and his own personal spiritual journey that led him to study Eastern religions especially Zen Buddhism. Merton's photographs express the Zen perception of our immediate world as ever changing, impermanent, but with a unity of all things.

A Hidden Wholeness: The Zen Photography of Thomas Merton exhibition includes 35 of Merton's most powerful photographs from the Collections of the Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky. His photographs were a way to summon viewers to be present to what Merton called the "living and self-creating mystery of which I am myself a part, to which I am myself my own unique door."

This exhibition is generously supported by: Australian Catholic University Melbourne, Catholic Archdioceses of Melbourne, Tarrawarra Abbey, The Oceania Leadership Team of Christian Brothers Oceania Province, The Society of the Faithful Companions of Jesus.

With sincere thanks and appreciation to Dr Paul Pearson, Chris Long and Alan Espie.