

### Summary

#### **KAMILA LEŚNIAK / Discussions on the concept and merit of documentary photography**

This paper focuses on a problem of documentary photography, which has been taken frequently by representatives of various human sciences e.g. theoreticians and historians of photography, philosophers, historians of art, historians of culture and ethnographers in the second half of the 20th century.

This paper also presents transformations of 'documentary' notion in the understanding of selected photography theoreticians (e.g. U. Czartoryska, R. Barthes, A. Rouillé) and artists who used the photographic medium in their art (e.g. Z. Dłubak). Those discussions reveal the tension between documentary function of photography (understood as an objective, truthful image of reality) and potential of artistic creation, which is still important for this medium.