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Ciel variable
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CIEL VARIABLE
ART PHOTO MÉDIAS CULTURE

Vingt ans de *Ciel variable*
Twenty Years of *Ciel variable*

Jacques Doyon

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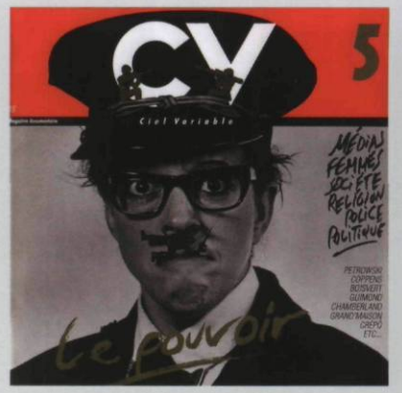
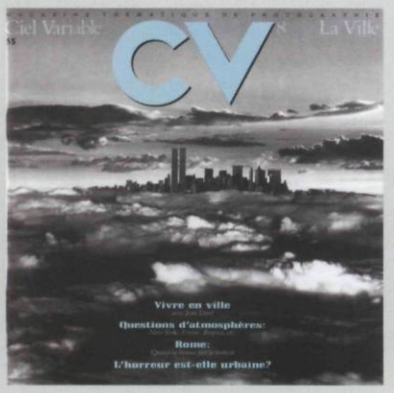
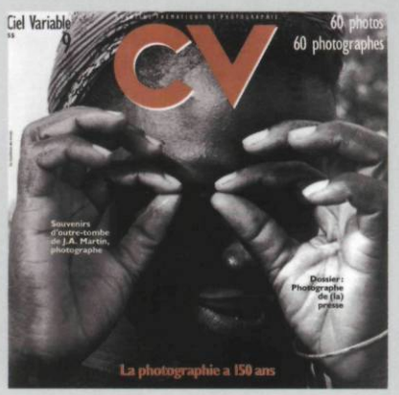
VINGT ANS DE CIEL VARIABLE
TWENTY YEARS OF CIEL VARIABLE







Vingt ans de photographie

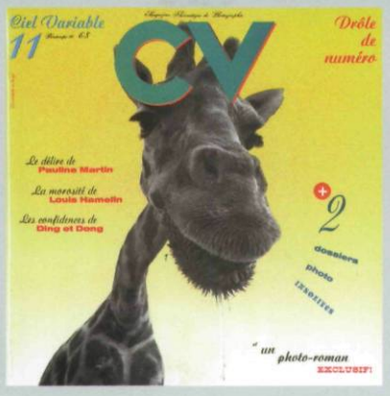
Ce cahier constitue un premier volet récapitulatif des vingt ans de *Ciel variable*. Il offre un aperçu des métamorphoses réalisées par la revue au fil des ans en relation avec l'évolution des pratiques photographiques, l'élargissement de leur champ d'application, leur reconnaissance par le milieu artistique et les modifications de leur environnement institutionnel. Tout au long de ces années, *Ciel variable* a été un véhicule actif pour la reconnaissance des pratiques photographiques et l'analyse de leurs enjeux esthétiques et sociaux.

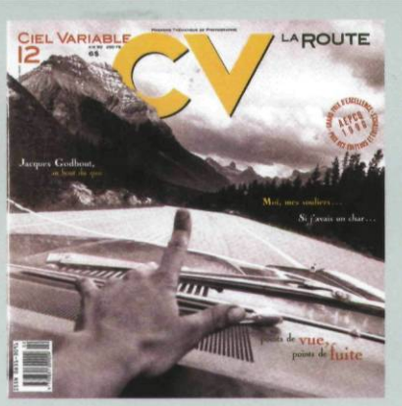
Créée et produite par un groupe de jeunes sans emploi et le Collectif de communication Vox populi, *Ciel variable* est à l'origine un magazine thématique de photographie qui se veut un « manifeste du temps ». D'où la métaphore de son titre, qui colore le contenu de la revue à ses débuts. *Ciel variable* est d'abord portée par une volonté de prise de parole. Les trois ou quatre premiers numéros conjuguent ainsi commentaires sociaux, textes littéraires et images de jeunes « intervenants » désireux d'exprimer leur réalité. On retrouve des portfolios solos dès le premier numéro, mais les regroupements thématiques dominent par la suite. Très vite, le magazine élargit son format et devient trimestriel. Avec des collaborateurs souvent connus ou qui le deviendront, c'est la période où il reçoit des distinctions et rejoint un plus large public. La revue est produite par un large collectif de collaborateurs, avec une équipe de gestion réduite dont les changements sont fréquents. À sa dix-neuvième édition, elle est sur le point de cesser ses activités car les fonds se font rares et les bénévoles s'épuisent.

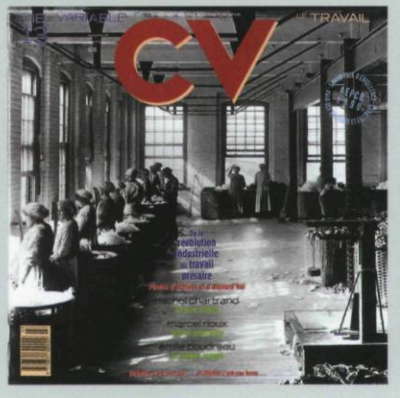
Twenty Years of Photography

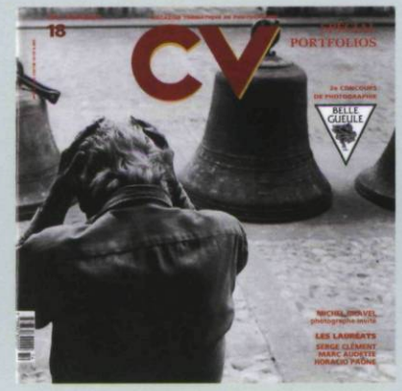
This is the first part of our review of twenty years of *Ciel variable*. It offers an overview of the metamorphoses that the magazine has had over the years as photographic practices evolved, their field of application broadened, they were increasingly recognized by the art world, and their institutional environment changed. Throughout these years, *Ciel variable* has been an active vehicle for the recognition of photographic practices and the analysis of their aesthetic and societal issues.

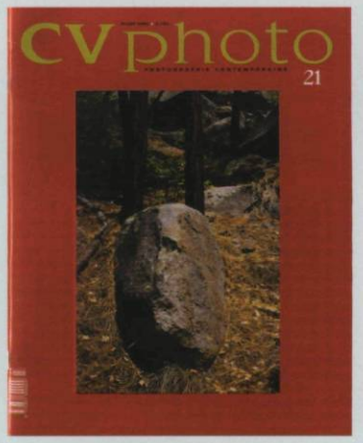
Created and produced by a group of unemployed young people and the Collectif de communication Vox populi, *Ciel variable* was originally a documentary magazine intended to be a "manifesto of the times." This was behind the metaphor of the title, which also coloured the content of the magazine at the beginning. *Ciel variable* was first swept along by a desire to speak out. The first three or four issues thus combined social commentary, literary texts, and images by young socially engaged people wishing to express their reality. There were solo portfolios in the first issue, but thematic groupings dominated thereafter. Very quickly, the magazine expanded its format and became a quarterly. With many contributors who were well known or to become so, the magazine was winning awards and its editorial policy gave it a broader readership. Its identity became that of a "thematic photography magazine focused on social information." It was produced by a large collective of contributors, but the management team was small and changes frequent. By its nineteenth issue, the magazine was on the brink of dissolving since funds were low and the volunteers exhausted.









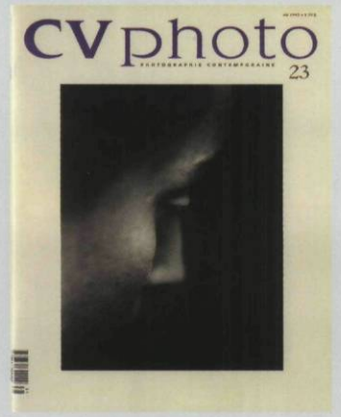


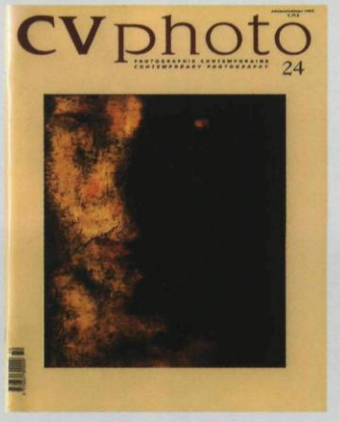
C'est l'occasion d'une mutation qui marquera la revue durant de nombreuses années, dans une période marquée par le fort développement et la reconnaissance de la photographie à Montréal. Au moment où il mijote la première mouture du Mois de la photo à Montréal, Vox populi reprend la revue et la recentre sur la photographie artistique. *Ciel variable* devient *CVphoto* – photographie contemporaine. La formule des larges portfolios, commentés par des auteurs spécialisés et accompagnés de commentaires d'expositions et de publications, est alors établie pour durer. Peu à peu, la revue introduit des essais, devient bilingue et étend sa couverture aux œuvres canadiennes et internationales. Durant cette période – jusqu'au numéro 49 –, *CVphoto* se développe et reçoit une reconnaissance croissante de la part des milieux québécois, canadiens et internationaux en établissant des collaborations avec différentes institutions d'ici et de l'étranger.

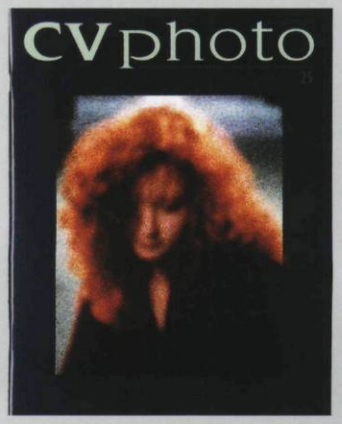
En 2000, la revue retrouve son autonomie administrative tout en maintenant d'étroites collaborations avec ses anciens partenaires, le Mois de la photo à Montréal et VOX image contemporaine. Toujours sous le nom *CVphoto*, le magazine accentue son approche thématique, couvre plus systématiquement la scène canadienne et internationale et accroît sa couverture de l'actualité tout en passant à une impression entièrement en couleur. Au numéro 63, la revue reprend le nom *Ciel variable* et redéfinit son mandat pour mieux rendre compte du champ élargi de la photographie contemporaine et des nouvelles pratiques de l'image. La refonte actuelle constitue un pas de plus dans l'affirmation d'une conception ouverte de la photographie, entendue à la fois comme art, média et culture. **JACQUES DOYON.**

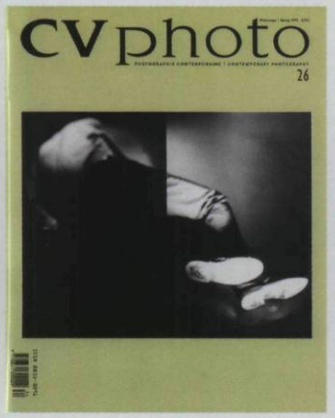
Then came the opportunity for a change that marked the magazine for many years, during a period when photography was beginning to blossom and be recognized in Montreal. At the time when the first glimmers of Mois de la photo à Montréal were on the horizon, Vox populi took the magazine in hand and refocused it on art photography. *Ciel variable* became *CVphoto* – Contemporary photography. The formula of large portfolios, commented on by specialized authors and accompanied by exhibition and publication reviews, was now set. Little by little, the magazine introduced essays, became bilingual, and extended its coverage to Canadian and international works. For about ten years – up to issue 49 –*CVphoto* evolved and received growing recognition from Quebec, Canadian, and international circles, establishing partnerships with institutions from Quebec and abroad.

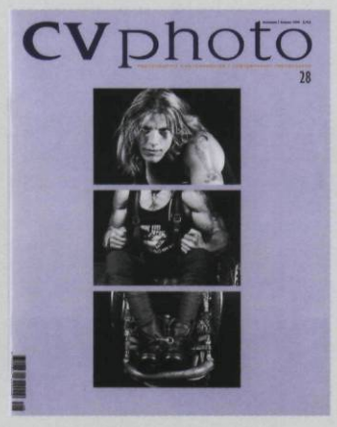
In 2000, the magazine regained its independence, although it maintained close ties to its former partners, Mois de la photo and VOX image contemporaine. Still under the name *CVphoto*, it accentuated the thematic approach, increased the number of contributors, and more systematically covered the Canadian and international scenes, in the same time that it became a full color magazine. Issue 63 marked the return to the name *Ciel variable*, with a mandate broadened yet again to take account of a wider field of contemporary photography and new image practices. The current makeover is one further step in the affirmation of an open concept of photography as art, medium, and culture.

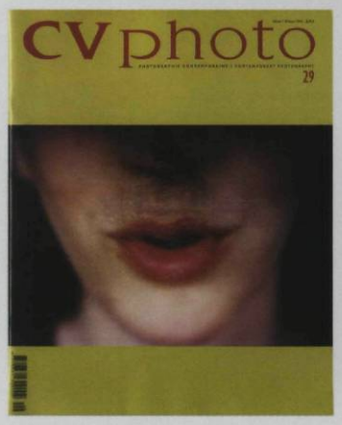


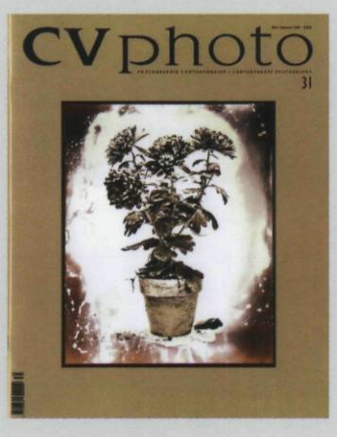


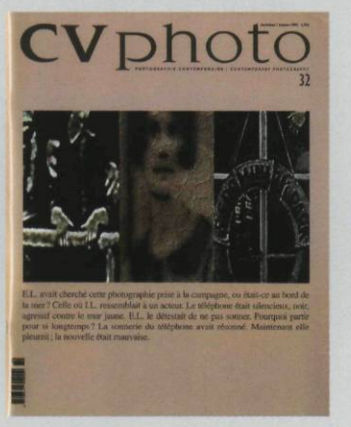


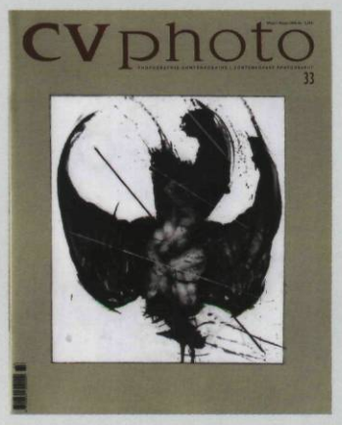










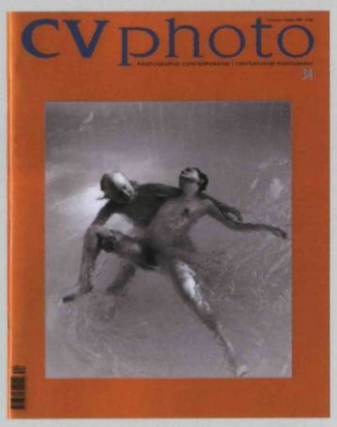


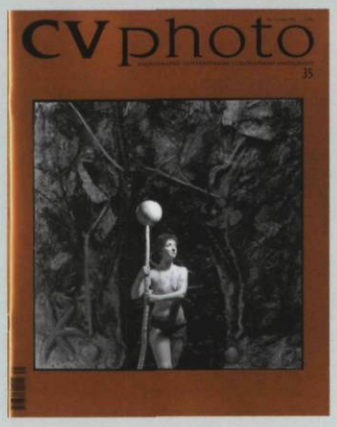
Vous trouverez ici la liste de tous les artistes et auteurs qui ont collaboré à la revue au fil des ans. L'ensemble compose un portrait plutôt impressionnant de ces vingt ans de photographie. Nous soulignerons, dans notre prochain numéro, la contribution des personnes qui ont travaillé à la réalisation et au développement de la revue, sans oublier les institutions qui l'ont soutenue financièrement.

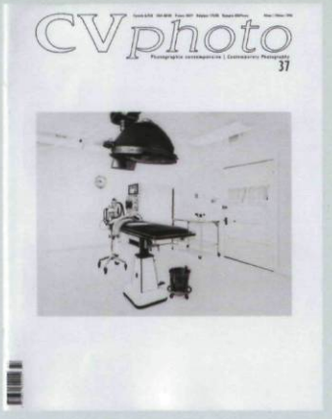
Here is the list of all the artists and authors who collaborated to the magazine over the years. It gives a quite impressive portrait of these twenty years of photography. In our next issue, we will highlight the contribution of all the people who worked on the production and the development of the magazine, without forgetting the institutions that have supported it financially.

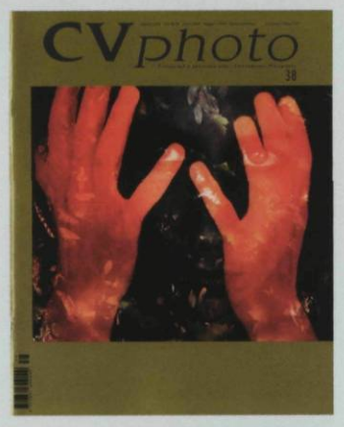
ARTISTES/ARTISTS:

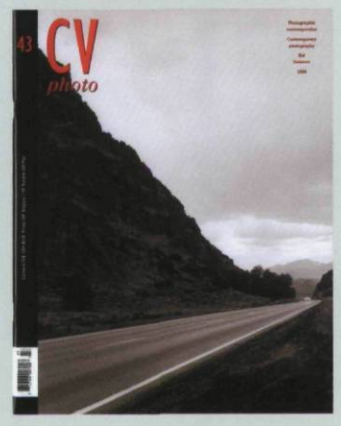
Jocelyne Alloucherie
Patrick Altman
Nicholas Amberg
Tetsuomi Anzai
Dieter Appelt
Raymonde April
Benoît Aquin
Nobuyoshi Araki
Roy Arden
Anne Arden McDonald
Marc Audette
Jessica Auer
Nicolas Baier
Annie Baillargeon
Claude Baillargeon
Richard Baillargeon
Dominique Baqué
Ian Baxter
Gwenaël Bélanger
Guy Ben-Ner
Hicham Benohoud
Claude-Philippe Benoit
Jean-François Bérubé
BGL
Ivan Binet
Pierre Blache
Guy Blackburn
Carl Bouchard
Ginette Bouchard
Marik Boudreau
Constantin Brancusi
Frank Breuer
Matthieu Brouillard
Edward Burtynsky
Geneviève Cadieux
Sophie Calle
Michel Campeau
Bertrand Carrière
Alexandre Castonguay
Alain Chagnon
Melvin Charney
France Choinière
Olivier Christinat
Arnaud Claass
David Claerbout
André Clément
Serge Clément

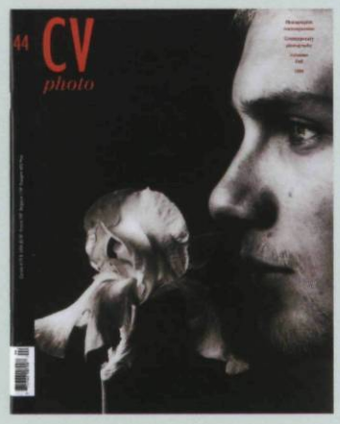












Lynne Cohen
Sorel Cohen
Robin Collyer
Luc Courchesne
Patrick Coutu
Stéphane Couturier
Marlene Creates
Gregory Crewdson
Donigan Cumming
Hélène Cyr
Carol Dallaire
Michel de Broin
Manon de Pauw
Alain Declercq
Thomas Demand
Stan Denniston
Leo Divendal
Doyon-Rivest
William Eakin
Hala Elkoussy
Evergon
Janieta Eyre
Claudia Fährenkemper
Patrick Faigenbaum

Denis Farley
Rosalie Favell
Fischli and Weiss
Michael Flomen
Joan Fontcuberta
Robert Frank
Robert Fréchette
Johanne Gagnon
Ghenadi Gatev
Yan Giguère
Miki Gingras
Simon Glass
David Goldblatt
Rafael Goldchain
Nan Goldin
Andy Goldsworthy
Douglas Gordon
Rodney Graham
Pierre Granche
Pascal Grandmaison
Veli Grano
Angela Grauerholz
Peter Greenaway
Vera Greenwood

Massimo Guerrera
Pierre Guimond
Sunil Gupta
Clara Gutsche
Sadko Hadzihasanovic
Toni Hafkenscheid
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Ross Handler
Adad Hannah
Arni Haraldsson
Isabelle Hayeur
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Karen Henderson
April Hickox
P. M. Hoblargan
Bettina Hoffman
Vid Ingelevics
Geoffrey James
André Jasinski
Nicole Jolicoeur
Louis Joncas
Alban Kakulya
Ruth Kaplan
Phyllis Katrapani

Daniel Kieffer
Holly King
Thomas Kneubühler
Katherine Knight
Wanda Koop
Randy Koroluk
Manon Labrecque
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Guy Lafontaine
Alain Laframboise
Michel Lamothe
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Nikki S. Lee
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Eileen Leier
Jean-Philippe Lemay
Emmanuelle Léonard
Laura Letinsky
Ron Levine
Linea di Confine
Herbert List
Paul Litherland
Jennifer Long
Paul Lowry

Ken Lum
Louis Lussier
Kelly Lycan
Arnaud Maggs
David Maisel
Chris Marker
André Martin
John Max
Scott McFarland
Duane Michals
Franck Michel
Yann Mingard
Jean-Luc Moulène
Vik Muniz
Antoni Muntadas
Marie-Jeanne Musiol
Shirin Neshat
Liza Nguyen
Orlan
John Oswald
Alain Paiement
Horacio Paone
Robert Parkeharrison
Roberto Pellegrinuzzi

Robert Pelletier
Marian Penner Bancroft
Manuel Pina
Bernard Plossu
Catherine Poncin
Marisa Portolese
Normand Rajotte
Ramon Ramlochand
David Rasmus
Sylvie Readman
Xavier Ribas
Frances Robson
David Rokeby
Georges Rousse
Mark Ruwedel
Jason Salavon
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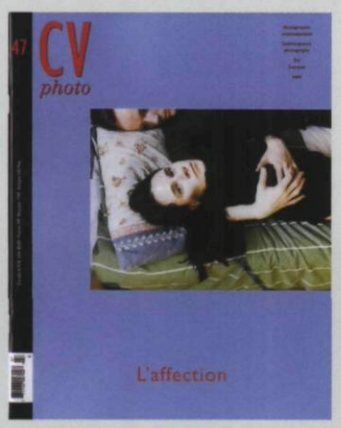
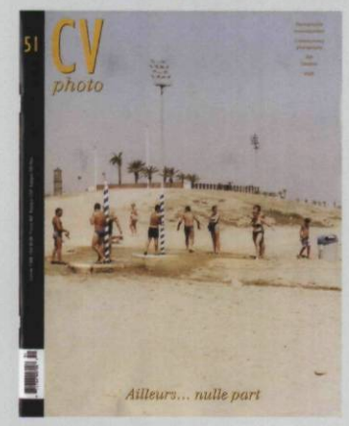
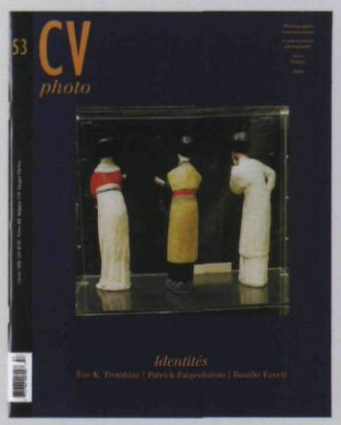
Klaus Scherübel
Eugénie Schinkle
Leonard Schlichting
Michael Schreier
Yinka Shonibare
Michael Snow
Cheryl Sourkes







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Gabor Szilasi
Fiona Tan
Marc Tessier
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Ève K. Tremblay
Howard Ursuliak
Javier Vallhonrat
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Mike Yuhasz
Anne-Marie Zeppetelli
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Iva Zimova

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Olivier Asselin
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Stéphane Baillargeon
David Balzer
Éric Barbeau
Michel Barette
Michel-Julien Barrette
Pierre Beaucage
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Denis Bélanger

Jean-François Bélisle
Guy Bellavance
Yves Bellavance
Anne Bénichou
Claude-Philippe Benoit
Danielle Bérard
Serge Bérard
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A. Mekki Berrada
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Pierre Blache
Marcel Blouin
Marcello Bluini
George Bogardi
Yves Boisvert
Vincent Bonin
Émile Boudreau
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Jean-Pierre Boyer
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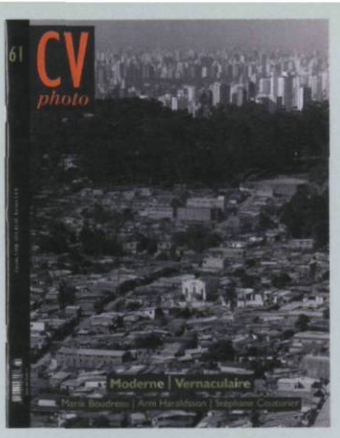

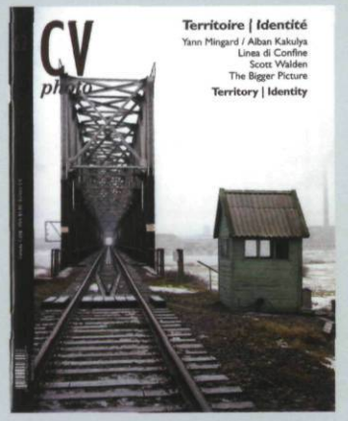

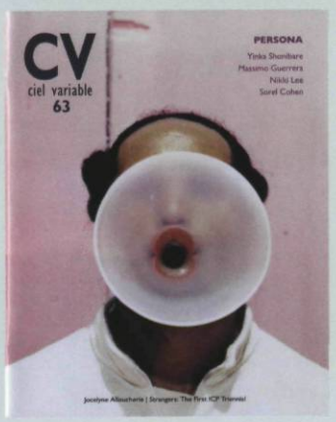

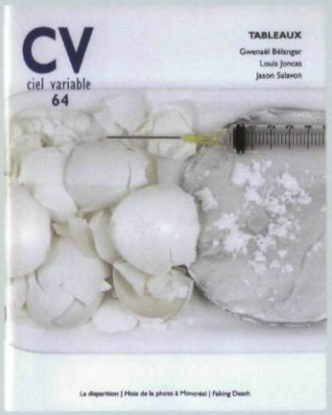

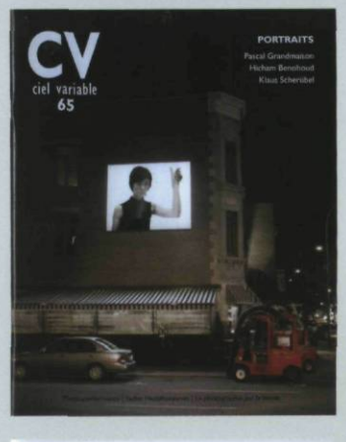

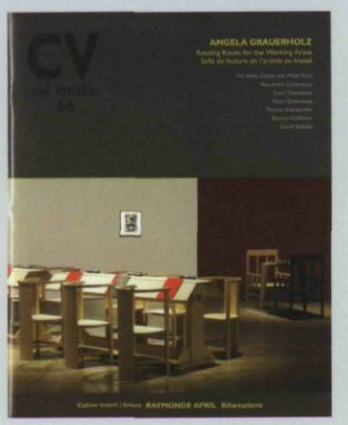

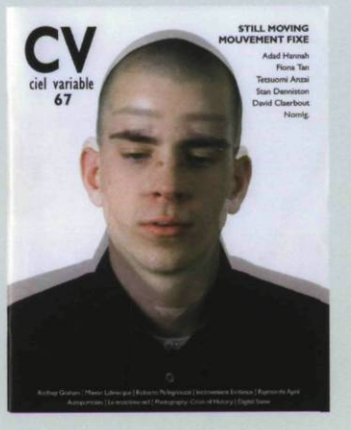

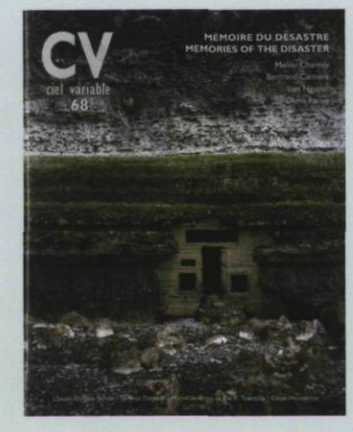

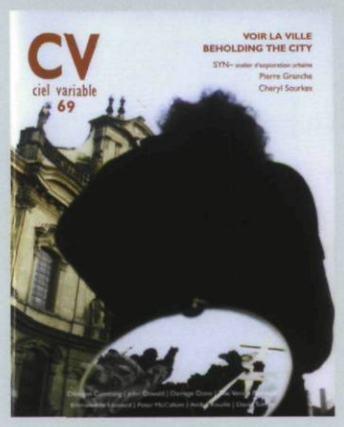

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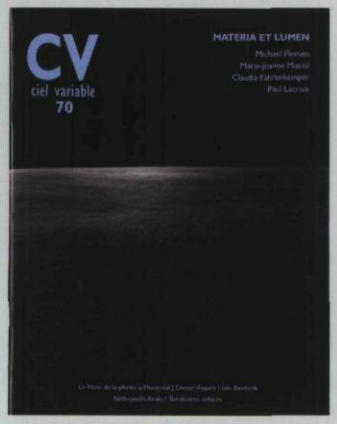

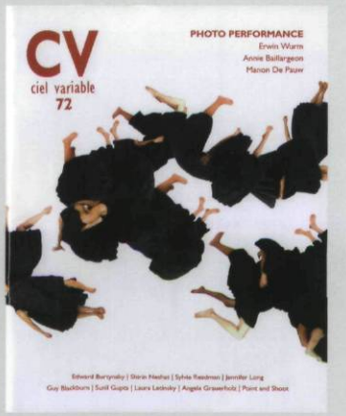

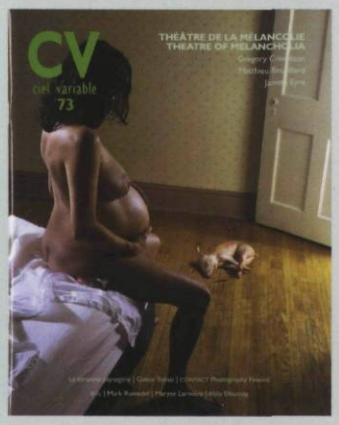

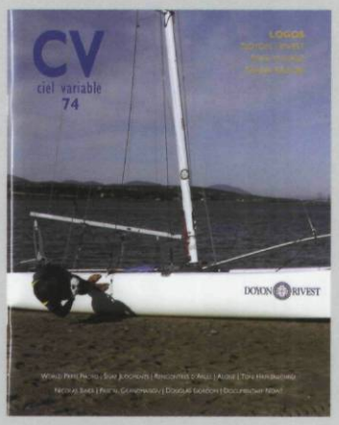

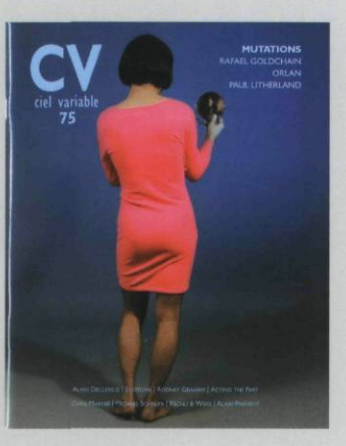

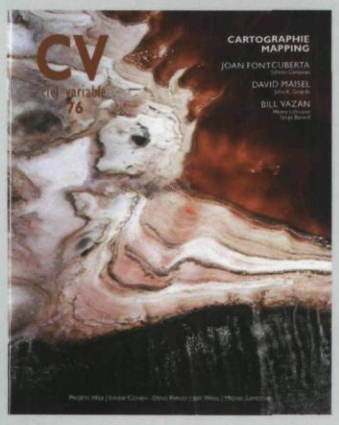

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