

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910815462403321
Autore	Elkins James <1955->
Titolo	What photography is [[electronic resource] /] / James Elkins
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Routledge, 2011
ISBN	1-135-84442-9 0-203-88648-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (241 p.)
Disciplina	770.1
Soggetti	Photography, Artistic Photography - Philosophy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Writing -- Selenite, ice, salt -- From the Green River to the Brunswick peninsula -- A drop of water, World Trade center dust -- The rapatronic camera -- Lingqi.
Sommario/riassunto	In What Photography Is, James Elkins examines the strange and alluring power of photography in the same provocative and evocative manner as he explored oil painting in his best-selling What Painting Is. In the course of an extended imaginary dialogue with Roland Barthes's Camera Lucida, Elkins argues that photography is also about meaninglessness--its apparently endless capacity to show us things that we do not want or need to see--and also about pain, because extremely powerful images can sear permanently into our consciousness. Extensively illustrated with a surprising range of images, the book demonstrates that what makes photography uniquely powerful is its ability to express the difficulty--physical, psychological, emotional, and aesthetic--of the act of seeing.