

## The poetry of an image

Written by Pedro Meyer

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We are told, "Poetry is the other way of using language". Yet when we make reference to other art forms, in our case specifically to photography, we seem to use the term poetry to describe a particular form of imagery, I suppose considering those other ones the equivalent to prose.

Poetry we are also told "is the way it is because it looks that way, and it looks that way because it sounds that way and vice versa". Here we are already bringing in formal elements, which would give photography a more intimate connection with poetry as a language and to help us look at photography.

The perennial quarrel about distinguishing poetry from prose, which is like distinguishing rain from snow, everyone is reasonably capable of doing so, and yet there are some weathers that are either-neither.

And so it was when recently I gave a lecture in Santiago de Chile, that I presented the image (below), of the two men crossing in the background while in the foreground a woman was sitting there at a counter having some food wearing two hats herself.

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Original photo: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/robertocaputo/10027000000/>