

MARTIN PARR

Born in 1952 in Epsom, Surrey (Great Britain), Martin Parr studied photography at the Manchester Polytechnic (1970-73). His work received recognition early on in both Europe and internationally, and he won the Arts Council of Great Britain prize for photography three times in the late '70's.

In order to finance his career as a freelance photographer, he taught from 1975 to 1990. He became a member of Magnum in 1994, although not without a heated debate on his provocative style. His work has been seen in exhibitions in Europe and America, and appears in numerous collections. Martin Parr is a prolific photographer who is at his best in books. He generally works in medium colour format, but has experimented with flash fill-in and 35mm ringflash camera.

His research continues to focus on the idiocy of mass tourism, and the spiritual crisis of the middle and lower classes. Through his images, Martin Parr documents a world falling apart, in which the only good quality remaining is a courageous and profoundly British sense of humour.

He has also completed several documentaries for television, the most recent of which was Think of England.