

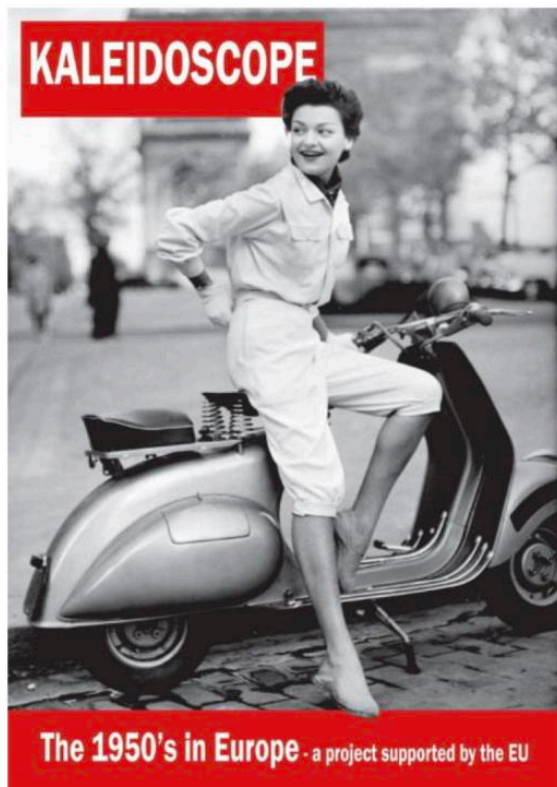
Archives in the age of AI



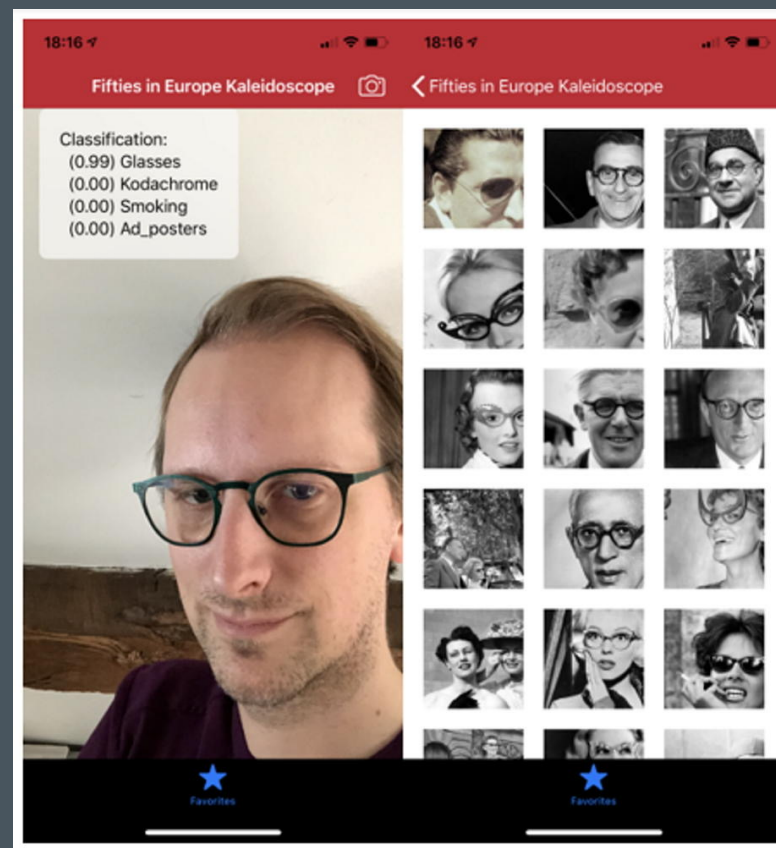
- Topfoto.co.uk
- Est. 1927
- Physical archive of 5 million images
- c. 600,000 digitised
- 20th Century Press Photo History
- Rights Managed

John Balean – Operations Manager – johnb@topfoto.co.uk

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Co-financed by the Connecting Europe
Facility of the European Union



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Topfoto's – 1950s Kaleidoscope (2018-2020) – Visual Similarity Search

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The logo for WISE, featuring the word "wise" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter "i" is stylized with a dot that forms a small circle.

WISE Image Search Engine (WISE) is an open-source multi-modal AI-powered image search engine. Recent advances in machine learning and vision-language models have enabled search based on image content using natural language. With the expressive power of natural language, users can flexibly describe what they are looking for. Furthermore, WISE uses a vision model to understand what's being depicted in an image – search results are retrieved based on image content rather than metadata such as keywords, tags, or descriptions, so the images do not need to be manually tagged or labelled with text captions.

WISE is developed at the Visual Geometry Group, University of Oxford.

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Topfoto's – WISE multi-modal AI search engine by VGG Oxford University

The Topfoto logo, featuring the word "Topfoto" in a stylized, cursive script font.



PHOTOGRAPHY IS
THE HERITAGE
SECTOR WHICH IS
AT THE HIGHEST
LEVEL OF CRITICAL
RISK

-

WE NEED TO SAVE
OUR COLLECTIVE
VISUAL HISTORY
NOW !!

-

MASS DIGITISATION
FUNDING IS OUR
FRIEND TO
PRESERVE THE
IMAGE

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Vinegar Syndrome

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John Balean in the Topfoto archive

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Your new AI driven analysis platform

This powerful tool provides OCR text recognition, converting documents to digital formats and extracting structured data from visual elements

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DataSheep.com – OCR and AI field extraction by BlueBox

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GEN.AI



FAKE

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Topfoto's – Reality Checked FAKE campaign - 2024

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The Moment of Truth – short film by David Baksh , Annex and De Ventos Films

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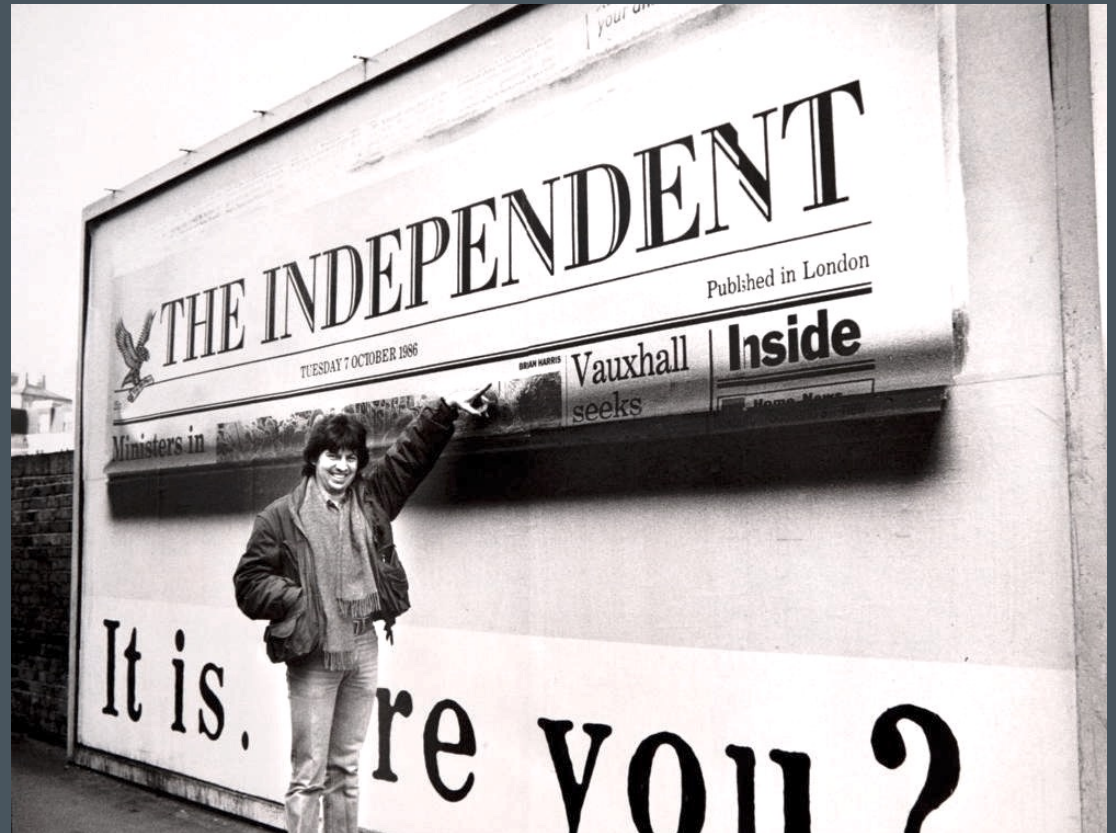


PLANET NEWS

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EU047082 - Gas masked press photographers at the Anti Gas School at
Fairfield . 10 March 1937

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1161285 - UPI photography war legend Willie Vicoy pictured on assignment during the Vietnam War.

Pd3025405 - Brian Harris pictured pointing at his byline credit in 1986 just as The Independent newspaper was about to launch. Credit: Brian Harris / Topfoto

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PRESS
ASSOCIATION

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1367423 - A Douglas DC-3 Dakota operated by British European Airways,
crashed onto the roof of a house in South Ruislip. 21 December 1946

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7722065 - Audrey Hepburn awarded an Oscar for Best Actress - 1954
0539679 - 1962 FA Cup Final Tottenham Hotspur v Burnley

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Johnny Eggitt for
PLANET NEWS / UPI

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7722231 - Craven Cottage spectators watch in the heavy rain at the Fulham vs. Aston Villa football match. 18 September 1965. Photo by Johnny Eggitt

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INTERNATIONAL
NEWS PHOTOS

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7786204 -POPE PIUS XII blessing the great throng gathered at St. Peter's Square during the Papal Benediction 19.4.1954

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PD1478475 - 'Timothée Chalamet , selfie with fans during The King premiere
in London , 3 October 2019 Credit: Rowena Chowdrey / TopFoto

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Pd3011818 - Florence Pugh UK premiere of OPPENHEIMER - Odeon Luxe
Leicester Square , London - 13 July 2023 Credit: Rowena Chowdrey / TopFoto

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MIDJOURNEY v.1
February 2022



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Still from The Moment of Truth

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MIDJOURNEY v.6
December 2023

TOPFOTO

Still from The Moment of Truth

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g 75 Years of the Windrush Generation 🚢
e UK welcomed Caribbean immigrants kn
. They arrived aboard the ship HMT Empi
contributions to British society and cultur
posed injustices faced by some, and we r
equality. Britain called w we answered. 🙌 #
History. #culture #windrush75 #windru

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Still from The Moment of Truth

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0020407 - The Empire Windrush berthed at Tilbury with 417 immigrants on board.
1460584 - The Zayne family on the Empire Windrush at Tilbury, 22 June 1948

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GenAI of the Windrush - Still from The Moment of Truth

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The actor Laurence Fox claimed that the appearance of the Sikh soldier in the film 1917 , was “forcing diversity”

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Ketan Majmudar in the film 1917 by Sam Mendes – Dreamworks Pictures

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ALFIERI

What Fox failed to realise is that 1 in every 6 soldiers in the British Army during WWI were from the Indian sub-continent.

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EU056860 – Injured Indian soldiers at a Camp at Brockenhurst. 1914-1918

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EU056773 - West Indian troops enlisted into the British Navy, July 1917

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Widen European access to cultural communities via Europeana

The project aims to enrich Europeana with high-quality audiovisual and 3D content of tangible and intangible heritage coming from wide range of European cultural communities. New digital tools will facilitate the aggregation, sharing and showcasing of the content online, while a strand of capacity building activities will support the digital transformation of cultural heritage institutions as well as the know-how for engaging with diverse communities and their heritage.

The project is co-financed by the European Union under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Programme.

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Topfoto was a content partner in The WEAVE project 2021-2022

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Donald Trump as the Pope and hanging out with the black community

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PLANET NEWS

ARCHIVE ANCHORING

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1475755 - A workman climbing up the anchor chain of the "Queen Mary" as she lies in dry dock at Southampton. 17 January 1946

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0006759 – Decoding "The Enigma Machine" , Bletchley Park, WW2

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ROGER BAMBER

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pd3000671 - Susannah Hickling , Readers Digest Environment Editor spells out a simple " Clean Me " message out of rubbish collected in just 500 metres for the Beachwatch '98 Clean Beach campaign - Credit: Roger Bamber / TopFoto

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