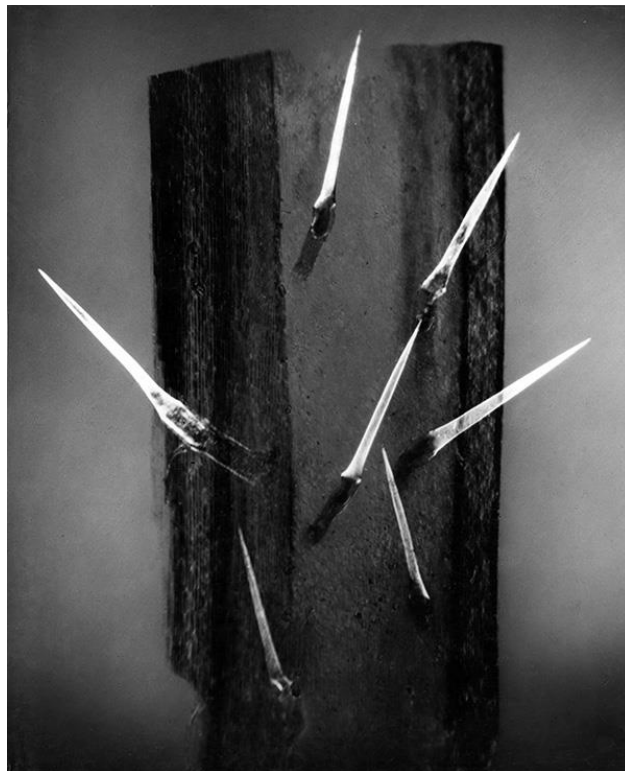


## Snapshot: 'Stinging Nettle, Stinging Hairs', (1933) by Carl Strüwe

By: Lorna Cumming-Bruce

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The self-taught photographer spent three decades creating abstract art with a microscope



Carl Strüwe spent three decades creating abstract art with a microscope. A self-taught photographer, he worked as a graphic designer for most of his life in Bielefeld, Germany. He was not the first person to place the lens of a camera into the eyepiece of a microscope but, in the 1920s, he was among the first to do so for artistic, rather than scientific, reasons. The traditional view under a microscope was rounded, so Strüwe cut black pieces of paper into rectangular shapes and set them over the biological subject matter in his slides. His close-ups of butterfly wings, carrot stems, stinging nettles (pictured above) and many others are on display at Steven Kasher Gallery, New York, until June 4.

