"CENTRISM" AND PERSPECTIVES IN KNOWLEDGE

What do you think that late filmmaker Daryl Duke meant by his provocative quoted assertion, with its metaphor? Do you agree?

“Whoever holds a camera stands at the centre of the world.”
Daryl Duke

In what ways do filmmakers or photographers “stand at the centre” in the sense of creating, from their vantage points, their own versions of the world? What choices can they make?

In the metaphor, could “paintbrush” or “pen/keyboard” be substituted meaningfully for “camera” for creative artists in other art forms that give representations of the world?

In what ways is the quotation essentially about perspectives on the world? How many centres are there? What is meant by “egocentrism”? “Eurocentrism”? “Anthropocentrism”?

How have cameras – or, more broadly, visual images – changed methods of creating and communicating knowledge within the past century?

In what ways do perspectives affect the way knowledge is directed, created, evaluated, and communicated – for example in interpretations in history and the sciences? In what ways does the person or the group that holds the camera – the means and choices of recording and communicating – influence what the rest of the world knows?

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