Alexa Capuano

Crit. Studio: Everyday Objects

Aaron Krach

March 1, 2019

Werra 1 Camera Research

* Over half a million Werra cameras were produced
* The Werra 1 was nicknamed “The People’s Camera” or “Volkskamera” in German
* All of the camera controls are located on the rings around the lens
* An original Carl Zeiss Jena camera was always marked with either “Jena” or a “T.” This was due to conflicts between the East and West companies
* The Werra cameras are named after the river Werra in Germany. The Carl Zeiss company building was located adjacent to this river.
* All cameras were produced between the years of 1955 and 1960
* All Werra cameras were sold throughout the Soviet Bloc which includes the territories of Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania.
* The camera includes a leaf shutter which is a type of shutter in which several metal blades are arranged in a circular position and overlap in the center. These shutters differ from a normal shutter in that it is generally located behind the lens compared to the location of the normal shutter which is right in front of the camera sensor.
* The Werra camera was manufactured by the Carl Zeiss Jena Factory. The Carl Zeiss company is one that focussed towards modern optics.