

Press release
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Inside // Outside Interiors and Perspectives in Contemporary German Photography

Duration: 31 October 2008 to 18 January 2009

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

In staging the comprehensive photo exhibition "Inside // Outside" from **31 October 2008 to 18 January 2009**, the MKM is embarking on a quest for space. Interiors and perspectives, spaces and spatial boundaries are the major themes which these 16 contemporary artists from German-speaking countries set out to explore. The show is presenting some 70 works from 1990s to the present day by **Uta Barth, Laurenz Berges, Thomas Demand, Hans-Peter Feldmann, Thomas Florschuetz, Günther Förg, Andreas Gursky, Candida Höfer, Sabine Hornig, Edgar Lissel, Wiebke Loeper, Beatrice Minda, Ricarda Roggan, Hans-Christian Schink, Florian Slotawa and Heidi Specker**. The spectrum is highly varied, ranging from small-format wall installations and multipart photoseries to monumental large-scale works measuring up to several metres in size.

Since the advent of photography, **representations of space** have formed the major themes of the medium, with the translation of three-dimensional space onto the two-dimensional surface posing a special challenge. Visualising space can involve the use of documentary or image-processing techniques, or be charged with emotion. Space is a repository of memory, yet despite the absence of people in almost all the exhibition's photographs, there remains a lingering echo or human essence, which relates much about them; for these locations are only vested with a genuine function through human agency. The traces they leave reveal their identity and define the space as a location.

Touring the exhibition, the visitor is confronted with a multitude of diverse types of spaces and visualisations of space: empty space, which betrays virtually nothing about itself, but a great deal about the perspective of the artists: choc-a-block, memory-laden spaces; dissolved spaces, which appear little more than a reminiscence of themselves; spaces, which appear to dissipate into formal structures; imaginary spaces - to name just some of the exemplars on view.

Beginning with Günther Förg's work *Villa Malaparte* from the Ströher Collection and Herzog & de Meuron's architecture for the Museum Küppersmühle, the exhibition also focuses on artistic positions which thematise the **interface of the interior and the exterior** and the view outside. The experience of space and location, the perception of the interior and the exterior world find their multifaceted translation and interpretation in the photographic image. Although the "eye of the photographer", states the **curator Simone Förster**, "is usually directed into the space, his searching gaze is also often cast further afield, into the imagined space, into an outside and a beyond. Thus within the image, the interior and exterior perspectives appear inextricably woven together."

The exhibition has been made possible by the generous support of the GEBAG Duisburg and the Willis GmbH & Co. KG. Responsible for the organisation is the Stiftung für Kunst und Kultur e.V. Bonn. An accompanying catalogue is to be published by Wienand Verlag, featuring a comprehensive illustrated section and essays by Simone Förster and Franck Hofmann.

Please contact us should you have any enquiries. Illustrated material from the exhibition can be downloaded free-of-charge from the Press section of our website at: www.museum-kueppersmuehle.de

Best regards



Tina Franke
MKM / Stiftung für Kunst und Kultur e.V.