

# PRESS RELEASE

Berlin, Oct 21, 2025

## **AFTER NATURE PRIZE 26**

Stelios Kallinikou / Susanne Kriemann

C/O Berlin is delighted to present **Stelios Kallinikou** (b. 1985, Cyprus) and **Susanne Kriemann** (b. 1972, Germany), winners of the **After Nature . Ulrike Crespo Photography Prize 26**. An exhibition of both artists' work will be shown for the first time from **Sep 12, 2026 to Feb 3, 2027** at C/O Berlin in Amerika Haus.

In his new project, Stelios Kallinikou explores Akrotiri Salt Lake, which forms part of a British military base as a British overseas territory on Cyprus. The lake is an important wetland habitat in the eastern Mediterranean region, located in close proximity to some of Cyprus's oldest archaeological sites, and a key wetland habitat for countless flora and fauna. Kallinikou conveys the tensions between military exploitation, ecological fragility, and cultural heritage in this place by interweaving multiple time periods. Incorporating photography, film, and sculpture, his project makes visible the complex relationships between land, borders, and sovereignty, inviting viewers to reflect on colonial legacies at Europe's outer edge.

Susanne Kriemann's project ties into her longstanding engagement with uranium and the atomic age. She uses pitchblende—also known as uraninite, and one of the most ancient minerals found on Earth—as a starting point to reflect on geological and atomic timescales through photography, research, and poetry. Her work incorporates early photographic processes including autoradiography, screenprinting, and heliography, combining the abstract effect of radiation on photosensitive materials with poetic texts and site-specific staging. Kriemann explores the role of pitchblende—a material that played an important role in the discovery of radioactivity—in the histories of photography and science, as well as current debates around nuclear power and weapons. Her project opens up a critical interplay between the visual world and the use of radioactivity, allowing viewers to understand the emission's central role in the relationship between humans and the environment.

These prizewinning project proposals will be realized for the first time as part of **After Nature . Ulrike Crespo Photography Prize 26**. After premiering at C/O Berlin, the dual exhibition will be on view at the Crespo Foundation's Open Space in Frankfurt am Main from spring 2027.

The **Jury** is comprised of Bergit Arends (Associate Lecturer, Courtauld Institute of Art, London), Taous Dahmani (Curator, The Photographers' Gallery, London), Kateryna Radchenko (Head, Odesa Photo Days, Kyiv), Boaz Levin (Curator and Co-head of program, C/O Berlin), Katharina Täschner (curator, C/O Berlin), Ben Livne Weitzman (Crespo Foundation, Independent Curator at Glenkeen Garden Residencies and the Glenkeen Variations exhibition series), Christina Töpfer (Editor in Chief, Camera Austria, Graz), and Bernard Vienat (Head, art-werk, Geneva). The decision was reached unanimously following nominations made by eleven international experts.

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The **After Nature . Ulrike Crespo Photography Prize** is a joint project of C/O Berlin Foundation and Crespo Foundation. Each year, the prize honors two artists exploring new concepts of nature in photography and other visual media, enabling them to realize new research-intensive projects. The prize confers an award of 40,000 euro, an exhibition at C/O Berlin, and an accompanying monograph.

## **Jury Statements**

Susanne Kriemann's proposal addresses nuclear legacy and environmental awareness with acute urgency. Her use of photographic processes such as autoradiography and X-rays intertwines scientific research and poetic inquiry. Her proposal reflects a deep investigation of theme and scenography, shaped by minimal means and an ecological focus. The jury values her precise engagement throughout her career with the diversity of the medium of photography, and her commitment to developing complex ideas through an accessible and diverse visual language. – Bernard Vienat

Stelios Kallinikou's project is a powerful and timely exploration of the Akrotiri Salt Lake in Cyprus, a site where the legacies of ecological violence, colonialism, and geopolitical control converge. Through a profound interrogation of military surveillance, displacement, and environmental degradation, Kallinikou's work confronts the pervasive structures of colonial and capitalist oppression. Offering a compelling counter-hegemonic narrative, this work calls for a reimagining of sovereignty and environmental justice. This project is an urgent contribution to global conversations on resistance, making its development and public presentation more essential than ever. – Taous Dahmani

**Stelios Kallinikou** (b. 1985, Cyprus) is an artist whose works draw on photography, video, and sound to create introspective worlds at the intersection of politics, colonialism, environment, technology, spirituality, and the power of images. His speculative narratives question land and the body as both territorial and ideological constructs. The artist is cofounder and head of Thkio Ppalies Project Space in Nicosia, Cyprus, where he lives and works. His work has been exhibited in many places including Foam, Amsterdam; Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin; NIMAC, Nicosia; and Benaki Museum, Athens. It has also been included in major biennials and at institutions such as Ural Industrial Biennial and Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden.

**Susanne Kriemann** (b. 1972, Germany) is an artist and professor at Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design. She has headed ABA AiR Berlin Alexanderplatz with Aleksander Komarov since 2010. Her works have been shown internationally at Wattis Institute, San Francisco; Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris; C/O Berlin; and Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg. In addition, they have been shown at the 2nd Diriyah Biennale in Riyadh, the 11th Shanghai Biennale, the 10th and 11th Göteborg International Biennial, the 2nd Karachi Biennale, the 5th Moscow Biennale, and the 5th Berlin Biennale. She has published eighteen artist books since 1998.

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<b>Exhibition</b>	Sep 12, 2026 – Feb 3, 2027
<b>Opening Hours</b>	Daily . 11:00–20:00
<b>Admission</b>	12/6 euro
<b>Organizer</b>	C/O Berlin Foundation Amerika Haus . Hardenbergstraße 22–24 . 10623 Berlin Tel +49.30.284 44 16-0 . <a href="http://www.co-berlin.org">www.co-berlin.org</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/coberlinphoto">www.facebook.com/coberlinphoto</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/coberlin">www.instagram.com/coberlin</a> #coberlin #afternatureprize #stelioskallinikoucoberlin #susannekriemanncoberlin

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A joint project of C/O Berlin and Crespo Foundation.