

ANNUAL PREVIEW 2024

Berlin, Nov 28, 2023

VALIE EXPORT

Retrospective

Jan 27 – May 22, 2024



Action Pants: *Genital Panic*, 1969 © VALIE EXPORT, VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2023, Courtesy Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac; Photo: Peter Hassmann, VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2023

The exhibition presents the multifaceted oeuvre of one of the most important media and performance artists of the twentieth century. VALIE EXPORT (b. 1940, Austria) is internationally recognized as a trailblazing artist who challenges social norms and role models with her media-reflective practice and feminist criticism. This exhibition presents her eclectic artistic development, ranging from her early, provocative "expanded cinema" actions to her symbolic performances and urban interventions. EXPORT's in-depth examination of media such as video, drawing, and installation is apparent in the different phases of her career, especially in her experimental approach to photography, which is a special focus of this exhibition. Her radical performances and critical analysis of mass media highlight, among other things, the role of women and their social marginalization in a patriarchal society.

The exhibition was organized by Albertina, Vienna in cooperation with C/O Berlin. Made possible by the Hauptstadtkulturfonds.

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LAIA ABRIL

On Rape – And Institutional Failure

Jan 27 – May 22, 2024



Ala Kachuu (Bride Kidnapping), Kyrgyzstan, 2019
© Laia Abril, Courtesy Galerie Les filles du calvaire, Paris

Catalan artist Laia Abril (b. 1986) dedicates her extensive research work to the topic of institutionally enabled rape using assemblages of found and original photographs, reports, quotations, videos, and artifacts. Working across time horizons, cultural practices, and media, she traces the normalization of misogynous ways of thinking and acting in society and politics without resorting to explicit depictions of sexual violence. Instead, the focus lies on the traditional ideas, laws, and institutionalized failures that maintain power dynamics and relationships of dependency that enable rape. The artist counters the speechlessness often felt around this topic with a moving and political narrative while simultaneously appealing to the responsibility of society as a whole. This is the second chapter of her long-term project, *A History of Misogyny*, in which Abril reacts to the various forms of systemic violence against women. C/O Berlin presents the artist's first institutional solo exhibition in Germany.

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ALADIN BORIOLI

Bannkörbe . C/O Berlin Talent Award 2023

Jan 27 – May 22, 2024



Bannkorb, 2023, Germany, Collection of Hans-Günther Brockmann
© Aladin Borioli, Ellen Lapper (*Apian*)

At first glance, you see a bizarre face carved into wood. However, the narrow “mouth” is also the entryway to a fascinating world of bees. This is one of only a few preserved beehives made from organic materials such as wood, straw, and cow dung in the northern German artisanal tradition. In addition to sheltering bees, the container with its characteristic face also serves as protection against the “evil eye” and honey thieves. Aladin Borioli (b. 1988, Switzerland) is the winner of the C/O Berlin Talent Award 2023 – *Artist*. In his research-based project, *Bannkörbe*, he uses photographs, archival material, and participatory observation to investigate the coexistence of humans and bees as well as alternative methods of beekeeping. With perseverance, ingenuity, and a visual anthropology approach, Borioli’s collaborative practice moves between art and science, photography, philosophy, and field research. C/O Berlin presents his first solo institutional exhibition. A publication accompanying the exhibition will be published by Spector Books. In addition to an interview with the artist, it also contains an essay by Bas Blaasse, who won the C/O Berlin Talent Award 2023 in the *Theorist* category.

Since 2020, the C/O Berlin Talent Award has been made possible by the Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung.

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TYLER MITCHELL

WISH THIS WAS REAL

Jun 1 – Sep 5, 2024



The root of all that lives, 2020 © Tyler Mitchell, Courtesy of the artist

Tyler Mitchell (b. 1995, USA) is driven by dreams of paradise against the backdrop of history. Since his rise to prominence in the world of fashion, Mitchell has propelled a visual narrative of beauty, style, utopia, and the landscape that expands visions of Black life. C/O Berlin presents Mitchell's first solo exhibition in Germany, offering new perspectives on his long-standing themes of self-determination and the extraordinary radiance of the everyday. It shows how portraiture can be rooted in the past while evoking imagined futures. Mitchell's dynamic range of work, from his color-drenched photography in Cuba and his portraits made in the United States, Europe, and West Africa, to his video installations, sculptures, and his latest prints on mirrors and fabric, traces photography's vital role in shaping a visual realm in which refuge and repose are central.

Made possible by Art Mentor Foundation Lucerne.

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STUDIO REX

Jean-Marie Donat Collection

Jun 1 – Sep 5, 2024



Studio Rex © Jean-Marie Donat Collection

What hidden stories await discovery in photo studio archives? What can we discern in portraits flush with the hopes and dreams of individuals who have left their homeland? Can such images help us understand past experiences of migration and colonization? These and other questions are bound up in the history of *Studio Rex*, located in Marseille in the south of France and run for two generations by the Kessayans, an Armenian-Cypriot family, from 1933 to 2018. The studio was a meeting place for many migrants. The photographs include individuals in formal-wear gazing solemnly at the camera as they pose for official passport photographs; self-stagings with props against a variety of backdrops as well as photomontages that unite families separated by the Mediterranean. Today, French collector Jean-Marie Donat owns much of the photo studio's archive. For the first time in Germany, C/O Berlin will show a selection of works taken from this extensive collection of photographs and negatives from between 1966 and 1985. The images evoke a dialogue between Africa and Europe, as well as an exchange between private and collective memory and forgetting, and between past and present.

Produced by Les Rencontres d'Arles in cooperation with C/O Berlin.

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BERLIN – THE NINETIES

OSTKREUZ – Agentur der Fotografen

Sep 14, 2024 – Jan 23, 2025



At the fringe of the Love Parade, Berlin, 1997 © Annette Hauschild/OSTKREUZ

Berlin found itself in limbo after the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, caught between past and future. The city was defined by political upheaval, investment controversies, and a housing shortage, but the 1990s was also the time when a new and confident generation flourished, rediscovering the city's spaces. Photographers from former East Germany founded the photo agency OSTKREUZ during this tumultuous era, in 1990. This exhibition includes works by agency co-founders Sibylle Bergemann, Harald Hauswald, Ute Mahler and Werner Mahler, as well as other members who joined the photographers' collective after the 1990s. Their works, taken between 1989 and 1999, document the formative and turbulent events following the fall of the Wall, revealing societal transformations and questions around identity. C/O Berlin will show roughly 200 photoworks, including both iconic scenes and the photographers' previously unseen archival material. An accompanying publication will be published.

The exhibition is organized in cooperation with OSTKREUZ – Agentur der Fotografen.

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AFTER NATURE PRIZE 2024

Laura Huertas Millán / Sarker Protick

Sep 14, 2024 – Jan 23, 2025



© Renato Cruz Santos / © Tanjimul Tuhin

Many ideas about nature have become unsettled as people realize that life and economics under global capitalism have irrevocably changed the global ecosystem. The effects of the climate crisis show that nature in the twenty-first century is no longer “natural,” but is instead affected in every way by human actions. How do we view nature today, when its condition is indivisibly interwoven in the social and political expressions of our way of life? Together with Crespo Foundation, C/O Berlin awards the *After Nature . Ulrike Crespo Photography Prize* from 2024.

The first recipients are Laura Huertas Millán (b. 1983, Colombia) and Sarker Protick (b. 1986, Bangladesh). A double exhibition will be first presented at C/O Berlin in the Amerika Haus from Sep 14, 2024, to Jan 23, 2025. An accompanying publication will be released.

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Exhibition

Jan 27 – May 22, 2024

VALIE EXPORT . Retrospective

Laia Abril . On Rape – And Institutional Failure

Aladin Borioli . Bannkörbe . C/O Berlin Talent Award 2023

Press Tour Jan 26, 2024 . 11:00

Jun 1 – Sep 5, 2024

Tyler Mitchell . WISH THIS WAS REAL

Studio Rex . Jean-Marie Donat Collection

Press Tour May 31, 2024 . 11:00

Sep 14, 2024 – Jan 23, 2025

Berlin – The Nineties . OSTKREUZ – Agentur der Fotografen

After Nature Prize 2024 . Laura Huertas Millán / Sarker Protick

Press Tour Sep 13, 2024 . 11:00

Opening Hours

Daily . 11:00–20:00

Admission

12/6 euros

Organizer

C/O Berlin Foundation

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