

**gute aussichten deluxe**  
**new german photography beyond the Düsseldorf School**



**PRESS DOSSIER**

International exhibition series in collaboration with the museum of the Mexican Foreign Office,  
the Museo de la Cancillería, Mexico City; Goethe-Institut Mexico;  
Deichtorhallen, House of Photography, Hamburg; Museum für Fotografie, SMB, Berlin;  
and the permanent representation of Rhineland-Palatinate in Berlin

The first venue of the international exhibition tour *gute aussichten deluxe—new german  
photography beyond the Düsseldorf School* featuring twenty-two talented young photographers and their  
award-winning works opens on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at the Museo de la Cancillería in collaboration  
with the Goethe-Institut in Mexico City

With award-winning works by

Nadja Bournonville, Georg Brückmann, Claudia Christoffel, Monika Czosnowska, Felix Dobbert,  
Sonja Kälberer, Katrin Kamrau, Kolja Linowitzki, Tamara Lorenz, Marian Luft, Sara-Lena Maierhofer,  
Thomas Neumann, Nicolai Rapp, Jewgeni Roppel, Rebecca Sampson, Helena Schätzle, Luise Schröder,  
Sarah Straßmann, Stephan Tillmans, Markus Uhr, Anna Simone Wallinger, and Christina Werner

Neustadt/Weinstrasse, Germany // Mexico City, Friday, March 31, 2017

The exhibition **gute aussichten deluxe—new german photography beyond the Düsseldorf School** is the result of thirteen years of the project **gute aussichten—new german photography** in its promotion of young photographers. Since 2004, it has organized over 130 exhibitions for its 114 award winners all over the world.

**gute aussichten deluxe** presents twenty-two outstanding positions from the circle of gute aussichten award winners from 2004 to 2015, whose artistic production has continually developed in an impressive way in this period.

The premiere of **gute aussichten deluxe** will take place on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at the **Museo de la Cancillería**, the museum of the Mexican Foreign Office, in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut, in Mexico City, and will be on view until June 16, 2017.

The exhibition **gute aussichten deluxe** reflects both the continuity and transformation of the medium photography in all of its facets, offering a unique overview of a generation of young photographers that has left behind the primacy of the Düsseldorf School with a visual position that is firmly rooted in the present.

Contemporary photography long ago distanced itself from mere reproduction. The objectivity of the image that was postulated by the Düsseldorf School is over—in spite of or perhaps due to the continuing flood of images in all media channels. The young talents of today are now searching for and investigating the role of photography in the medial canon of images and experimenting with the new expressive forms and manifestations that can be coaxed from it. Starting from the fringes of established photography, the contemporary image is expanding into fresh forms of medial expression. The young photographers use all means of digital and analog photography, following various different medial strategies just as naturally as they would use moving images, sound, and painting or integrate space for installation works.

The positions that are presented in **gute aussichten deluxe** push in many ways the boundaries that seem to be imposed by the medium of photography. For his series *Digits of Light*, the Berlin-based photographer-artist **Kolja Linowitzki**, for example, spontaneously developed his own means of production, a completely self-made apparatus for creating images that consolidates digital light and analog exposure. Each image is unique and has the look of an etching or painting.

You could describe **Georg Brückmann**'s series *Kundmannngasse 19* as philosophy that has become an image. The series investigates and visualizes the continual self-referentiality in the philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein. Brückmann photographed rooms and objects in a building in Vienna that Wittgenstein had helped plan, later painting over the images, reconstructing them at a smaller scale, combining them with photographs, and then restaging everything in a picture. This self-referential process of creating a single “interior” substantiates and simultaneously questions the construction of images, perception, and truth.

**Claudia Christoffel** demonstrates in her series *FUN-GHB-EAT* what can happen with absolutely everyday objects such as ties, oranges, or water wings when they are stripped of their original function and are put into another context. How can a water wing help during sex (*FUN*)? Can an orange be abused as an instrument of torture (*GHB*)? Is a tie only an item of clothing (*EAT*)?

In her research project *Expanded Pictures*, **Sarah Strassmann** is interested in the functionality and value of the medium of photography in the digital age. Creating, editing, and distributing images has become both normal and omnipresent by means of cellphone cameras, Internet, and social media. A favorite subjects is the selfie: *the* contemporary medium of self-staging, in which the images seem to be individual but actually conform to an archetype. It is thus less about the photograph as an image of oneself than about the process of photographing itself, which freely adapted from René Descartes's *I think therefore I am* is a declaration: I am here. Photography in the digital age thus becomes more than anything a (social) act in the service of digital channels such as Facebook, Instagram, or Snapchat.

The range of topics covered by the participating young talents also encompasses architecture, memory and construction of memory, classic subjects like portraits or still lifes, and also investigates the visual staging techniques of right-wing parties in Europe or redefines classic reportage photography. In an age when everybody is twittering about fake news, the photographers are constantly setting new, concentrated accents with their images of astonishing simplicity, great poetry, and elementary attachment to life.

All in all, *gute aussichten deluxe* presents twenty-two new artistic positions with approximately two hundred images, five cellphone slideshows, four videos, three books, three brochures, two objects, one printed floor, and one sound installation in a shell.

*gute aussichten deluxe* was developed and curated by Josefine Raab, the founder of gute aussichten, in coordination with Ingo Taubhorn, curator at the House of Photography, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg. After the debut exhibition at the Museo de la Cancillería in Mexico, it will be on view at the House of Photography, Deichtorhallen in Hamburg starting in March 2018 and at the Museum für Fotografie, SMB, in Berlin starting in June 2018. Additional international venues will follow in 2019 and 2020.

About us

***gute aussichten—new german photography***

Andreas Gursky, Juergen Teller, Norbert Bisky, Thomas Demand, Annelies Strba, Jürgen Klauke, Thomas Ruff, Thomas Struth, Hans Christian Schink, Paul Graham, Ulrich Seidl, Herlinde Koelbl, Wibke von Bonin, Luminita Sabau, Gregor Jansen, Mario Lombardo, and Ingo Taubhorn have actively supported and encouraged gute aussichten as jurors, curators, and designers.

In 2004 the project *gute aussichten—new german photography*, which the German magazine *Der Spiegel* called “the most significant competition for young photographers in Germany” (January 29, 2009), was founded by Josefine Raab and Stefan Becht to promote young photographers. Once every year, prominent representatives of the art and culture scene help the founders choose the award winners from among the final projects of the current graduates of German art academies. In the past twelve years, around 130 exhibitions have been organized in Germany and abroad for 114 award winners. Since May 2015, gute aussichten has been an accredited nonprofit organization.

*gute aussichten deluxe* is a project of the accredited nonprofit organization gute aussichten gGmbH, which is located in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse.

Approximately 7,900 characters / 1,200 words, for immediate release.

For further questions or image requests, please contact Stefan Becht, phone +49-(0)6321-970 67 99 or mail: [info@guteaussichten.org](mailto:info@guteaussichten.org)

More information

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