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Press Release | Guardini Stiftung e. V., Askanischer Platz 4, 10963 Berlin

Berlin, 2019, January 15th

Eclipse | *Andréas Lang*

Guardini Gallery | January 23rd – April 18th 2019
Opening: Tuesday | January 22nd 2019 | 7 p.m.

Guardini Galerie presents from **2019, January 22nd** on, ***Eclipse***, an exhibition of photographs by artist and photographer Andréas Lang, who illuminates with his contemporary dispute of history a chapter in the past between Occident and Orient, that has been effecting us until today. The Middle East is not coming to peace and the actuality of this conflict is even more evident after 9/11 and when looking at the complicated political situation in the region and the revival of religious fanaticism – in the West as in the East.

With his pictures, Andréas Lang seeks for the hidden stories in different kind of places, may they be of historical, mythological or personal nature. He searches for traces and reveals manifold layers with his photographs. The pictures are in a state of suspense between past and present, reality and imagination. He calls his approach 'visual archaeology'.

While in astronomy an 'eclipse' describes the phenomenon of one celestial body covered by another, Eclipse has here a more multilayered meaning. Though, it was a solar eclipse in 2006 that inspired Andréas Lang to start his cycle of landscape photographs relating to early Christianity and the Crusades in the Middle East, Turkey, Syria, Israel and Palestine.

He seismographically skims for memories turned into stone and lets the light draw traces inside the camera through the widely open lens. The visible and the invisible, the present and the absent are captured in that way. Works of art are coming into being, nearly metaphysical ones in black-and-white, but also colour photographs, creating glimpses of the connection to our times. The pictures track the fateful, sometimes tragic sites of European history, where the spirit of the past blends atmospherically with the present. Influenced by Romanticism, especially the paintings of Caspar David Friedrich, Lang's photographs also want to address humanity's great questions.

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Hans-Michael Koetzle concludes his catalogue text with the question: *The centuries of religious and cultural conflict – where will it all lead? There is one absurd picture of a signpost punctuated with a question mark. Do we know? We do not.*
Lang suggests to us his 'meditation in pictures'.

Andréas Lang received several awards and stipends – latest 2018 the stipend and residency of the academy of culture Tarabya in Istanbul and 2017 the working stipend of fine arts by the Kultursenat Berlin. His works have been exhibited internationally, e.g. at the n.b.k. Berlin (2018); Mercosul Biennale, Port Alegre-Brazil (2017); Rathausgalerie / Kunsthalle, Munich (2017); Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin (solo 2016/17); Alfred Ehrhardt Stiftung, Berlin (solo, 2016); Münchner Stadtmuseum, Munich (solo, 2013); Deichtorhallen – Haus der Fotografie, Hamburg (2011); Centro de Cultura Contemporania de Barcelona (2007).

The Guardini foundation Berlin shows the series Eclipse, exhibited in 2008/09 in the Gallery of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für christliche Kunst e.V. Munich, the Stadtgalerie Altötting and at the Paris Photo, with a revised concept.

The exhibition will be accompagnied by a catalogue book with texts by Hans-Michael Koetzle, Frizzi Krella and Stefan Weidner, it will be published by Hatje Cantz in March 2019. The catalogue book is supported by the Verein Ausstellungshaus für christliche Kunst e. V., Munich.

Verein Ausstellungshaus für christliche Kunst e.V.

Download press release reproductions: http://www.guardini.de/presse/index.html

Opening: **2019, January 22nd | 7 p.m.**

Greeting: **Prof. Michael Rutz** | President of the Guardini Foundation
Introduction: **Frizzi Krella** | Art historian and curator

GUARDINI GALERIE

Adress: Guardini Stiftung | Askanischer Platz 4 | 10963 Berlin
Information: +49 30 217358-0
Opening hours: Monday–Friday | 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Admission: free
Duration: 2019, January 23rd until April 18th
Guided tours: free, after agreement by telephone
Website: www.guardini.de

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ANDRÉAS LANG - Biography

Born in Zweibrücken/Palatinat. 1983-85 drummer in the Nasse Hunde punk band. 1985-91 assistant to the photographers Dieter Blum, Michael Leis, Werner Janda. 1991-01 living in Paris as a free-lance photographer. From 1995 non-commissioned works, including video, experimental and documentary films, journeys to Iraq and Northern India. 1995 residency in Australia, first works on landscape and nature, from 1999 long-term project on European landscapes. 2003/04 residency in New York, photo and video works. 2006 journey to Mali and the Sahara desert, photo works on the Touareg people. 2006-08 project on landscapes of the crusades and early christianity, journeys to Egypt, Israel, Palestine, Syria and Turkey. 2008/10 residencies in Cairo and Damascus for new works. From 2011 project on (post-) colonialism in Central Africa, based on research of historical material, journeys to Cameroun, Tchad, Kongo Region and Central African Republic. 2017 residency and new works in Lagos/Nigeria, by invitation from Goethe Institute Lagos. 2018 Tarabya stipend and residency in Istanbul, works for a new project.

Awards and grants:

2018/19	Tarabya stipend and residency
2017	Visual arts work stipend, awarded by the Berlin Cultural Senate
2015/16	Artist in residence grant, awarded by the German Federal Foreign Ministry and Landesverband Berliner Galerien
2010	Fine arts project grant, awarded by the City of Munich
2008	DG Award for contemporary art – Gebhard Fugel Preis
2006	Green Leaf Award for Photography, NWM – UN World Environment Days Algiers
2005	European artist exchange and stipend for Poland by the state of Bavaria
2000	Prix Agfa Multicontrast/France for black&white photography
1999	Prix Aidda de la photographie sociale et documentaire, Paris

Collections:

Kunstbibliothek – SMB, Staatliche Museen Berlin
German Historical Museum, DHM – Berlin
Photography Collection, Museum of the City of Munich
Allianz Collection
Artothek - Bildersaal, City of Munich
Maison Victor Hugo – Musée de la ville de Paris
Videoteque de Paris
SØR Rusche Collection Berlin – Oelde
Kunstparterre Collection Munich
Private collections

www.lang-photo.com

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ECLIPSE
ANDRÉAS LANG

PRESS IMAGES

Bei Sodom**,** Israel 2007
Pigment Print, 110x138cm, © Andréas Lang, VG Bild Kunst

Meggido**,** Israel 2007
Pigment Print, 110x138cm, © Andréas Lang, VG Bild Kunst

Dead Cities I*,* Syrien 2006
Silvergelatine Print, 50x60cm, © Andréas Lang, VG Bild Kunst

Ruin City, Syria 2006
Silvergelatine Print, 50x60cm, © Andréas Lang, VG Bild Kunst

Road to Jerusalem**,** Israel 2007
Pigment Print, 110x 338 cm
© Andréas Lang, VG Bild Kunst

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