CANDIDA HÖFER

About Structures and Colors

28.11.2019 – 08.02.2020

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Candida Höfer (Eberswalde, Germany 1944) presents her individual exhibition About Stuctures and Colors, at Galería Helga de Alvear. Her work — along with that of Andreas Gursky, Axel Hütte, Thomas Ruff and Thomas Struth — is framed within the tradition of the Düsseldorf Kunstakademie and the teachings of Bernd and Hilla Becher.

The exhibition presents a large-format series of interiors of libraries, theaters, stairs and quite a novel way, an exterior, made between Moscow and Paris. The total absence of the human figure causes a greater prominence of architecture and nature. The apparent austerity of its images encloses a complex reading of architecture in relation to its current uses and functions. The exhibition reflects on the representation of national culture and architectural will through elements such as light, structure and color as well as the idea of beauty itself.

In the seventies, he photographed Turkish immigrants in Germany making public the private sphere of this community. In the eighties he started his Räume (Spaces) series, still ongoing, focusing on the interiors of libraries, museums, concert halls, palaces, etc. In the nineties his series Zoologische Gärten (Zoological Garden) portrayed captive animals in architectures more characteristic of man. In 2001 the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Calais, commissioned him to photograph the twelve sets of sculptures of the "Bourgeois de Calais" by Auguste Rodin in its twelve different locations. In 2002 he participated in Documenta 11 and in 2003 together with Martin Kippenberger he represented Germany at the Venice Biennale.

Contact information:
prensa@helgadealvear.com
marina@helgadealvear.com

Candida Höfer studied at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, first cinema with Ole John and then photography with Bernd and Hilla Becher. Among his individual exhibitions: Folkwang Museum in Essen (1982), Rheinisches Landesmuseum de Bonn (1984), Hamburger Kunsthalle (1993), Galerie de l'École des Beaux-Arts in Valenciennes (1994), Center of Photography at the University of Salamanca (1998), Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago (2000), Kunsthalle Nürnberg (2000), Kunsthalle Bremen (2003), Louvre Museum in Paris (2006) and Kunsthaus Hamburg (2007), Amparo Museum in Puebla, Mexico (2018) . His work has been part of multiple collective exhibitions: Nachbarschaft, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf (1976); Giovani Artisti Tedeschi, Turin Center for Contemporary Art (1995); Ex Libris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, in Paris (1998); Minimalisms: A Sign of the Times at the Reina Sofía National Art Museum in Madrid (2001); Syncopation: Contemporany encounters with the Modern Masters Hakone, Japan (2019); Civilisatzion: The way we Live Now Melbourne, Australis (2019) Documenta 11 (2002); Moving Pictures, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao (2003); Venice Biennale (2003); International Incheton Women Artist's Biennale (2007); The International Biennal os Contemporany Art of Cartagena de Indias (2014); Biennale Für Aktuelle Fotografie (2017); 3rd Beijing Biennial Photo (2018). He currently lives and works in Cologne.

Practical information:

28.11.2019 – 08.02.2020
Opening: 28.11.2019, 20h.

Galería Helga de Alvear
Doctor Fourquet 12 | ES–28012 Madrid
T. +34 91 468 0506 | F. +34 91 467 5134
galeria@helgadealvear.com

Opening time:
Tuesday—Saturday: 11:00 to 14:00 h. | 16:30 to 20:30

Contact information:
prensa@helgadealvear.com
marina@helgadealvear.com

Bolshoi Teatr Moskwa II
2017
C-Print
180 x 261,3 cm
Ed. 2/6
© Candida Höfer
Courtesy Candifa Höfer and
Galería Helga de Alvear

Rossiskaya gosudarstvennaya biblioteka Moskwa II
2017
C-Print
180 x 212,5 cm
Ed. 2/6
© Candida Höfer
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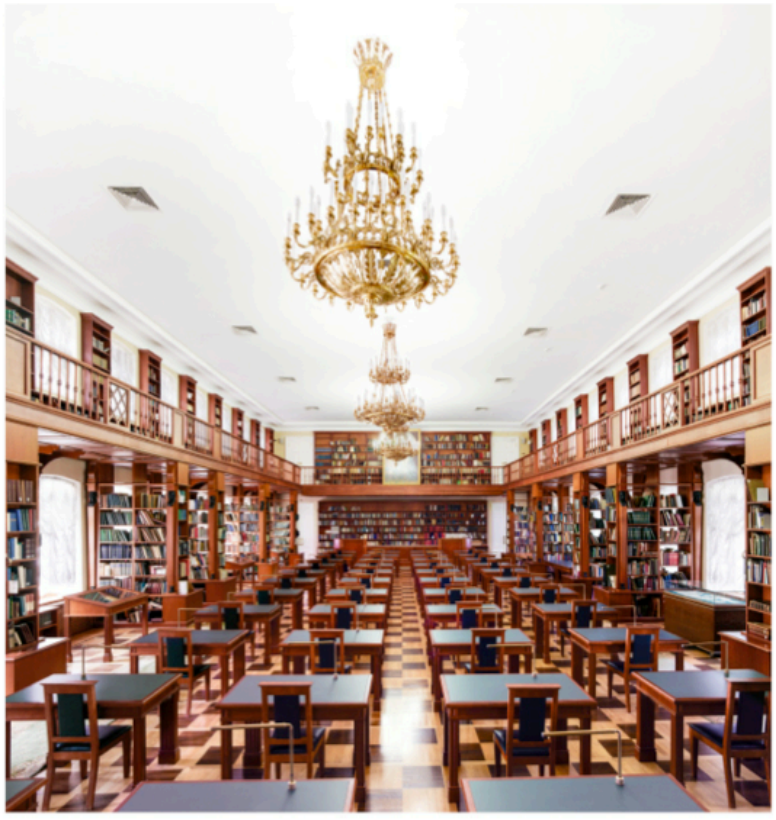

Rossiskaya gosudarstvennaya biblioteka Moskwa IV
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Cité Refuge de L'Armée du Salut [Le Corbusier - ©FLC/ADAGP] III Paris
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180 x 167,9 cm
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