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PRESS RELEASE

PHOTOGRAPHY TOUCHES US ALL – THE OPENING OF EMOP BERLIN 2023

10TH EMOP BERLIN – EUROPEAN MONTH OF PHOTOGRAPHY 2023

2 – 31 March 2023

For the 10th edition of EMOP Berlin from 2 to 31 March 2023, over 100 exhibitions and well over 500 participating photographers will transform the metropole into the capital city of photography, where the anniversary edition in Berlin will celebrate 20 years of photography festival culture. Under the guiding theme of *Touch* and taking the perspectives of participating photographers as its starting point, the festival will be dedicated to ideas such as proximity and distance, technical and cultural innovation, climate change and the energy crisis, the Ukraine conflict, and the future of photographic archives.

At the opening EMOP Berlin 2023 press conference at Charlottenburg's Amtsalon – the venue for both the EMOP Berlin anniversary exhibition and Opening Days 2023 – Kulturprojekte Berlin GmbH CEO Moritz van Dülmen and EMOP Berlin 2023 Artistic Director Maren Lübbke-Tidow will come together with numerous guests and artists to present the programme for this year's European Month of Photography in Berlin.

Moritz van Dülmen, CEO of Kulturprojekte Berlin GmbH: *“Berlin is opening its doors! With EMOP Berlin and its 100 partners, we’re inviting visitors to rediscover Berlin as a city of photography – for a whole month, with 100 exhibitions accompanied by an extensive festival programme. Our two central venues – in the west and the east of the city – are the starting points and particular highlights. For the anniversary exhibition showing to mark the 10th edition of EMOP Berlin, the baroque-feeling Amtsalon in Charlottenburg will offer a fascinating contrast to the vacant office building hosting the photography schools’ exhibitions at Leipziger Straße 54.”*

Maren Lübbke-Tidow, Artistic Director of EMOP Berlin 2023: *“20 years of photography festival culture in Berlin have also meant 20 years of digital transformation to photography as a medium – one that today more than ever is streaming into all areas of society, thereby becoming more present and more impactful than ever. And it is for this very reason that programmes like EMOP Berlin are so important: because it is here that exhibitions and supporting programmes open up spaces and pathways up for contemporary issues.”*

For the 10th edition of Germany's largest photography festival – set to be opened at the Amtsalon on 2 March at 19:00 in a ceremony headed by Berlin Culture Senator Klaus Lederer – visitors across Berlin and Potsdam can look forward to **exhibitions from around 100 partners** including the Helmut Newton Foundation, C/O Berlin, Deutsches Historisches Museum, Paris Populaire and Akademie der Künste. The major anniversary exhibition *Politics of Touch*, showing from 2 to 31 March across four floors of the Amtsalon, will turn the gaze towards Berlin as a centre of contemporary art production by uniting 40 Berlin-based artists who have shaped photographic visual culture both in Berlin and internationally. Run by photography schools from Berlin and Potsdam alongside one Viennese school, the group exhibition *Urgent Present: The View of the Younger Generation* will take place from 4 to 26 March 2023 (opening on 4 March at 19:00) in a vacant office building at Leipziger Straße 54, placing the newest generation of photographers front and centre.

EMOP Berlin 2023 will be launched with **Opening Days** from 2–5 March, with guests from Germany and around the world appearing at the Amtsalon. On 5 March at 12:00, **Minister of State for Culture and Media**



Claudia Roth will hold a keynote focusing on contemporary photography's sociopolitical mission and new institutional challenges. This will be followed by a roundtable with artists Ute Mahler and Adrian Sauer and Centre Pompidou (Paris) curator Florian Ebner.

A major highlight of EMOP Berlin 2023 will take place on 3 March at 20:00 with the **awarding of the Käthe Kollwitz Prize** to Nan Goldin at Akademie der Künste, where the associated exhibition with photographs from five decades of the US artist's work will exhibit until 19 March.

A number of Berlin's archives are opening their doors for EMOP Berlin 2023: across six events, visitors will be guided through (photographic) archives held at locations including the Foundation for Photography and Media Art with the Michael Schmidt Archive, the Museum of Photography, the Walter Benjamin Archive (at the Akademie der Künste) and Berlinische Galerie. For the duration of an afternoon, conversations with archivists and heads of collection will reveal things that normally remain well-protected in hiding. The *Disruptions of the 20th Century* programme will use images and other archival materials to establish a connection between past experiences of war in Europe and the current outbreak of war in Ukraine.

A **catalogue** will be appearing alongside EMOP Berlin 2023, edited by Kulturprojekten Berlin and featuring contributions from Susanne Holschbach, Maren Lübbke-Tidow and Rebecca Wilton (DE/EN, 232 pages, 145 images, price: €10). It will be available from 2 March 2023 from all EMOP Berlin 2023 partners and at the Amtsalon.

Entry is free of charge to all exhibitions and events at the Amtsalon and in Leipziger Straße. An **overview of all venues, exhibitions and dates** is available for visitors at www.emop-berlin.eu

Images and press material for EMOP Berlin 2023 are available to editorial teams at <https://emop-berlin.eu/en/press/>

EMOP Berlin is a member of the **European Month of Photography (EMOP)**, a joint European project that currently also includes photography festivals in Brussels, Lisbon, Luxembourg, Paris and Vienna. The idea of launching a European network of photography festivals was born in 2003 on the initiative of Berlin's partner city Paris. The joint project aims to promote European cooperation, to strengthen the international photography community, to deepen international exchange of information and ideas and to support young artists. Over the coming months, the festivals will take place in Paris (25 March–21 May 2023), Luxembourg (10 March–30 June 2023) and Vienna (1–30 June 2023).

EMOP Berlin is a Kulturprojekte Berlin project run in cooperation with photography institutions from Berlin and Potsdam. It is made possible by funding from the Senate Department for Culture and Europe and from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The anniversary exhibition is supported by the Lotto Foundation Berlin.

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