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PRESS RELEASE

EMOP Berlin Celebrates Its 10th Edition

10TH EMOP BERLIN – EUROPEAN MONTH OF PHOTOGRAPHY 2023
2 – 31 March 2023

EMOP Berlin will from 2 to 31 March 2023 celebrate 20 years of photography festival culture with a multitude of exhibitions and events interrogating contemporary issues. For the 10th edition of Germany's largest photography festival, visitors can look forward to exhibitions from around 100 partners across Berlin and Potsdam, the anniversary exhibition *Touch: Politics of Touch* at the Amsalon, the special exhibition *Urgent Present: The View of the Younger Generation* – a collaboration by Berlin's photography schools – and a launch weekend with local and international guests.

The 10th edition of EMOP Berlin, a Kulturprojekte Berlin event, will bring all Berlin's key players in photography together under one festival umbrella with the participating photographers, artists, museums, galleries, exhibition spaces and off-spaces.

"We can sharpen our view of reality only when we look up from the vortex of images on social media and instead seek out tangible encounters, allowing ourselves to be touched by photographic images. That is the guiding principle of EMOP Berlin 2023: Touch" – Maren Lübbke-Tidow, Artistic Director of EMOP Berlin 2023, on the overall festival concept.

The **EMOP Berlin partners programme** – including the Helmut Newton Foundation, C/O Berlin, Deutsches Historisches Museum and Akademie der Künste – **consists of around 100 exhibitions** selected by an expert jury. These shows will offer visitors the chance to renew and rediscover acquaintances with the incredibly diverse uses and manifestations of photography as a medium, allowing them to enter into conversation and engage in critical encounters with current forms and issues within photography. An overview of all locations and exhibitions is available as of today on the new website at www.emop-berlin.eu/en

The *EMOP Berlin Opening Days* launch event, held from 2 to 5 March, will take place at the Amsalon in Berlin-Charlottenburg. With the **festival partner exhibitions**, the opening of **two special exhibitions**, the **awarding of the Käthe Kollwitz Prize** to Nan Goldin at Akademie der Künste, and a range of **tours and parties**, visitors can look forward to an extensive, dynamic and multifaceted programme.

The anniversary exhibition *Touch: Politics of Touch*, showing from 2 to 31 March at the Amsalon, will turn its focus towards Berlin as a centre of contemporary art production, uniting 40 Berlin-based artists who have shaped photographic visual culture both in Berlin and internationally. The EMOP Berlin 2023 leitmotif *Touch* runs like a thread throughout the exhibition, expressing a desire for connection or a continuity of contact – *keeping in touch* – and addressing questions of how we can allow ourselves to be moved by photography – *being touched* – and which mechanisms operate in the space between proximity and distance that has been opened up by new technological developments like *touch devices*.



The exhibition will open at 19:00 on 2 March at the Amtsalon. Further information can be found at www.emop-berlin.eu/en/specials/touch.

Showing works by: Yaldah Afsah, Ketuta Alexi-Meskhishvili, Özlem Altin, Ilit Azoulay, Sibylle Bergemann, Viktoria Binschtok, Thomas Demand, Alba D'Urbano & Tina Bara, Loretta Fahrenholz, Annette Frick, Giorgi Gago Gagoshidze, Nan Goldin, Eiko Grimberg, Harry Hachmeister, Fabian Hesse & Mitra Wakil, Lisa Holzer, Paul Hutchinson, Sven Johné, Annette Kelm, Annette Kisling, Heinz Peter Knes, Käthe Kruse, Ilya Lipkin, Kristin Loschert, Ute Mahler, Luise Marchand, Christa Mayer, Ulrike Ottinger, Helga Paris, Daniel Poller, Jimmy Robert, Dean Sameshima, Adrian Sauer, Stefanie Seufert, Hans Martin Sewcz, Maria Sewcz, Heidi Specker, Andrzej Steinbach, Herbert Tobias, Tobias Zielony.

On the opening weekend, *EMOP Berlin Opening Days* will lend space and bring focus to current discourses within photography. German and international photography communities and the audience will come together for a rich programme of talks, panels, film screenings and other formats. *Opening Days* will be launched by **Claudia Roth, Germany's Culture and Media Minister**, on 3rd March with a keynote followed by a roundtable with artists Ute Mahler and Adrian Sauer, Centre Pompidou curator Florian Ebner and the culture minister, focusing on the socio-political mission of contemporary photography and new institutional challenges. Later talks will engage with questions of identity politics and new forms of photographic documentary work in a post-migratory society.

Photography archives, climate change and the energy crisis will take centre stage on 4 March, with 5 March dedicated to Ukrainian artists and curators whose work has been threatened by the outbreak of war and currently takes place under unimaginably challenging conditions. Further information can be found at www.emop-berlin.eu/en/opening-days.

A further exhibition highlight at EMOP Berlin 2023 will place an emerging generation of photographers front and centre. For the exhibition **Urgent Present: The View of the Younger Generation** from 4 to 26 March 2023 – taking place in a vacant office building at no. 54 Leipziger Straße – photography schools from Berlin and Potsdam have joined together in unprecedented numbers. The Lette Verein Berlin, Ostkreuzschule for Photography, the University of Europe for Applied Science, HTW Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin, the International Photography School and Fachhochschule Potsdam will be showing student works centred around the EMOP Berlin competition theme *Urgent Present*. They will be joined by Schule Friedl Kubelka für Künstlerische Photographie, a photography school based in EMOP partner city Vienna. The exhibition reflects from the perspectives of young artists on the massive social and community upheavals and challenges of our time. Further information can be found at www.emop-berlin.eu/en/specials/urgent-present.

Save the Date: the programme press conference for EMOP Berlin 2023 will take place on 1 March 2023 at 11:00 at the Amtsalon. Invitations will follow. Please provide accreditation.

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. It was in 2003, on the initiative of Berlin's partner city Paris, that the idea of initiating a European network of photography festivals was born. 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. The Vienna, Paris and Luxembourg festivals will take place in spring 2023.

Press pack and images, see www.emop-berlin.eu/en/press:



- [Overview](#) of participating partner institutions and their exhibitions
- [Jury statement](#)
- [Visual material](#) for all programme events
- Detailed information on the exhibition [Touch: The Politics of Touch](#)
- Detailed information on the exhibition [Urgent Present: The View of the Younger Generation](#)
- [EMOP Berlin Opening Days](#) programme

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.

Press Contact

Hendrik von Boxberg – Press & Public Relations (deputy)
EMOP – European Month of Photography Berlin, 2023
M +49(0)177 7379207
presse@von-boxberg.de

Julia Kufner
Press Officer
Kulturprojekte Berlin GmbH
T +49 30 247 49 -864 / F -710
J.Kufner@kulturprojekte.berlin



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PRESSEKONTAKT

Hendrik von Boxberg
presse@von-boxberg.de

M +49 (0)177 737 920 7

www.emop-berlin.eu
www.kulturprojekte.berlin

