

990 **FACES**

Hans Jürgen Raabe

Exhibitions 2015

art KARLSRUHE

03 – 08 March 2015

ART PARIS

27 – 30 March 2015

Picasso Museum // Münster

Paris im Blick – eine Stadt und ihre Fotografen
09 May – 12 July 2015

Fotobookfestival Oslo

11 – 20 September 2015

Artfair Cologne

24 – 27 September 2015

Contemporary Istanbul

12 – 15 November 2015

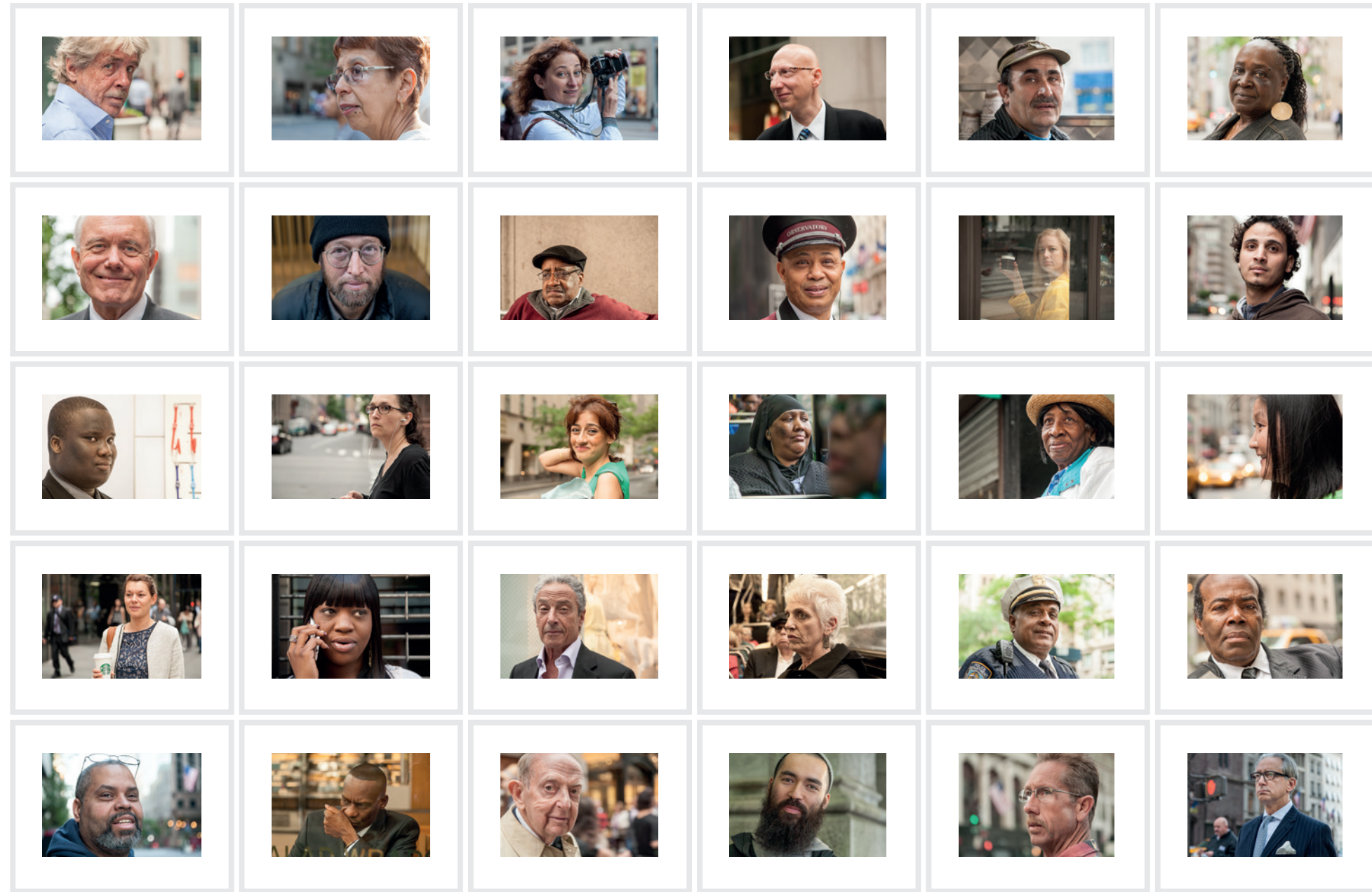
>> Review of dates and places on other side

„Edward Steichen’s celebrated thematic exhibition ‘The Family of Man’, which Raabe greatly admires, is an obvious antecedent to ‘990 Faces’. [...] But Raabe embraces a different approach. His subjects never have time to strike poses but are captured at the moment they become aware of a camera directed toward them. [...] The results of that unstructured collaboration are fresh and immediate, if decidedly unspectacular, and the resulting portraits themselves are never retouched or in any way manipulated. Their authenticity lends the whole global project a touching air of familiarity.”

David Galloway in ARTnews, New York



Face 339 // Forbidden City // 2014



121-150 // Fifth Avenue // 2012



„ *In everything I do as a photographer and as an artist, the focus is always on the people. I have observed with great concern how politicians, managers but also we, ourselves, have lost sight of the people.*

Even in supposedly intact democracies, human rights are respected less and less. I want to help ensure that interest in people does not continue to become less, but increases again and thus becomes more human. “

Hans-Jürgen Raabe



Face 318 // St. Mark's Square // 2014



Face 172 // documenta [13] // 2013

Hans-Jürgen Raabe
[*artist and entrepreneur*]



Raabe was a student of the famous Kiel theatre photographer Erika Haendler-Krah. In his work as a journalist, he has written for various media platforms. In the 1980s, he predominantly focussed on black-and-white photography. His illustrated books *Berlin Graffiti* (1982) and *Schöneberg* (1984) published by Nicolai generated significant interest. Raabe's latest project, *990 Faces*, marks his return to photography. His current work predominantly comprises portrait and still life photographs, all of which are magnificent examples of Raabe's sophisticated sense of intuition and skill when it comes to capturing the elemental aspects of his subjects without the use of any artificial lighting or digital manipulation.

The *990 Faces* project is a long-term conceptual photography project that will take an entire decade to complete. Starting in 2010, Raabe has been visiting different countries and continents, including select locations such as Myanmar, Lourdes, Fifth Avenue in New York, the documenta (13) and Brandenburg Gate. Every one of his 33 location-specific series of photographs comprises 30 individual portraits and ten still lifes. Over ten years, this collection of photographs will grow to become *990 Faces* – a portrait of humanity. Raabe's *990 Faces* project is all about people – about the individual people that make up humanity and their realities. Although seemingly taken in passing, Raabe's shots of everyday people caught in moments of reflection are keenly touching and loaded with meaning.

According to Raabe, "Places are shaped by people and vice versa. They add magic to one another and that magic could come from a shared path in life, or an interest that unites a lot of people or the magic of temporary sanctuary [...]. In that context, both the people and places are of equal importance to me. And so what I'm trying to do is to create a portrait of the people of my time. This endeavour in turn links in with one of the main objects of this project, because I strongly believe that we need to return to start caring for people again. [...]. The reason the project has received so much interest is because the world is full of manipulated images. And, I would like to think that *990 Faces* marks the start of a countermovement because it is all about the 'unmanipulated', about authenticity and actually also simply about normality."

990 FACES

217	229	216
233	226	212
236	240	234



David Galloway

PHOTO International

Das Antlitz der Gegenwart

Ein Projekt fürs Leben. Auf 990 Gesichtern von Menschen rund um den Erdball ist der gewaltige Fotoprojekt des Münchener Fotografen Hans-Jürgen Raabe angelaufen. Am 1. Juni wird das Projekt in Istanbul sein erstes Roadshow. Acht Folgen von Mykonos bis Paris - 240 Porträts - werden erstmals im Zusammenhang präsentiert.

London, Marokko, Sri Lanka, Österreich (13) ... Das Foto, mit dem Hans-Jürgen Raabe vor zwei Jahren seinen 990 Faces-Projekt startete, ist ein Porträt eines Mannes, der in einem Moment der Unbekanntheit in einem Moment der Bekanntheit steht. Ein Mann, der in einem Moment der Unbekanntheit in einem Moment der Bekanntheit steht. Ein Mann, der in einem Moment der Unbekanntheit in einem Moment der Bekanntheit steht.

PHOTO International
1.1.2014



ANN CHRISTINE WIEBEN
DIE HEXEN VON GHANA



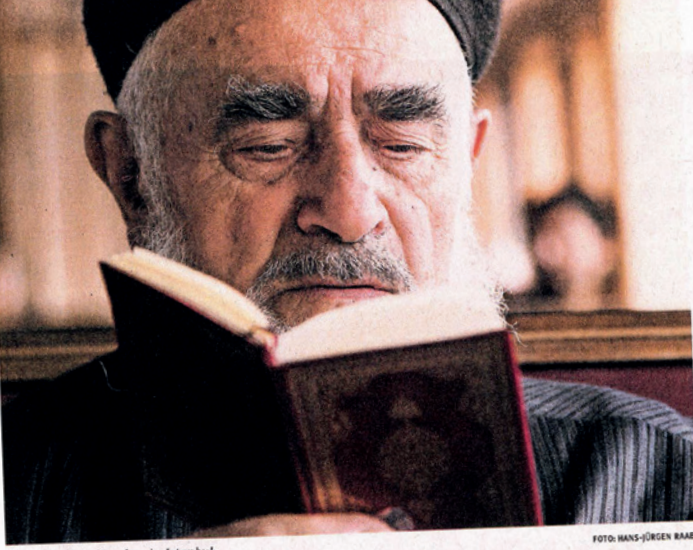
HANS-JÜRGEN RAABE

Hans-Jürgen Raabe, Jahrgang 1952, ist Deutscher, der seit vielen Jahren im Ausland lebt und international tätig ist - als Journalist, Publisher und Manager. Er ist der Autor des Buches '990 Faces' und hat es in 24 Sprachen übersetzt. Er hat auch eine Ausstellung '990 Faces' in Istanbul.

1952 yılında doğan Hans-Jürgen Raabe, uzun senelerdir yurt dışında yaşam ve uluslararası diyaloglar, yayıncılık ve yöneticilik alanlarında çalışmaktadır. 990 Faces kitabını yazmış ve 24 dileye çevirtmiştir. İstanbul'da '990 Faces' adında bir sergiyi düzenlemiştir.



HANS-JÜRGEN RAABE



Koranstudium. Gesehen in Istanbul. FOTO HANS-JÜRGEN RAABE

Annäherungen

Der Fotograf Hans-Jürgen Raabe reist um die Welt und porträtiert Menschen. Dabei erkundet er auch die Orte, an denen sie leben



Verunsichert, konzentriert: In den Nahnahmen spiegelt sich die Stimmung der Menschen, die die Fotografen fasziniert haben. FOTOS HANS-JÜRGEN RAABE

INTERVIEW: EVELYN PSCHAK

Eine junge Frau lüchelt, fast spöttisch. In ihrer Sonnenbrille spiegelt sich das Wasser des Bosphorus. Dass man der Unbekannten so nahekommen kann, ist Hans-Jürgen Raabe zu verdanken. 990 Gesichter will der 61-jährige Fotograf in seinem auf zehn Jahre angelegten Kunstprojekt „990 Faces“ zeigen. Dafür bereist der gebürtige Schleswiger seit 2010 die Welt. Am Ende will er 33 Regionen mit je 30 Porträts abbilden. Die ersten acht Stationen sind derzeit im Istanbul Fotomuseum zu sehen. Raabe war unter anderem in der Türkei, in Frankreich, Myanmar und Marokko unterwegs – und in Deutschland, auf dem Oktoberfest.

SZ: Sie reisen um die Welt und fotografieren Gesichter. Warum?
Hans-Jürgen Raabe: Als Mittel gegen die Gleichgültigkeit. Wir wirklich in ein anderes Gesicht schaut, mit dem passiert etwas, davon bin ich überzeugt. Dazu braucht es meiner Meinung nach ein fremdes Gesicht.

reviews: international

Hans-Jürgen Raabe

Istanbul Photography Museum
Though they filled almost all the galleries in this city's elegant photography museum, the 320 images by Hans-Jürgen Raabe on view represented only the first installment of a vast work in progress titled "990 Faces," intended to offer an encyclopedic view of humankind. The German artist will spend a decade visiting 33 locations worldwide, making 30 portraits at each site. All of the eight segments of the project completed so far are accompanied, as a kind of prologue, by ten "stills" of resonant details that caught the photographer's eye—melted candies, a basket filled individually, a graffiti-smeard wall. Viewed individually, any of these large-format digital prints might seem banal, but collectively they made an eloquent ensemble. It is not just Raabe's activities as "roving reporter" that gives his work universality, however. He

often seeks locations where he will inevitably cross paths with travelers from other cultures, pilgrimage sites such as Lourdes or Myanmar. Art pilgrims have their day, too, in portraits taken at the last Documenta, while international partygoers were captured at Munich's Oktoberfest and cultural tourists at the Eiffel Tower. Meanwhile, in photos taken aboard an Istanbul ferry plying between Europe and Asia, the ever-present theme of journeying took a concrete form.

Edward Steichen's celebrated thematic exhibition "The Family of Man," which Raabe greatly admires, is an obvious antecedent to "990 Faces." But Raabe embraces a different approach, rooted in the vernacular snapshot aesthetic that began with Kodak's introduction of the Brownie in 1900. His subjects never have time to strike poses but are captured at the moment they become aware of a camera directed toward them. "In that instant there



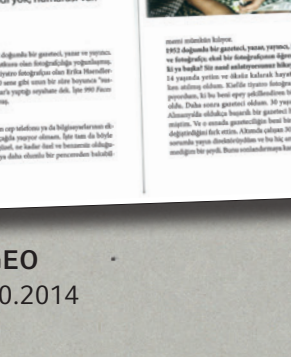
Hans-Jürgen Raabe, Face 110/101 art pigment print on Hahné 195" x 235", Istanbul Photo



ART News New York 06.2014



GEO 10.2014



Süddeutsche Zeitung 20.02.2014



Süddeutsche Zeitung 20.02.2014

dig angetrunkene Jungs angehaun, damit ich sie mit ihren Freundinnen fotografieren.

Aber die Menschen blicken doch in die Kamera?
Nein, zumindest nicht bewusst. Wenn ich die Kamera auf jemanden richte, wird er sich mir irgendwann zuwenden. Nicht weil er die Kamera wirklich sieht, sondern weil er spürt, da ist etwas, das ihn beobachtet. Ich bilde mir ein, dass wir Menschen eine Verbindung haben. Ich muss einfach warten, bis jemand hochguckt.

Hilft oder stört die Kamera dabei, eine Beziehung zu Fremden aufzubauen?
Es kommt beides vor. In New York etwa bin ich auf meiner Motivsuche jeden Morgen an einem Obdachlosen vorbeigekommen, der in der Nähe des Central Parks sein Lager aufgeschlagen hatte. Eines Morgens packte er seinen Rucksack viel später als sonst. Das bin ich auf ihn zu, um zu witzeln, er wäre ganz schön spät dran. Und er antwortete: "Sie aber auch!" Er hatte recht, ich war viel zu spät. In welchem Moment hat er sich selbst in so einem verdichteten Raumgefüge wie der Fifth Avenue wiedererkenn-

An welchem Ort hat man Sie als Fotograf am wenigsten bemerkt?
Dieses Land hat mich überhaupt erst auf die Idee gebracht, Menschen zu fotografieren. Es war überraschend, gelassen, geradezu desinteressiert an deren Leben die Birmanen waren. Vie leicht werden Alltagshektik und Morgenjam mit Coca Cola und McDonald's spielerisch in den nächsten Jahren gemeinsam Land wehnen. Aber zumindest noch dreieinhalb Jahren bot sich mir die Möglichkeit, den Menschen ins Gesicht zu schauen zu studieren. Mit meiner Rückkehr mein Konzept geboren: Ich wollte Gestalten und das, was uns Menschen macht.

Ausstellung „990 Faces, Istanbul“
Fotograf Hans-Jürgen Raabe, 990 Faces, Istanbul, 1. Juni bis 30. Juni, www.istanbulphoto.com; Ausstellung „Stills“ in der Galerie, Hauptstraße 114, 50996 Köln, 8. März 2014, www.infoculgalerie.de; www.990faces.com



THE EYES // No. 3 2014



THE EYES // No. 3 2014

*Hans-Michael Koetzle
about 990 Faces, our times and about
taking a fresh look at humanity*

The coordinates couldn't be any clearer: 33 locations, 30 faces – taken at just these places. Shot using a small conventional camera, without artificial lighting, on the spur of the moment – snapshots of unplanned encounters with strangers in public spaces. Images that capture 'moments of exchange' – but not those commonly associated with trade and barter, but those with gazes and meaning at their centre. The German photographer Hans-Jürgen Raabe has been pursuing a highly ambitious project of nearly encyclopedic proportions – of creating a portrait of people – for several years now. Spontaneous, unstaged, without any restrictions regarding types of people and completely open to all possible manifestations of what it means to be human – young, old, beautiful, wrinkled, alert, daydreaming, quizzical or calm. And only that. There is no age tag, information on origin, profession, income, goals or dreams. Instead, each of the images is an open invitation to the observer to simply look: as long as they like, without judgement, without prejudice. What Raabe is doing here, to quote Roland Barthes, is to provoke people into 'looking deeply' – into a deep encounter with the other. And he does so in complete absence of a punchline – meaning without any sense of the sensational, significant, extraordinary or spectacular. The questions pursued by Raabe address the fundamental: what does it mean to be human at a time of major, rapid and highly consequential change with an unknown outcome?

The digital world has presented us with a remarkable paradox. Because, on the one hand, not only is communication becoming ever more fast and 24/7, but connectivity has virtually become all-invasive – from texting to Skyping, Facebooking and all of the other digital social networks through which people 'connect' with one another. At the same time, there is an undeniable erosion of the ways people 'normally' connect. Critics are already talking about "digital dementia" (Manfred Spitzer), a "digital disaster" (Andrew Keen) and are predicting intellectual, creative and social incompetence. These predictions are going hand in hand with a statistical increase in the number of suicide threats made on the Internet. Thoughts of suicide that might previously have been resolved simply by talking to a friend or family member, but are now leading to police records and fatal consequences for the sender. It is against this very background that Hans-Jürgen Raabe is repositioning people. Against which he is putting people at the very centre of his visual quest, and against which he uses his camera to connect with the individual – the very thing that, in a world where fashion dictates, styling is a must, and commercial uniformity, and dress and beauty codes are the order of the day. In the midst of this climate of globalisation and uniformisation, Raabe's photographs are a testimony to the individual and of the character, uniqueness, virtual strength and presence of people.

Hans-Jürgen Raabe's project – although far from completion – has already received international attention. To date, sections of the 990 Faces project have been exhibited internationally in galleries and museums such as in Cologne (The PhotoBookMuseum), Berlin (Galerie Photo Edition) and Istanbul (Museum of Photography). And, with 990 Faces, Hans-Jürgen Raabe is, without question, making a significant contribution to one of the most idiosyncratic and exciting areas of modern photography. A piece of work that oscillates between spontaneity and conceptual association, of encyclopedic proportions and self-imposed limitations, of sheer visual beauty and with a deeper question asked by preceding 'large stills': where is humanity currently at and where is it going?
// Hans-Michael Koetzle (writer, curator, photography consultant based in Munich)



Vernissage // Solo exhibition
Istanbul Photography Museum
December 2013





Contact

photomarketing.de // Dr Bernd Fechner
Goebenstrasse 10
10783 Berlin // Germany

www.photomarketing.de
Phone: +49 (0)30 42019203
Email: buero@photomarketing.de

Films

Prof. Klaus Honnef and Hans Jürgen Raabe // Artist talk
PhotoBookMuseum Cologne // 19 September 2014 // 10:32 mins.

Hans-Jürgen Raabe – 990 Faces – photo edition berlin 2014
Introduction to the exhibition by Prof. Klaus Honnef
05 November 2014 // 11:52 mins.

Deutsche Welle // Euromaxx: Photographer Hans-Jürgen Raabe's Portraits
21 August 2014 // 04:42 mins.

Foto TV: Happy Birthday Fotografie // 21 August 2014 // 14:50 mins.

Hans-Jürgen Raabe 990 Faces // 13 December 2013 – 12 March 2014
Documentation of the project 990 faces in the Fotograf Müzesi Istanbul
March 2014 // 06:21 mins.

Exhibition in the gallery photo edition berlin
28 November 2012 – 24 January 2013 // February 2013 // 05:23 mins.

>> www.990faces.com/films

Books

Publisher	Meralon International Ltd., Sussex
Size	33,5 cm x 40,5 cm
Features	88 pages, 40 colour photographs, hardcover, dustcover
Price	99 euros

Photobooks are available in all Walther König art bookshops
or online at www.buchhandlung-walther-koenig.de

Galleries

in focus galerie

Burkhard Arnold
Hauptstrasse 114
50996 Cologne // Germany
phone: +49 (0)221 1 300 341
www.infocusgalerie.com

photo edition berlin

Gunther Dietrich
Ystaderstrasse 14a
10437 Berlin // Germany
phone: +49 (0)30 41717831
www.photo-edition-berlin.com

Sanatorium

Feza Velicangil
Asmalı Mescit Mah. Asmalımescit Sk.
32A Girið Kat Beyoðlu
34340 Istanbul // Turkey
phone: +90 (0)212 2936717
www.sanatorium.com.tr

Galerie Anita Beckers

Schwedlerstrasse 1-5
60314 Frankfurt am Main // Germany
phone: +49 (0)69 73900967
www.galerie-beckers.de

Yibo Gallery

2361 Yangshupu Road,
Yangpu, Shanghai // China
phone: +86 (0)21 5888 0111
www.yibo-art.com

001-030 // Myanmar
031-060 // Lourdes
061-090 // Oktoberfest
091-120 // Marrakech
121-150 // 5th Avenue
151-180 // documenta [13]
181-210 // Bosporus
211-240 // Eiffel Tower
241-270 // Brandenburg Gate
271-300 // Papua New Guinea
301-330 // St. Mark's Square
331-360 // Forbidden City
361-390 // Greenland
391-420 // Havana
421-450 // Riace
451-480 //
481-510 //
511-540 //
541-570 //
571-600 //
601-630 //
631-660 //
661-690 //
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841-870 //
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961-990 //

