

Christian Wachter

Born 1949, lives in Vienna (AT); since 1983 exhibitions, publications and teaching activities (2011/2012 Danube University Krems, Department for Image Science; last 2018 guest lecture "Fotografie und ästhetisches Denken", University of Applied Science, Salzburg, multimedia art program).

From the very beginning of his artistic career in the 80s Christian Wachter pursues analytical and conceptual methods and topics of photography. On the basis of historical facts as well as fictional, narrative or personal elements and by means of linking them poetically, he questions and reflects, semantically and visually the perception and interpretation of history and identities.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2017 „Obergrenze (Fuga)“ as „Die Wandzeitung # 38“ at Steinbrener / Dempf & Huber's, Vienna (AT)
- 2016 „EUROPE rêvée, revue, revisited“, Fotohof *archive*, Salzburg (AT)
- 2011 “ABPOPA/AURORA”, MUSA, Vienna (AT); “Bad Ischl, 15. Juli 1912”, Palais de la Culture, Tlemcen (DZ)
- 2010 “*Impressions D’AFRIQUE*”, Camera Austria, Graz (AT)
- 1999 “surplus”, Künstlerhaus, Vienna (AT)
- 1997 “Diving in the Sea of References ...”, Austrian Cultural Institute, London (GB); Camera Austria, Graz (AT)
- 1995 “Netz und Knoten”, Camera Austria / Forum Stadtpark, Graz (AT)
- 1994 “ABPOPA/AURORA”, ffotogallery, Cardiff (GB)
- 1993 “Europe”, Secession, Vienna (AT)
- 1991 “ABPOPA/AURORA”, Museum of Modern Art, Vienna (AT); Museum Folkwang, Essen (DE)
- 1990 “ABPOPA/AURORA”, Camera Austria / Forum Stadtpark, Graz (AT)

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2019 „YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN“, KUNSTWERK KÖLN, Köln (DE); „PHOTOGRAPHY | From the LENTOS's Collection“, Lentos Kunstmuseum, Linz (AT)
- 2018 „Camera Austria International. Laboratory for Photography and Theory“, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg (AT)
- 2014 “The Dignity of Man...”, MUSA, Vienna (AT) and House of Arts, Brno (CZ); “I and the others – Collection on Display VI”, Museum der Moderne Rupertinum, Salzburg (AT)
- 2013 “Photos – Points of view in Austrian Photography from the 1930s until today”, 21er Haus, Vienna (AT); “Hohe Dosis. Recherchen zum Fotografischen heute”, Fotohof, Salzburg and Atterseehalle, Attersee (AT)
- 2012 “Alger: Regards Croisés”, Parlement Européen & Académie Royale des Beaux Arts / Espace Magh, Brussels (BE)
- 2011 “Alger: Regards Croisés”, Bastion 23, Algiers (DZ)
- 2010 “Identity III – Positioning”, Fotogalerie, Vienna (AT)
- 2009 “... The FOTOGRAFIS Bank Austria Collection”, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg (AT)
- 2008 “Lichtspuren – Fotografie aus der Sammlung”, Lentos Art Museum, Linz (AT)
- 2006 “Pictures of the Viennese”, Pushkin Museum, Moscow (RU)
- 2005 “Simultaneous ...”, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg (AT)
- 2004 “Pictures of the Viennese”, Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin (DE)
- 2003 “Freundschaftsspiel”, Camera Austria, Graz (AT)
- 2002 “mega: manifeste der anmaßung”, Künstlerhaus, Vienna (AT)
- 1997 “CON©EPT”, City Gallery, Zagreb (HR) (travelling)
- 1996 “Antagonismes”, Centre National de la Photographie, Paris (FR) (travelling)
- 1995 “Fisch und Fleisch”, Kunst.Halle.Krems, Krems (AT)

1994 "KONCEPT! Sabine Bitter, Michael Schuster, Christian Wachter", ffotogallery, Cardiff (GB)
1993 "Wahre Begebenheiten", Galerie Fotohof, Salzburg (AT)
1992 "Contemporary Photographs", Slovak National Gallery, Bratislava (SK) (traveling)
1991 "Young Art from Austria", Kunstverein in Hamburg, Deichtorhallen, (DE) (travelling); "Young Austrian Photographers – Punctum", Galerie Fotohof, Salzburg (AT)
1990 "rot - ich weiß – rot", Künstlerwerkstätten Lothringerstraße, Munich (DE); "Peripherie", Haus der Architektur, Graz (AT)
1989 "Kunst der letzten 10 Jahre", Museum of Modern Art, Vienna (AT); "Acedia", Galerie Faber, Vienna (AT);
"Installation-Konzeption-Imagination", Styrian Autumn / House of Culture, Graz (AT); "Between Heaven and Earth", City Museum, Graz (AT); "Stadtpark eins", Kunsthhaus, Zug (CH) (travelling)

Selected Public Collections

Albertina Collection – Photography, Vienna; Art collection of the Department for Cultural Affairs of the City of Vienna (AT); Museum Folkwang, Essen (DE); Museum of Modern Art, Vienna (AT); New gallery / Lentos Art Museum, Linz (AT); Art collection of the Province of Lower Austria, St. Pölten (AT); The Austrian Photographic Gallery at Museum der Moderne, Salzburg (AT); Bank Austria FOTOGRAFIS Collection at Museum der Moderne, Salzburg (AT); Collection Römerquelle, Vienna (AT); Burgenländische Landesgalerie, Eisenstadt (AT)

Monographic Publications

2016 Obergrenze (Fuga), Fotohof edition, Salzburg
2011 Diar El Mahçoul, Fotohof edition, Salzburg
2007 *Impressions D'AFRIQUE*, Fotohof edition, Salzburg
1990 ABPOPA/AURORA, Edition Camera Austria, Graz

Bibliography (selection)

Ruth Sonderegger: "Christian Wachter, Impressions D'AFRIQUE. A not at all personal (travel) story", Camera Austria Nr.111, Graz 2010
Christian Wachter: "Passage du Désir or *Is Modernity a Building Site?*", in: *Impressions D'AFRIQUE*, (idem)
Timm Starl: "History's Dream", (revised reprint) in. Hubertus von Amelunxen (ed.), *Theory of Photography*, Vol IV Munich 2000
Birgit Flos: "Christian Wachter. Ways of reading and Forms of playing", Camera Austria Nr. 57-58, Graz 1997

Awards, Residencies & Scholarships

2014 Austrian Art Award for Fine Art Photography
2006 Paris Residency, bmukk, Vienna
1999 Rome Residency, bka.KUNST, Vienna
1996 Römerquelle Art Award, 2nd prize
1994 London Residency, bka.KUNST, Vienna
1992 Paris Residency, bka.KUNST, Vienna

1990 Award of the City of Graz

1987 Government Scholarship for Fine Art Photography, bka.KUNST, Vienna

Membership

Vienna Secession