



MACHT/POWER MAUER/WALL

TAKING STOCK OF POWER. AN OTHER VIEW OF THE BERLIN WALL.

Exhibition and book by Annett Gröschner and Arwed Messmer
27 May – 14 August 2016 at Haus am Kleistpark, Berlin
The two-volume book will be published by Hatje Cantz Verlag

PRESS INFORMATION, 8 March 2016

This border looks pretty provisional – a line of barbed wire through the landscape, walled-up doors and windows, barriers hastily made of fences and cement blocks, and a bit further back a few instable wooden towers. These black-and-white photos indicate that we are looking at history.

Taking Stock of Power. An Other View of the Berlin Wall by Annett Gröschner and Arwed Messmer shows the entire course of the Berlin Wall around 1966, and is the result of a long-term project on the subject by photographer Messmer and author Gröschner.

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It all began with photographs that were taken by East German border soldiers. In a first exhibition and an award-winning book, Gröschner and Messmer presented these images of the Wall that ran between the two halves of Berlin. Then, in 2012, they came across a large number of further unpublished photographs, and now they present around 700 panoramas based on 3,000 single photos that cover the whole of the Wall around West Berlin.

These panoramas are complemented by edited documentary materials from the German Federal Archives. This completes a unique project of “documentary empathy” (Florian Ebner), of which photo critic Gerry Badger said that it succeeded in “transforming the interpretation of historical facts into a work of art in a creative act.”

The exhibition at Haus am Kleistpark is an event by the Department of Art, Culture and Museums in the Berlin district of Tempelhof-Schöneberg and opens on the evening of 26 May 2016. Simultaneously a high-quality two-volume book will be published by Hatje Cantz Verlag.

www.inventarisierung-der-macht.de

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