

NEW RELEASE

**Ahndraya Parlato**
**A Spectacle and Nothing Strange**


Text by Christian Hawkey  
 Designed by Ahndraya Parlato, Michael Schmelling  
 Cloth hardcover  
 30 x 24 cm  
 104 pages  
 56 color ill.  
 English  
 ISBN 978-3-86828-704-2  
 Euro 39,90 / US\$ 45.00

**Parlato's photographs reveal the possibilities of different realities**

Irrational images flash through our minds all the time, in dreams and daydreams. Ahndraya Parlato's work imagines an oscillation between these »internal« and »external« images, revealing the possibilities of different realities.

Combining ten years' worth of images, *A Spectacle and Nothing Strange* draws on Parlato's experience being raised by a single mother who was mentally ill. From an early age, Parlato was put in the unique position of having to decide whether her mother's observations and fears were real or imagined. These photographs allow her to move between various realities, acknowledging the validity of her mother's world, while also questioning the boundaries of normal, abnormal, sane, and insane.

**Ahndraya Parlato** (b. in Kailua, Hawaii) is currently a professor of photography at the Rochester Institute of Technology, USA. In 2013, she was a New York Foundation for the Arts grant recipient, Magenta Foundation Emerging Photographer Award winner and was shortlisted for the MACK First Book Award. She has also been a Light Work grant recipient and was a nominee for the Paul Huf Award from the FOAM Museum in Amsterdam. She was also a nominee for the SECA Award from the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. In 2014 she published *East of the Sun, West of the Moon*, a collaboration with Gregory Halpern.

**Christian Hawkey** has written two full-length poetry collections, four chapbooks, the cross-genre book *Ventrakl* (2010),

and *Sonne from Ort* (2012, with Uljana Wolf). He lives in Berlin and Brooklyn, and directs the MFA in Writing at Pratt Institute.

*a cloud of steam crossing railroad tracks, telephone wires, electrical poles. a clump of hair. a crust forms. a crust. a few lemons, lit. a field at night, grass. a field, a wheat field, a body in the middle of it, face down. a figure is chiral if it is not identical to its mirror image. a flowing crust. a glass spills. a hair on the negative, in the camera, the lens. a laptop's keyboard, a black hair in the crevice of the shift key. a mantle. a mother is a mirror you fly into, over and over, a window. a placed mirror: replacement. a ring is an argument against horizons, lights. a single figure standing in nature is not nature. a stance. a strategy to avoid predators, a strategy for predators. a sudden disturbance in a pattern when you least expect it, beauty.*

– from the essay *The Downstream Face of an Obstruction* by Christian Hawkey

**Please note:**

These photographs have been copyright cleared for worldwide print and electronic reproduction in the context of reviews of the books only.

No more than THREE photographs plus the cover image from the selection can be used in total – they are not to be used on the cover or cropped.

**For further details, press images, permissions and review copies, please contact the publisher's press office:**

Barbara Karpf, [barbara.karpf@kehrerverlag.com](mailto:barbara.karpf@kehrerverlag.com) or  
 Kathrin Szymikowski, [kathrin.szymikowski@kehrerverlag.com](mailto:kathrin.szymikowski@kehrerverlag.com)  
 Kehrer Verlag, Wieblingen Weg 21, 69123 Heidelberg, Germany  
 Fon ++49 (0)6221/649 20-18, Fax ++49 (0)6221/64920-20  
[www.kehrerverlag.com](http://www.kehrerverlag.com) [www.artbooksheidelberg.com](http://www.artbooksheidelberg.com)

Press images



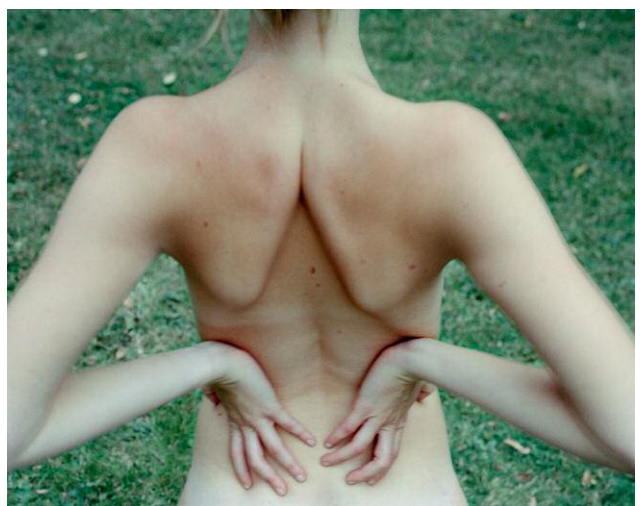
01  
© Ahndraya Parlato



02  
© Ahndraya Parlato



03  
© Ahndraya Parlato



04  
© Ahndraya Parlato



05  
© Ahndraya Parlato



06  
© Ahndraya Parlato



07  
© Ahndraya Parlato



08  
© Ahndraya Parlato



09  
© Ahndraya Parlato



10  
© Ahndraya Parlato