Anni Leppälä’s motives derive from memories, loss, longing, and early adolescence, seeking for an experience of connection and closeness but also for the act of recognizing something vaguely familiar through the images. Things are often veiled, hidden or turning away, but are in their own sphere of intense, remote closeness. Photographs transform their subjects and evoke a feeling of sudden recognition, that is not visible on the surface.

The connections between the images are essential for Anni Leppälä’s work. The narrations are not linear but can proceed to various directions and dimensions. The layout of the book refers to this way of working – images are overlapping each other, covering and intersecting with each other.

“My works do not consist of separate series, but the recent images expand the already existing entity of works. This starting point also conducts the situation of photographing. I am looking for elements of the visible reality that could be recognised as conveyors of a certain experience or atmosphere and that also could create connections with the already existing images.

The connections between the images are essential to my work. How the images affect each other and what kind of relationships they create between each other. I try to trace this emerging “third image” between two or several images; the various combinations of images compose different interpretations; it is like an uncovering of new thoughts. « – Anni Leppälä

Anni Leppälä (b.1981) lives and works in Helsinki. She studied photography at the Arts Academy at Turku University of Applied Sciences (BA) and at the University of Art and Design in Helsinki (MA). Her works has been exhibited internationally since 2006, including group exhibitions at Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography in Japan, at Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg in Germany, at Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid, at Les Rencontres d’Arles in France, and at Scandinavia House in New York. Recent solo exhibitions have been at Leica Gallery, Istanbul, Gallery Taik Persons, Berlin, Turku Art Museum, Galeria AMA, Helsinki, Galerie les Filles du Calvaire, Paris, and Purdy Hicks Gallery, London.

In 2010, she was awarded the Finnish Young Artist of the Year art award and Tampere Art Museum presented the first comprehensive museum exhibition of her work and published a book of her photographs. Her works are included in collections of institutes in Finland such as the Finnish Museum of Photography, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, EMMA Espoo Museum of Modern Art and international collections such as the Deutsche Bank Collection, the Teutloff Collection, and the Hermés Collection.

Anni Leppälä is represented by Gallery Taik Persons, Berlin, Barbara Gross Galerie, Munich; Galleria AMA, Helsinki, Galerie les Filles du Calvaire, Paris, and Purdy Hicks Gallery, London.

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