

NEW RELEASE 2023

## Birgit Kleber Photographers

Text by Matthias Harder  
Designed by Birgit Kleber  
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**More than one hundred stunning portraits of internationally renowned photographers**

The renowned portrait photographer Birgit Kleber has been working on this project for thirty years, portraying her fellow photographers in impressive black-and-white photographs. This has resulted in a body of work of more than one hundred images, of which Matthias Harder, Director of the Helmut Newton Foundation, writes that there is »no comparable systematic group of works like Photographers.« Among those portrayed are Sophie Calle, Nan Goldin, Thomas Höpker, Peter Lindbergh, Richard Mosse, Sebastião Salgado, Cindy Sherman, and Wolfgang Tillmanns.

From the text by **Matthias Harder**:

*As diverse as the expressions may be of the people gathered here, they have one thing in common: their profession. Of course, numerous other photographers have also portrayed their colleagues, from László Moholy-Nagy and Marianne Breslauer to Sheila Metzner and Helmut Newton. However, there is no systematic series comparable to that of Birgit Kleber's Photographers. Her portraits, shot in black and white using an unconventional approach, have been created over a period of thirty years. The project started with a photograph of Nan Goldin – published in the Berlin Tagesspiegel newspaper at the time – is still not complete. This publication succeeds a smaller, out-of-print monograph from 2011 that featured fifty portraits. In the meantime, that number has more than doubled, thus giving rise not only to a more comprehensive, but also an entirely new book. (...)*

*Birgit Kleber, in contrast, has a compelling way of harnessing the power of the unique moment, and makes us its witnesses. With the talents of a director and a dramaturg rolled into one, Kleber*

*brings a new dimension to a person's image. Her portraits are not mere representations but transform people into characters, revealing much more than a mere semblance of themselves.*

**Birgit Kleber** was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1956. After training as a photographer, she worked as an editor for a women's magazine. During a sojourn in the USA in 1981, she participated in photography workshops by Lotte Jacobi and Berenice Abbott in San Francisco. Back in Germany, she completed an internship at the German public television and radio service SFB, followed by work as an assistant director and set photographer for film and television productions. Kleber has worked as a freelance photographer since 1985. Her work has been featured in more than thirty solo exhibitions, most recently at the DFF – Deutsches Filminstitut & Filmmuseum in Frankfurt am Main (2019), the Helmut Newton Foundation / Museum for Photography (2020), and Haus am Kleistpark in Berlin (2021). She has participated in numerous group exhibitions in Germany and internationally. Kleber is the recipient of a number of grants, such as the Berlin Senate Scholarship for Moscow. Her works are also part of several collections, including at the French National Library, Paris; Berlinische Galerie, Berlin; Deutsche Kinemathek – Museum for Film and Television, Berlin; F.C. Gundlach Collection, Hamburg; Academy of the Arts, Berlin; and the DFF – Deutsches Filminstitut & Filmmuseum, Frankfurt am Main, among others.

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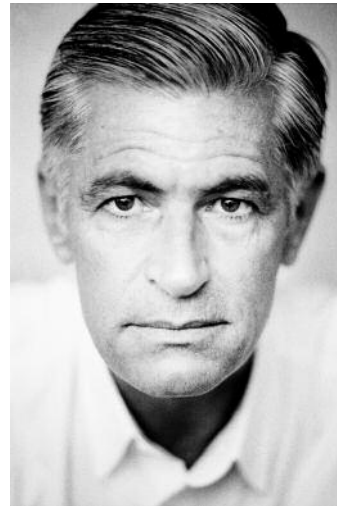
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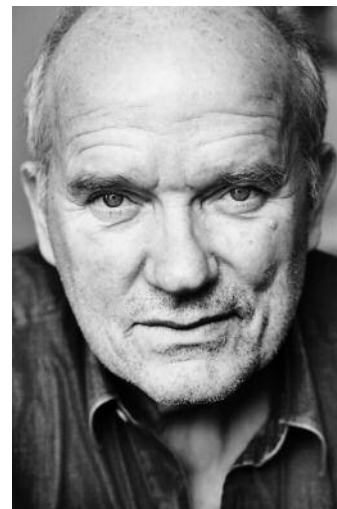
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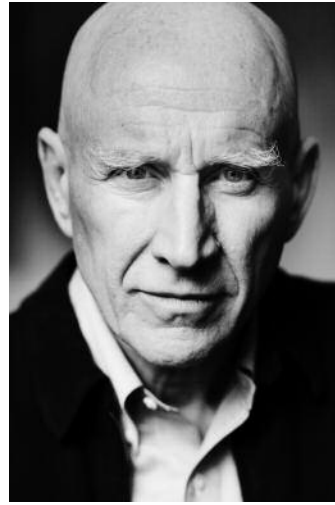
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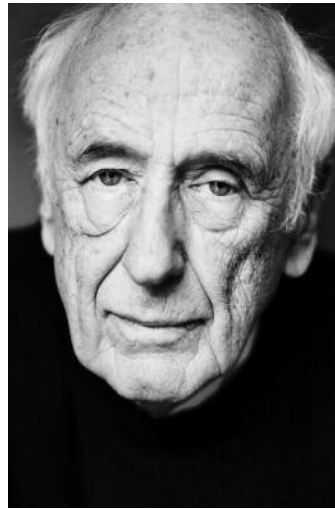
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