

NEW RELEASE

Elina Brotherus

Carpe Fucking Diem

No text

Designed by Teun van der Heijden

Cloth hardcover

20,3 x 27 cm

156 pages

104 color ills.

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Candid documentation about involuntary childlessness

At the heart of Elina Brotherus' new monograph *Carpe Fucking Diem* is her series *Annonciation*. The series addresses a topic still very much a taboo: that of involuntary childlessness. With this work Elina Brotherus returns to the autobiographical documentary she became known for in the late 1990s. We follow her through times of alternating hope and deception, with the intercepting calendar pages showing that yet another year has passed. The *Annonciation* photographs are preceded by a long prologue and followed by an aftermath emphasizing that life continues. Even a hopeless story with an unhappy end is not The End.

Elina Brotherus' carefully constructed tableau-like self-portraits give way to an observation of the everyday with its surprising and surreal undertones. The book does not explain, judge, comment or teach – it relies entirely on visual storytelling. Through the use of different papers and various graphic styles, this ambitious book takes the spectator on a tactile, visual and emotional ride into the human condition. It gives a voice to a surprisingly large number of women and men whose experience is rarely articulated in art or in life.

Elina Brotherus (b. 1972 in Helsinki) is one of Finland's most prominent contemporary photographers. She has had numerous solo and group shows around the world since 1998. *Carpe Fucking Diem* is her sixth monograph.

Teun van der Heijden is a graphic designer and co-owner of Heijdens Karwei, a graphic design agency based in Amsterdam known for the design of award-winning photography books such as *Rape of a Nation* by Marcus Bleasdale, *Black Passport* by Stanley Greene, *Interrogations* by Donald Weber, *War Porn* by Christoph Bangert, and recently *Inshallah* by Dima Gavrysh.

Exhibitions

Carpe fucking diem, gb agency, Paris
November 12, 2015 – January 9, 2016

Les Femmes de la Maison Carré, Maison Louis Carré, Bazoches-sur-Guyonne, France, September 26 – November 30, 2015

Elina Brotherus, A Retrospective, Le Pavillon populaire, Montpellier, France, June – August 2016; Fotohof, Salzburg, Autumn 2016 ; Turku Art Museum, Finland, February 2017

Howl, Gallery Heino, Helsinki, Finland, with Victoria Schultz
May – June 2016

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Barbara Karpf, barbara.karpf@kehrerverlag.com or
Kathrin Szymikowski, kathrin.szymikowski@kehrerverlag.com
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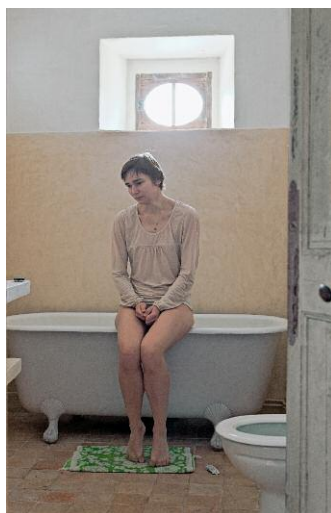
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