

NEW RELEASE KEHRER VERLAG

Herbert Döring-Spengler

PHOTO-SCULPTOR

»Egal, wie du es siehst, ich sehe es anders.«

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The artistic work of an extraordinary personality: The »photo sculptor« Herbert Döring-Spengler, awardee of the Rhenish Art Prize 2020

Herbert Döring-Spengler (b. 1944 in Cologne) is one of the most distinguished Polaroid artists of the present day. The instant image is not his only means of expression, but it is indeed his central one. Döring-Spengler is not concerned with capturing reality or with surfaces, but rather with fundamental issues. By intervening massively in the development process, the artist distorts and reveals at the same time. Nudes and portraits are merely vague labels to describe his for the most part serially conceived works, which consistently touch on central questions of our existence. Hardly any other postmodern artist has made such radical use of the Polaroid as a pictorial medium against the background of his own painful experiences.

The publication, which encompasses all major groups of works, is being published on the occasion of the awarding of the Rhenish Art Prize 2020 to Herbert Döring-Spengler.

From the text by **Hans-Michael Koetzle**:

»Döring-Spengler knows no limits. His individual photographs are treated in all kinds of ways and thus distorted. The artist heats, cuts open, paints over and literally gets under the skin of the object. At some point, he discovered the manipulative possibilities of the reverse side in addition to that of the front side. In other words, everything is allowed, as long as it supports an idea in a plausible way. Ultimately it is not the 'instant' that interests him in the instant image, but rather its materiality, its inherent chemistry, which the artist literally bears down on. It is no coincidence that Herbert

Döring-Spengler has been called a 'photo-sculptor' and his works 'photo-paintings'. For him, everything comes together in any case: reflecting and testing, releasing and probing, and finally the act of physical post-processing, which shifts him away from the profession of the photographer and into the vicinity of the visual artist.«

Exhibitions

LVR-Landesmuseum Bonn, Germany

28.10.2021–23.01.2022

in focus Galerie, Cologne, Germany

15. 01.2022–19. 03.2022

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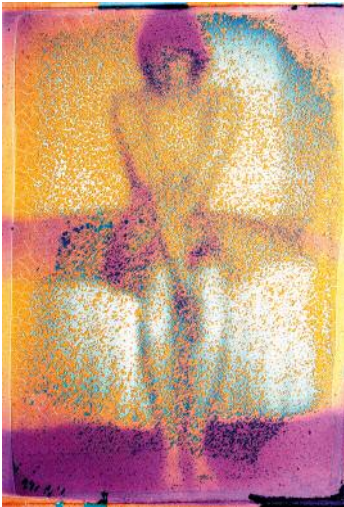
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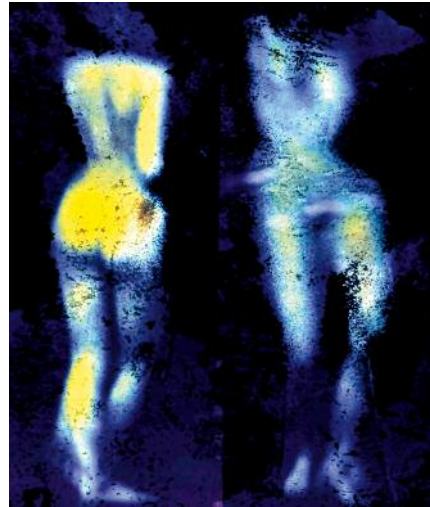
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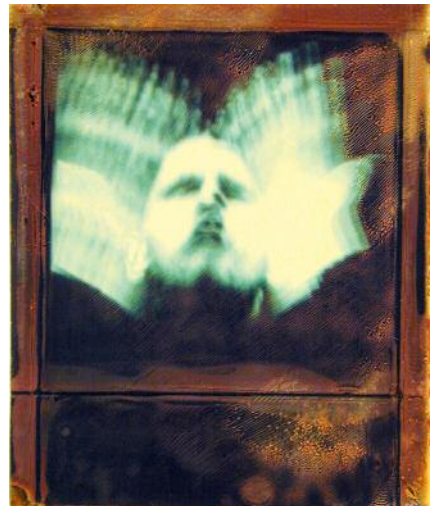
01_MÄDCHEN, 2021, Polaroid Image interpretation on Hahnemühle paper
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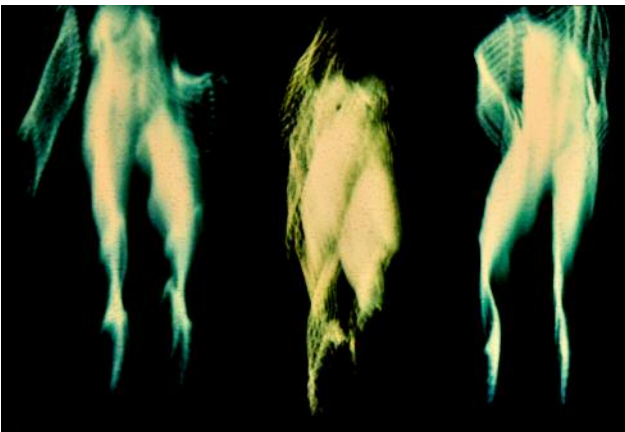
02_TANZ, 1992, C-print based on a Polaroid Image photo
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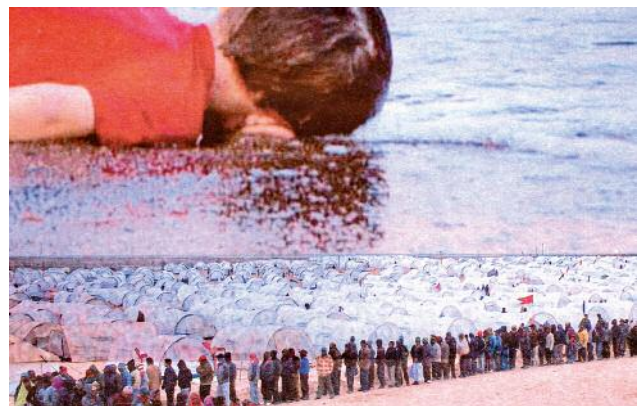
03_PROF. L. FRITZ GRUBER, ca. 1993, Fotomuseum Burghausen,
C-print based on a Polaroid Image photo
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04_SPRECHENDE HÄENDE, 2003, Original Polaroid Image photos
© Herbert Döring-Spengler



05_TANZ, 1996, Deutsches Fotomuseum Leipzig,
Fine art print on fabric banner based on a Polaroid Image photo
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06_FLUCHT 2, Diazetta, 2021, C-print
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07_TRUMP, Diazetta, 2016, C-print
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08_FRAU, Diazetta, 2019, C-print
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09_MADONNA, 2003, C-print based on a Polaroid Image photo
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10_MÄDCHEN, 2021, Polaroid Image interpretation on Hahnemühle paper
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