



NEW RELEASE KEHRER VERLAG

Andreas Mühe Pathos as Distance

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Deichtorhallen Hamburg
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Survey of the oeuvre of the German photographer, whose aesthetic perception is influenced by the world of theater, staging, and transformation

Both pathos and distance play a role in the work of Andreas Mühe. In an effort to emphasize the inevitable interaction of these two concepts, the artist chose to link the »Pathos« and »Distance« in the title of this book with the conjunction »as.« *Pathos as Distance*.

Not in the sense of a comparison, as in »as tasty as an apple,« but rather as a transformation of one concept into the other and their mutual dependency. Pathos becomes distance, and this distance becomes a precondition that allows for pathos. Mühe's themes are often ambiguous, already emotional, and charged by their respective historical context: Christmas trees, chancellors, the chalk cliffs on Rügen, the Obersalzberg.

The photographs by Andreas Mühe are accompanied by excerpts from the novel *1913 – The Year before the Storm* by Florian Illies.

»Is it possible to look at the present as if it were already in the past? This is precisely what Andreas Mühe does. And this is precisely how he inscribes his photographs with such an unsettling and enthralling message. Whether photographing politicians, animals, landscapes, or buildings, it always seems as if someone from the future is looking back at us.«

– from the introduction by Florian Illies

Andreas Mühe was born in November 1979 in Chemnitz, formally known as the Karl-Marx-City. Today the educated photo laboratory technician lives and works in Berlin as photographer and artist.

Before starting his own career, he worked as an assistant for the two well-known photographers Ali Kepenek and Anatol Kotte. In 2001 Mühe became an independent artist and created portraits of prominent people and artists for German journals and magazines. Mühe's interest for themes with historical and political impact shows in his work which deals with superelevating, staging and beaking of the powerful.

<http://www.andreasmuehe.com/>

Dirk Luckow is director of the Hamburger Deichtorhallen since 2009.

Benita von Maltzahn is head of cultural and social engagement at Volkswagen Group since 2012.

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Exhibition

Haus der Photographie, Deichtorhallen Hamburg
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