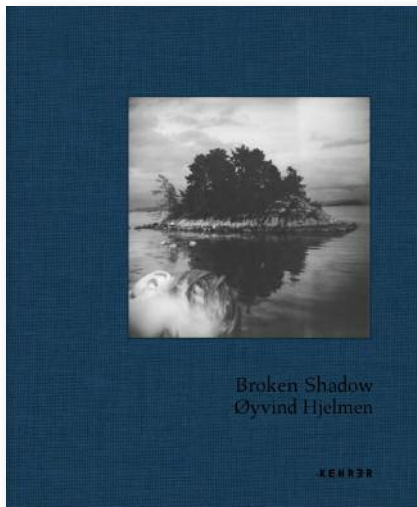


NEW PUBLICATION OCTOBER 2022

Øyvind Hjelmen Broken Shadow

Text by Gunnar Danbolt
 Designed by Kehrer Design (Laura Pecoroni)
 Cloth hardcover with title shield
 24 x 28,8 cm
 104 pages
 52 duotone illustrations
 English, Norwegian
 ISBN 978-3-96900-095-3
 Euro 45,00



New collection of the poetic and enigmatic images by the Norwegian photo artist

For over thirty years, Øyvind Hjelmen has worked as a photographer on the Norwegian island of Stord. His work is characterized by poetic images seeking to show the passage of time in an often enigmatic way.

Broken Shadow is a collection of fragmented memories. Aiming for timelessness, the images reflect on how we relate to ourselves and our surroundings as human beings. How our adult lives are based upon our childhood, and how we relate to our memories, hopes and fears, sexuality and dreams. The images evoke a feeling of contrast between the weight of the shadows and the lightness of flight. In the shadows we are grounded, connected. Breaking open the shadow can reveal the beauty that hides there. Hiding in the depths, there may be good things, but also uncertainty and fear.

Broken Shadow is the third part of a trilogy, following *Elsewhere* (2010) and *Moments Reflected* (2020).

From the text by **Gunnar Danbolt**, Professor Emeritus | University of Bergen:

In Øyvind Hjelmen's photographic universe, there are plenty of both meanings and aesthetic-perceivable factors. Where the meanings or opinions of the photographs are concerned, there is, as we have tried to suggest, something enigmatic. Admittedly, we are rarely in doubt about what most of the photos are all about, whether it is a white wall with a portrait, a lampshade and a cuckoo clock, or a suitcase with an empty birdcage on top, or a misty landscape, etc. However, we do not always understand what such images precisely mean. For they are all ambiguous in ways that force us to work further on them. It is in this manner that we as viewers are referred to the artwork and it to us. One of the reasons for this is precisely Hjelmen's ability to fill the images with ele-

ments that give us sensory-aesthetic experiences. A striking example of this are the misty surfaces, because they, among other things, allow us to experience all the possibilities that lie in the various shades of grey. But also, how he can use a few adjustments to change an image, such as a Norwegian landscape transferred in to something completely different, e.g., a Chinese landscape. So even though Øyvind Hjelmen's photographs are materialistic enough, they are still open, and this is what makes us as viewers a part of them.

Øyvind Hjelmen has been working with photography as his artistic expression for more than thirty years, and his works have been exhibited in USA, Germany, Russia, United Kingdom, Poland, Italy, Greece, Lithuania, Japan, France, The Netherlands, Spain, Georgia and Norway. Among the collections that hold his works are Museum of Fine Art in Houston, USA, and Centro Internazionale di Fotografia Scavi Scaligeri, Verona, Italy. He has been teaching photographic workshops for 20 years, and he has also been guest lecturer at the American Intercontinental University in London, and at Bilder Nordic School of Photography in Oslo, as well as international art schools. He is also curator and artistic director for the Artist-in-Residence program at Halsnøy MonasterySunnhordland Museum, Norway.

Please note:

These photographs have been copyright cleared for worldwide print and electronic reproduction in the context of reviews of the books only. Print media: No more than THREE photographs plus the cover image from the selection can be used in total – they are not to be used on the cover or cropped. Online media may use a total of TEN images in a gallery.

For further details, press images, permissions and review copies, please contact the publisher's press office:

Barbara Karpf, barbara.karpf@kehrerverlag.com or pr.assistance@kehrerverlag.com
 Kehrer Verlag, Mannheimer Str. 175, 69123 Heidelberg, Germany
 Phone +49 (0)6221/649 20-18 | Fax +49 (0)6221/64920-20
www.kehrerverlag.com

Press images



01_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



02_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



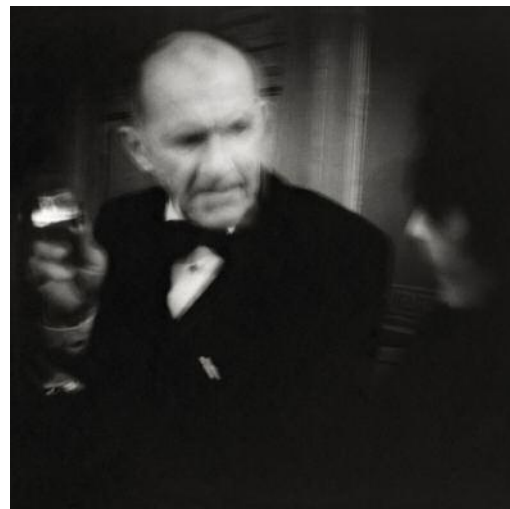
03_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



04_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



05_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



06_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



07_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



08_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



09_
© Øyvind Hjelmen



10_
© Øyvind Hjelmen