

NEW RELEASE



Mila Teshaieva

InselWesen

Text by Marcus Lenz

Design by Laura Klimaite

Half-cloth hardcover

23 x 21 cm

96 pages

38 color ill.

German/English

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A portrait of an island between imagination and reality

»The island is a place on itself. You can't leave it easily when you wish so. But these borders also protect your freedom here.«

In the new photo-book *InselWesen* by Mila Teshaieva the figures appear like in a dream world. These are inhabitants of the North-Frisian Island Föhr, whom the artist accompanied and portrayed in an elaborate staging of their living and working places under the darkness of the night and using the photography technic of light painting. The careful staging of the scenery, an interaction of light and dark is a unique reminder of paintings of the old masters. This is, however, contemporary being of the island, where past and present manage to coexist in everyday life.

The short texts appear between photographs in the book. These are memories and thoughts of islanders about forces of nature and the sea, the solitude of the island, the traditions kept by generations. And then again, the magical attraction of darkness reveals in the words. Combined together in a book, the images and text create a sensitive, mythic story about a far-away place and special bonds of people to it: the island's being.
(Franziska Lietzmann)

Mila Teshaieva (b.1974 in Ukraine) lives in Berlin and a member of photographers' agency OSTKREUZ. Since 2004 she has been working on projects in the territories of former Soviet Union, in particular in Caucasus and Caspian Sea region. This work resulted in her first monograph *Promising Waters* (2013) and the following *Faces and Stories of Entrepreneurs* (2015).

Her work has received multiple distinctions for her work, as: NPPA Best of Photojournalism 2010, Critical Mass Book Award 2013 and PDN Photo Annual 2013 among others. Her photographs are kept in several public and private collections and were recently exhibited in Haggerty Museum of Art (USA 2015), Blue Sky Gallery (USA 2015) and Museum Art of West Coast (Föhr 2014 and 2016). *InselWesen* is her second book at Kehrer Verlag, following *Promising Waters* (2013).

Exhibition

Die Insel

Museum Kunst der Westküste, Alkersum / Föhr, Germany
26.06.2016 – 08.01.2017

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