Lifelines

The work presented here is in 24 separate pictures, in which the photographer positions the portrait, and the hand of the person facing opposite each other in the form of a diptych. The result is a psychological photogram with strong sculptural potential. What the face doesn’t say, the hands do. And the exchange in this relationship produces its own dynamics.

The series was distinguished with the Kodak Portrait Prize and the Hasselblad Fine Art Award, and also represented in the Polaroid Collection in the USA, the collection of Fritz Huber in Germany, and in the National Library (Bibliotheque Nationale) in Paris, France.
12-part Conceptual Photographic works, Diptychs
Printed on Baryt Paper
Each picture 30 cm x 30 cm
Bert Loewenherz

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Reviews

Portraits that are soul searching. With his Diptych series, the Berlin photographer researched the interaction between facial expressions and hand positions.

"Interestingly enough, women showed much more reserved positions with their open hands. The illustration of their hands appeared to be a lot more intimate than that of their faces."

--Bert Loewenherz

Loewenherz searches for realism in the representation, and works for hours to bring out the inner life of his models. First the face is photographed, and then the hands. It is amazing to see the grace, and the fragility that his hand studies radiate, their position says far more than any stony facial expression.

"The face is the most important point of recognition in a person. It is the object of evaluation and opinion. Others can read it. For this reason, we have consciously learned how to control our faces. On the other side, the hands are unconsciously immediate"; says the photographer.

In the meantime, the artist is working on a follow-up series, in which he continues to explore the "Presentation of the Micro and Macrocosms that is the Similarity of all Things".

The pictures in his Diptych series have received the highest awards; and are a permanent fixture in many well-known international collections.

Manfred Zollner, Chief Editor Fotomagazin
Reviews

“This photographic work engraved itself in my memory, like the lines in my hand.”
- James Enyeart, Director International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House, New York

“This work goes to the substance of the person.”
- Florian Hufnagel Director, New Collections, Staattliches Museum, Munich

“Essential Ingeniousness. To the point.”
- Manfred Heiting, Collector, Publicist, Exhibitor

“This wonderful photo project belongs in museums.”
- F.C. Gundlach, Gallerist. Collector, Curator

“Bert Loewenherz has with the help of genially simple arrangements, brought new life to an old genre.”
- Dr. Reinhold Misselbeck, Curator, Museum Ludwig, Cologne
Reviews

“Bert Loewenherz opens a great portfolio, which offers the first passkey with two photos: A face. And an unusually beautiful pair of hands, both singularly set within the same scene. The work that I am beholding, appears to me like a solution to the Gordian knot of portrait photography. When one asks oneself; how do you show the life story of a person? The answer is: In the face, and in the hands.

If one tries to capture them both in the same picture, the hands are at best an accessory with little power of expression. Bert Loewenherz has solved this problem in a simple and genial way, by separating both, and then putting them back together in a new way.

The hand and the face are photographed singularly, and then presented juxtaposed to each other. Sometimes with the hand on the right side, and the face on the left; sometimes the other way around, depending on the direction the lines run.

The interrelationship between the two exposures produce their own energy that makes it superfluous to know who the portrayed are, because the photos tell us everything about their history.” -- Dr. Martina Mettner, Umschau-Publisher

Dr. Martina Mettner, Umschau-Publisher
Exhibitions

Update, Berlin 2015
Month of Photography, Berlin 2014
Private Thursday, Berlin 2013
Atelier MooGreen, Berlin 2012
Galerie Photo Edition, Berlin 2010
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2008
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2007
Photokina, Köln 2004
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2004
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2003
Einstein, München 2002
HeiligGeistKirche, Frankfurt 2002
Mahnmal St. Nikolai, Hamburg 2002
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2002
Staatsbank, Berlin 2001
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2000
Month of Photography, Bratislava 2000
ESD Galerie, Berlin 1999
Art Directors Club, Berlin 1999
Internationale Fototage, Herten 1999
Kunstamt Reinickendorf, Berlin 1999
Zoofestspiele, Wuppertal 1999
Galerie U Reeckyck, Prag 1998
Galerie KunstNetzWerk, München 1998
Photokina, Köln 1998
Stiftung Starke im Löwenpalais, Berlin 1998
Photokina Kodak Galerie, Köln 1996
Deutsche Fototage, Frankfurt 1996
PPS Galerie, Berlin 1996
Museum für virtuelle Kunst, Erfurt 1995
Salon of Photographic Art, Rovigno 1995
Photokina, Köln 1994
Deutsche Fototage, Frankfurt 1993
Museo di Fotografia Contemporanea, Brescia 1993
Galerie 77, Berlin 1992
Kulturstiftung Schloss Britz, Berlin 1991
Historisches Museum, Frankfurt 1991
Photographers Gallery, London 1990
PhotoArt, Heidelberg 1990
Arts&Techology Museum, Milano 1989
Galerie Frank Müller, Berlin 1987
October Gallery, London 1986
Sebach Galerie, Berlin 1984
**Awards**

- Midas Award of Excellence, New York
- Art Directors Club Europe Award
- Kodak Gold Circle Award
- Kodak Talents Award
- Scholarship by the Cinematheque Francaise, Paris
- Honorary appointment into the German Photographic Society
- OBS Award Corporate Communication
- Hasselblad Fine Art Award
- Kodak Portrait Award
- Berlin Artists Fund
- Invitation by the Goethe Instituts, Paris

**Collections**

- Collection Bibliotheque Nationale, France
- The Polaroid Collection, USA
- The Lorenzo Merlo Collection, Italy
- The Fritz Huber Collection at Museum Ludwig, Germany
- The Hand Collection Prof. Dr. Vaubel, Germany
- The Bert Hartkamp Collection, Netherlands
- Collection Machiel Botmann, Netherlands
- Collection Deutsche Fototage, Germany
- Collection Kunst & Bild, Germany
- Collection Museo di Fotografia Contemporanea, Italy

**Clients**

- American Express
- ABK Bank
- AOK Insurance
- AGFA Gevaert
- Arnewau
- BASF
- Bausch & Lomb Pharma
- BVG
- Berliner Feuersozietät Versicherung
- Bundesverband Elektromobilität
- Caterpillar / MVS Zeppelin
- Calida Underwear International
- Design Zentrum NRW
- Debitel – Mobilocom
- Denmin & Sohn
- DeTeWe
- Deutsches Pelletinstitut
- Deutsche Radio Philharmonie
- Engel & Völkers Real Estate
- English National Opera
- Faze
- Fiege International
- Friend Scout 24
- Gangway
- Glunz Deutschland
- Gropius Passagen
- Grundkreditbank – Köpeniker Bank
- Getränke Hoffmann
- Hugendubel
- Ikon AG
- Ideal Versicherung
- Jazz Radio Berlin
- Johanniter – Unfall – Hilfe
- Kodak AG
- Konzerthausorchester Berlin
- LBS
- Mercedes Benz AG
- MCM Worldwide
- Mention Sofwear GmbH
- Mondial Holding AG
- Relexa Hotels
- Roche Pharma
- Samsung Electronics
- Skoda Moden
- Sharp Computer
- Stern Magazine
- Sony Entertainment
- Tupperware GmbH
- Total Mineraloel AG
- T-Mobile
- Urlstein Verlag
- Vattenfall Europe AG
- Verband der Privaten Bausparkassen
- VW Gedas
- Woolworth AG
- Yoc AG
- Yonity Sportswear