

**Bert Loewenherz**

portrait works 1984–2014

The Painterly Gesture in Photography

"Searching for freedom within the mechanical process" – That is how the photographer Bert Loewenherz describes his unconventional portrait, nudes and self-portraits, in which he separates all the possibilities of his medium, thereby opening the borders of "pure photography." In different phases of the photographic process, he interrupts the rigid process of taking a photograph and works it into a painterly intervention.

Image Victory

In the portraits, the photographer translates the energy of his models into a dynamic motion. With vehement paintbrush strokes, or through the use of developing chemicals, certain aspects of the picture intensifies and a dialogue between the developed and undeveloped parts of the face occurs, an unyielding reality turns into phantasy, impressions become expressions.

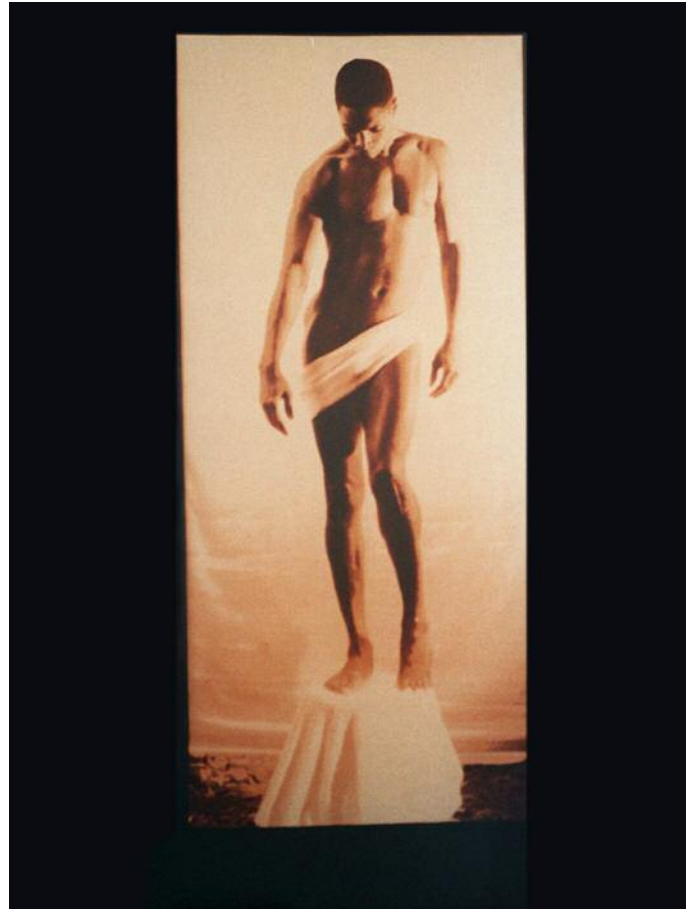
Ode to Rodin

The 120cm x 160cm large color nude series is a debate with sculpture. The pictures partially painted afterwards, are employed in the spirit, time and tradition of Rodinesque statues. They are a partly closer, and freer interpretation of chosen works.

From the Air

The self-portraits are a certain widening of "photographic moments" through the use of a time exposure, the open shutter of the camera traces the drawn light of a pen-flashlight through the air.



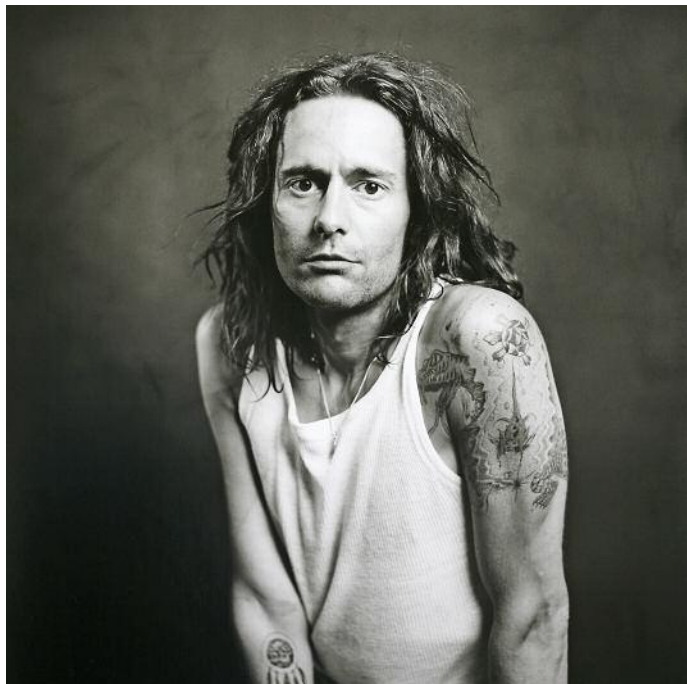


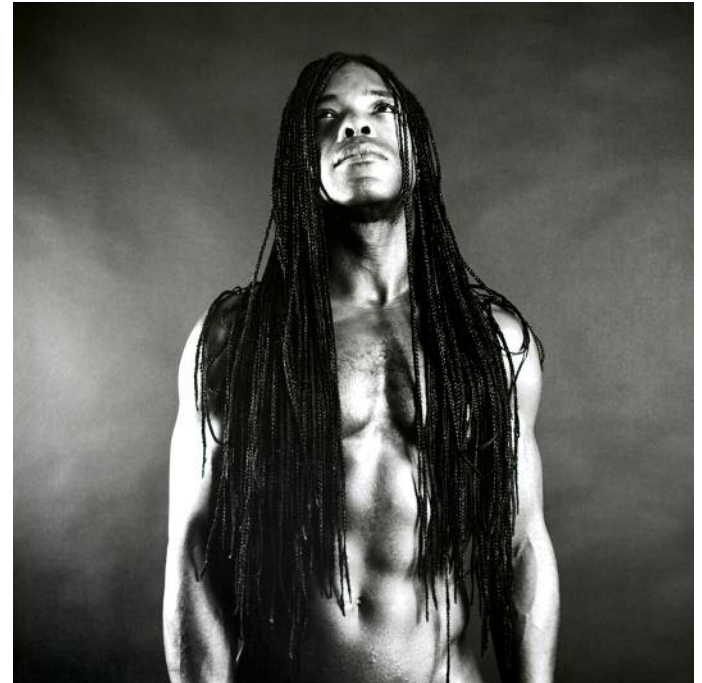




Portraits d'artistes

The photographer staged some of his artist friends.  
Composing in a quadrat format (6x6) became a new aesthetic expression for the photographer since the midst of the 80s.

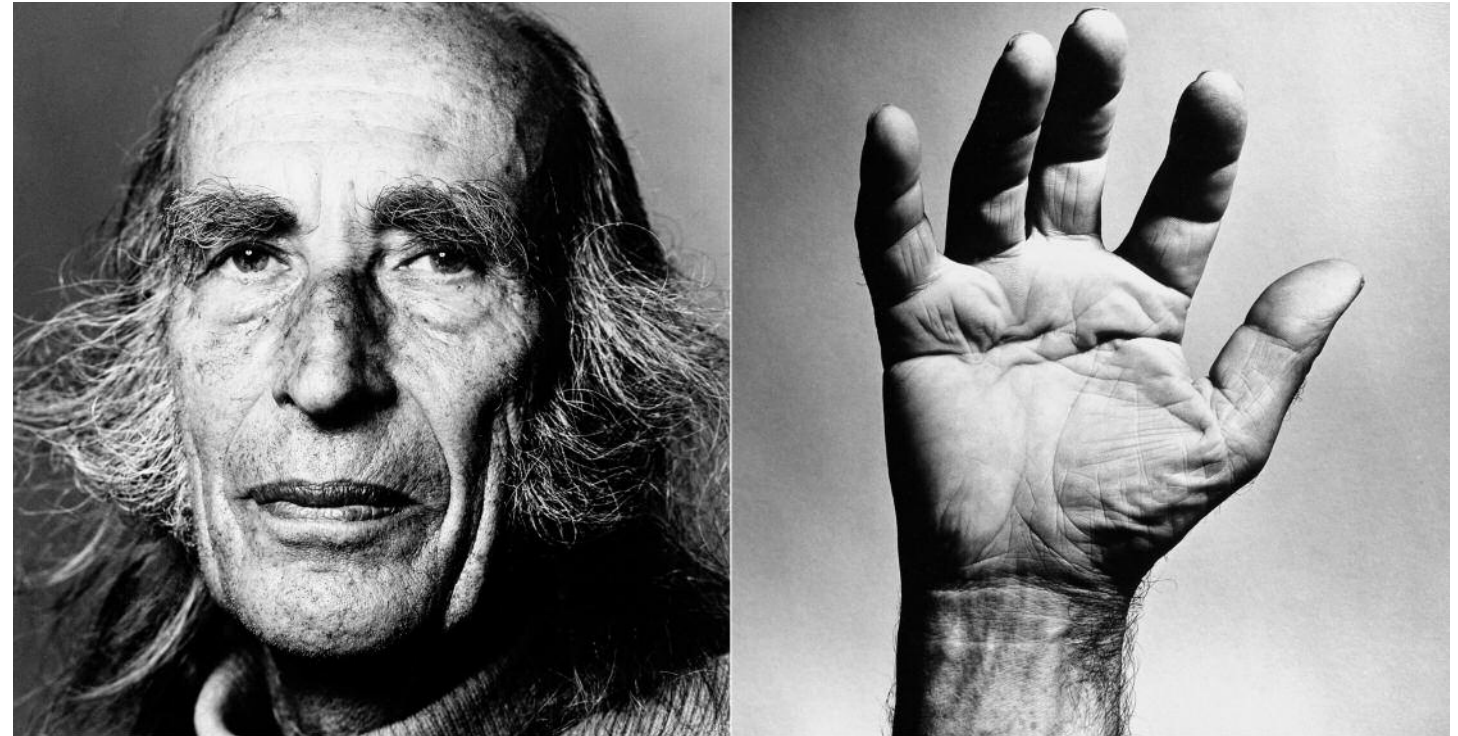






Lifelines

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 (Bibliothèque Nationale) in Paris, France.



12-part Conceptual Photographic works. Diptychs  
 Printed on Baryt Paper  
 30 x 30 cm je Bild  
 Berlin 1989 - 1991

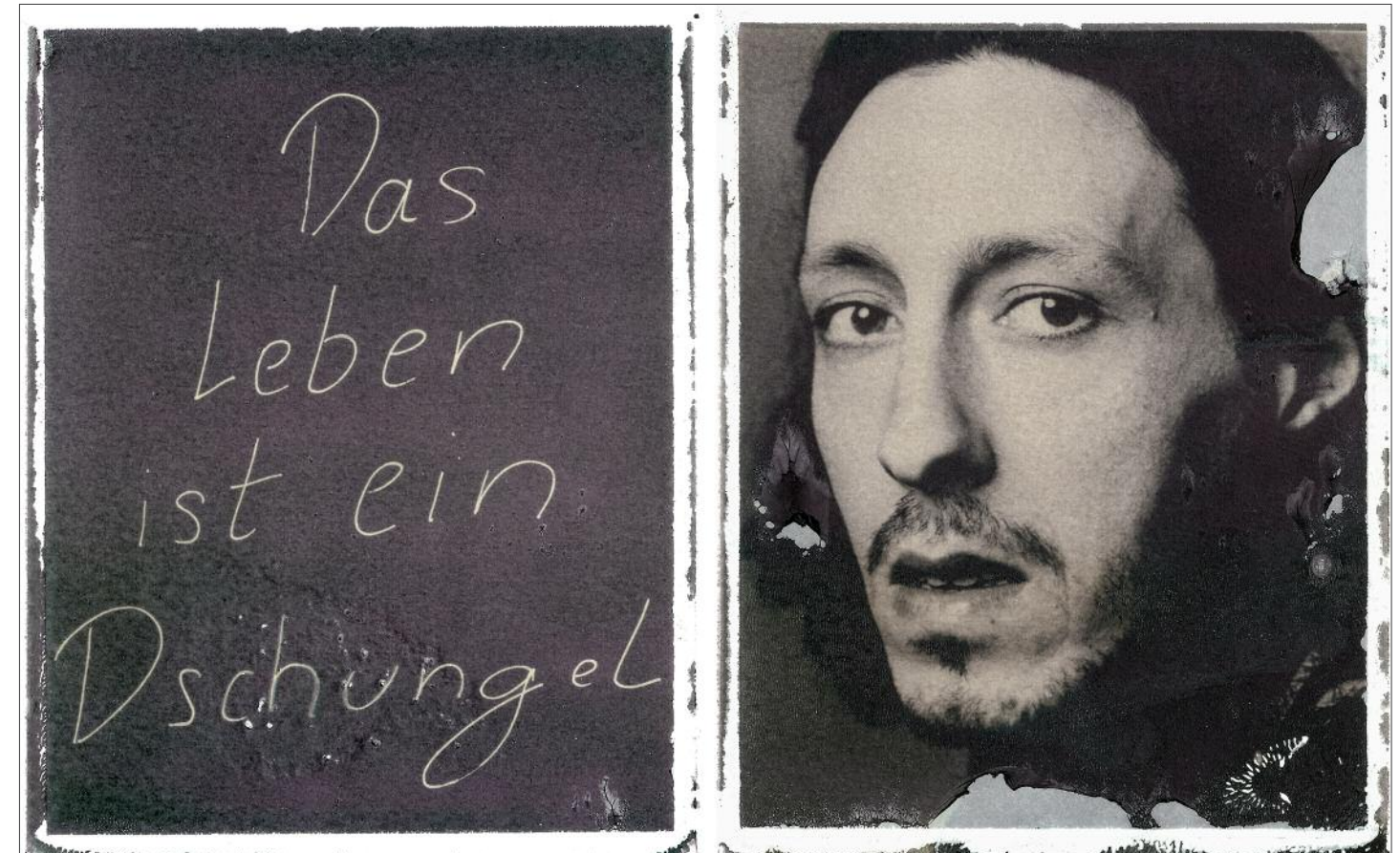


12-part Conceptual Photographic works. Diptychs  
 Printed on Baryt Paper  
 30 x 30 cm je Bild  
 Berlin 1989 - 1991

Epitaphs

The models were asked to compose their own gravestone inscriptions, and then to write it down on a plaque.  
The photographer integrates the use of breathing and relaxation exercises with the models for the first time, as part of the sitting.









Icons

Documentation of the formative Youth Movements of the '90's and a study about the self similarity of peer groups: Feed-back from the sub-culture epoch, the artificial creation of new styles, either through the youths themselves, or through the media. In the 90's youth culture smoothly made a transition into art products. The photography looks at the changing effects of the sub-culture and a post-modern lifestyle, at the same time.









Hidden Image

This is a study about the asymmetry of the human face. The use of a mirror to reflect both facial halves, shows the amazing differentiations. Neurobiology explains that the cause for this lies within both hemispheres of the human brain.









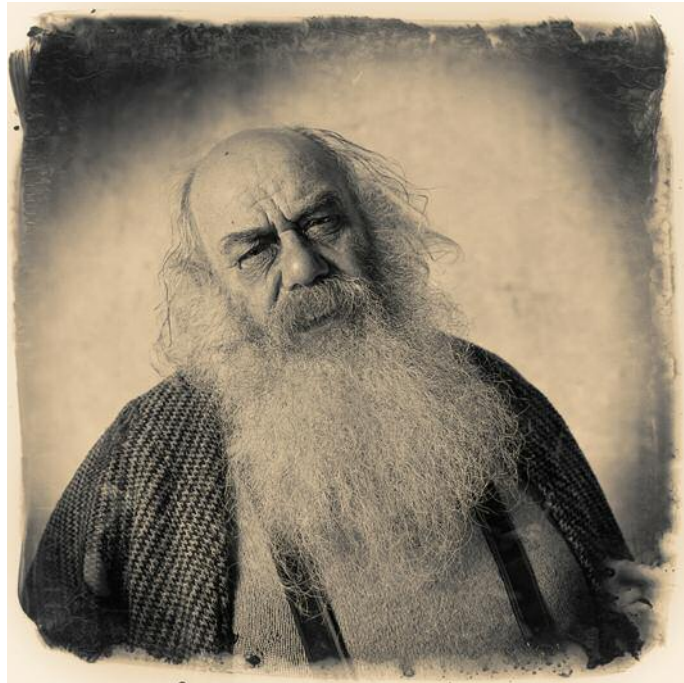
Samsara

This work of portraits made some unusual demands of its models, who were not allowed to wash themselves for 3 days, and not to sleep the night before the shooting. In order to increase the sense of being out of control, and to give the impression of being unkempt, they were then given worn-out clothing and asked to freely express their darkest thoughts, and unfiltered negative emotions before a rolling camera.

All of the affects, like anger, sadness, fear, and aggression were authentic and evident in the body language. At the end of this virtually-therapeutic sitting, the photographer made one picture in a more relaxed state, which is presented here. The term 'Samsara' originates from Buddhist philosophy and refers to the "Cycle of Existence" and how Man, owing to his sense of self-importance, perceives the World.







The Eyes of Frida Kahlo

A costly Art-and-Exhibition project that concerns itself with the self-portraits of Mexican art icon Frida Kahlo. The photographer adds: "It was a great challenge for the entire team, to dissect Frida's strong works, and solve the puzzles – all the surreal, hidden, and symbolic levels of her work in order to translate it photographically." A 20-minute video on the making of "The Eyes of Frida Kahlo" documents the background history of how the project came into being.

The camera provides a glimpse behind the curtain to observe the exciting processes involved in composing these portraits, and the intricate psychological work between photographer and model during the final three days of the shoot. In a different video, the photographer speaks in an interview about his personal motivation for this project, how finding the right model presented so many difficulties, and why he considers Frida Kahlo to be a Shaman of the arts.









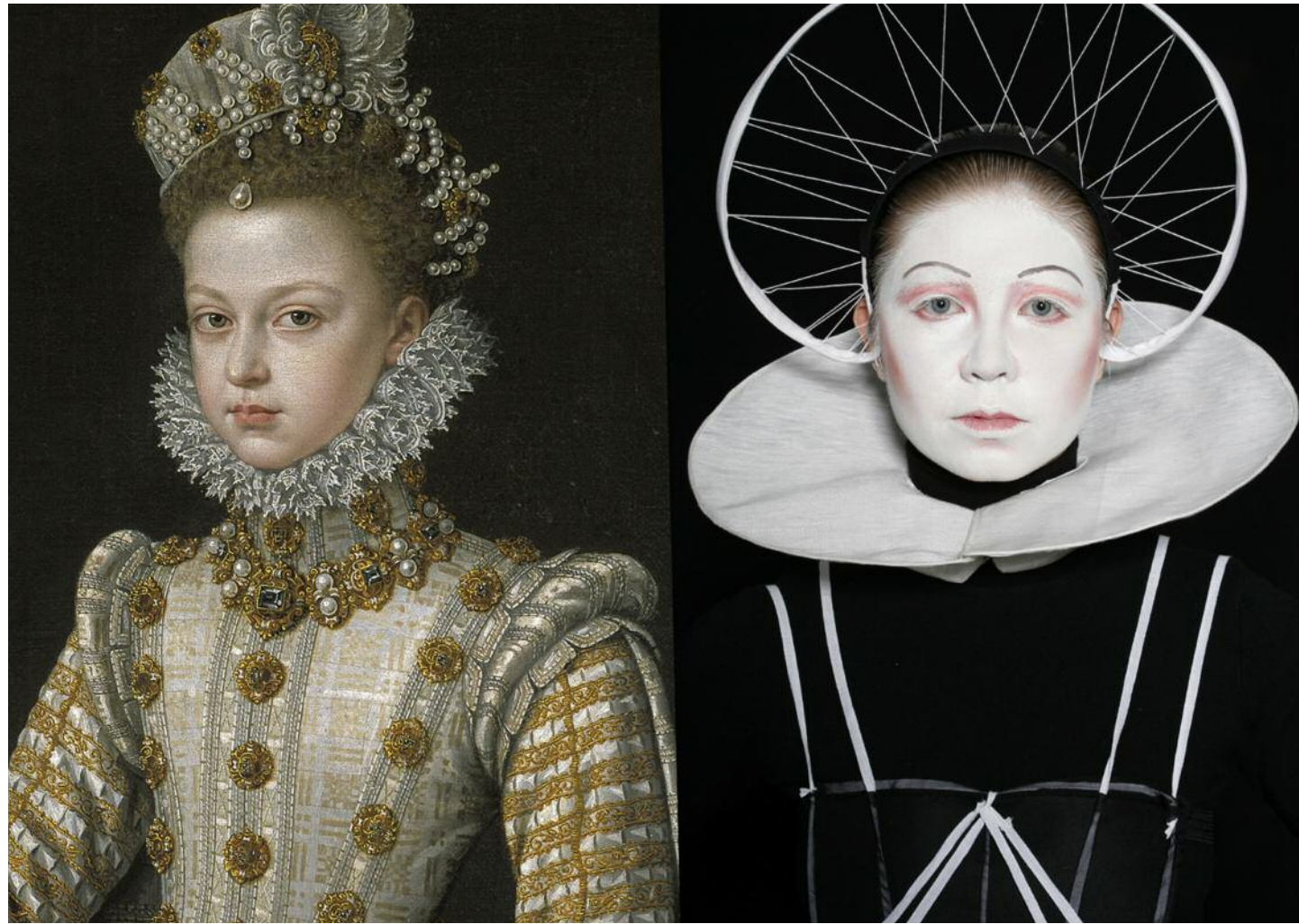
Original & Copy

The portrait gallery of Velasquez, Coello, Del Mazo, and other Spanish Realism painters served as a model for this series. The goal was to create a modern interpretation of the original painting, and infuse it with a lively contemporary feeling.









12-part Conceptual Photographic works  
C-Prints  
80 x 120 cm  
Berlin 2011

Exhibitions

- Private Thursday, Berlin 2013  
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2008  
Photokina, Köln 2004  
HeiligGeistKirche, Frankfurt 2002  
Staatsbank, Berlin 2001  
Art Directors Club, Berlin 1999  
Internationale Fototage, Herten 1999  
Galerie U Recickych, Prag 1998  
Galerie KunstNetzWerk, München 1998  
PPS Galerie, Berlin 1996  
Photokina, Köln 1994  
Galerie 77, Berlin 1992  
Photographers Gallery, London 1990  
October Gallery, London 1989
- Atelier MooGreen, Berlin 2012  
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2007  
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2003  
Einstein, München 2002  
Art Directors Club, Berlin 2000  
Selbach Galerie, Berlin 1999  
ESD Galerie, Berlin 1999  
Photokina, Köln 1998  
Deutsche Fototage, Frankfurt 1996  
Museum für virtuelle Kunst, Erfurt 1995  
Deutsche Fototage, Frankfurt 1993  
Kulturstiftung Schloss Britz, Berlin 1991  
PhotoArt, Heidelberg 1990  
Galerie Frank Müller, Berlin 1987

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                    | FAZ                               | Mondial Holding AG                 |
| AOK                                 | Fiege International               | Relexa Hotels                      |
| AGFA Gevaert                        | Friend Scout 24                   | Roche Pharma                       |
| Arwobau                             | Gangway                           | Samsung Electronics                |
| BASF                                | Glunz Deutschland                 | Skoda Moden                        |
| Bausch & Lomb Pharma                | Gropius Passagen                  | Sharp Computer                     |
| BVG                                 | Grundkreditbank – Koepeniker Bank | Stern Magazine                     |
| Berliner Feuersozietät Versicherung | Getraenke Hoffmann                | Sony Entertainment GmbH            |
| Bundesverband Elektromobilität      | Hugendubl                         | Tupperware GmbH                    |
| Caterpillar / MVS Zeppelin          | Ikon AG                           | Total Mineraloel AG                |
| Calida Underwear International      | Ideal Versicherung                | T-Mobile                           |
| Design Zentrum NRW                  | Jazz Radio Berlin                 | Ullstein Verlag                    |
| Debitel – Mobilcom                  | Johanniter – Unfall – Hilfe       | Vattenfall Europe AG               |
| Demmin & Sohn                       | Kodak AG                          | Verband der Privaten Bausparkassen |
| DeTeWe                              | Konzerthausorchester Berlin       | VW Gedas                           |
| Deutsches Pelletinstitut            | LBS                               | Woolworth AG                       |
| Deutsche Radio Philharmonie         | Mercedes Benz AG                  | Yoc AG                             |
| Engel & Voelkers                    | MCM Worldwide                     | Yonity Sportswear                  |
| English National Opera              | Mention Softwear GmbH             |                                    |

**Bert Loewenherz**  
[www.bertloewenherz.com](http://www.bertloewenherz.com)

[info@bertloewenherz.com](mailto:info@bertloewenherz.com)  
fon + 49 30 3942618  
mob + 49 163 6029311  
Rathenowerstrasse 57  
10559 Berlin

©2014 Bert Loewenherz