

MGKSiegen

Museum für Gegenwartskunst Siegen
Unteres Schloss 1
57072 Siegen

MI. 19.1.22
Press Release

After August Sander People of the 21st Century 28.1.–29.5.22

With his collection of portraits, “People of the 20th Century”, August Sander (1876–1964) produced a monumental life’s work that not only made photographic history but went on to influence generations of artists. The photographer, who was born in Herdorf near Siegen, depicted professional groups and social classes for several decades. Altogether he collected more than 600 images in forty-five portfolios, organizing them into seven categories: The Farmer, The Skilled Tradesmen, The Woman, Classes and Professions, The Artists, The City (city dwellers), and The Last People, who were found on the fringes of society. A selection was first assembled in the publication “Face of Our Time” (1929). By working on a portrait of society during his time, Sander not only developed archetypal images but also aimed to study the nature of man in relation to his community.

“After August Sander” combines the work of the world-famous yet regionally-based photographer with a contemporary perspective of 13 artists. At the heart of the exhibition is a group of 70 large-format photographs that Sander compiled as late as the early 1960s, also for presentations in the Siegerland. As a gift from Barbara Lambrecht-Schadeberg to mark the MGKSiegen’s 20th birthday, these are now being shown here for the first time. Starting out from this important group of works, the exhibition directs attention towards portraits of people in the 21st century and initiates further examination of images showing contemporary types.

The artistic positions exhibited revitalise the work of August Sander both directly and indirectly. The deliberate leap in time of about 100 years visualises our changed views of life and new influences on the individual. Despite the historical reference, “After August Sander” does not stick exclusively to the medium of photography, but presents video installations and sculptures in a reflection of our times.

With contributions by August Sander and Mohamed Bourouissa, Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys, Hans Eijkelboom, Omer Fast, Soham Gupta, Sharon Hayes, Bouchra Khalili, Ilya Lipkin, Sandra Schäfer, Collier Schorr, Tobias Zielony, Artur Żmijewski

Curator: Thomas Thiel

Supported by Kunststiftung NRW

Kunststiftung
NRW



Stefanie Scheit-Koppitz
Pressereferentin

T +49 271 40577 13
F +49 271 40577 32
scheid-koppitz@mgksiegen.de
presse@mgksiegen.de

Press

THU. 27.1. 11 am press conference

Opening

FRI. 28.1. 7 pm

After August Sander

People of the 21st Century

Welcome speech by Hans-Heinrich Grosse-Brockhoff, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of MGKSiegen and introduction by Thomas Thiel, Director, MGKSiegen

Entry free of charge

Talk

SAT. 29.1. 4pm

Westerwald – eine Heimsuchung

Talk with Sandra Schäfer and Linda Conze, Head of Department of Photography, The Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf

In German

Ticket included in the entrance fee

THU. 17.3. 7pm

Artist talk with Soham Gupta, Thomas Seelig, Head of Department of Photography, Museum Folkwang, Essen and Director Thomas Thiel

Ticket included in the entrance fee

THU. 28.4. 6pm

Lecture and talk

With artist Tobias Zielony, Prof. Uschi Huber and Director Thomas Thiel

In cooperation with the Department of Arts, University of Siegen

Venue: Brauhaus, Zum Wildgehege 25, 57076 Siegen

In German

Entry free of charge

Lecture

SAT. 9.4. 4pm

August Sander

Eine Gesellschaft ordnen. Oder einem Fotografen bei der Arbeit zusehen

Florian Ebner, Head of Department of Photography, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Pompidou, Paris

In German

Ticket included in the entrance fee

THU. 12.5. 7pm

Vor August Sander

Ähnlichkeit und Typus im fotografischen Porträt des 19. Jahrhunderts

Jan von Brevern, deputy professorship for Art History, University of Siegen

In German

Ticket included in the entrance fee

THU. 19.5. 7 pm

Bild-Lektüren

August Sanders westerwäldische Räume

Reading and lecture by the author Hanns-Josef Ortheil, Wissen/Sieg –Köln – Stuttgart

In German

Ticket included in the entrance fee

Guided Tours

After August Sander

People of the 21st Century

Last exhibition tour with curator and director Thomas Thiel

In German

Ticket included in the entrance fee

Public exhibition tours every Thursday at 12.30 pm and every Sunday at 4 pm.

Individual special tours for groups and individuals can be booked by phone (T +49 271 40577 10) or email (info@mgksiegen.de).

You can find more public tours and events for kids, teens and adults accompanying the exhibition at <https://www.mgksiegen.de/en/kalender/>.

Current COVID-prevention laws apply.

Press Images



August Sander, Bauernpaar – Zucht und Harmonie, 1912, from: People of the 20th Century, Contemporary Collection MGKSiegen, © Die Photographische Sammlung/ SK Stiftung Kultur, Köln – August Sander Archiv; VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn, 2022



August Sander, Jungbauern, 1914, from: People of the 20th Century, Contemporary Collection MGKSiegen, © Die Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur, Köln – August Sander Archiv; VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn, 2022



Sandra Schäfer, Westerwald: Eine Heimsuchung, 2021, Still, © Sandra Schäfer/VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2022



Omer Fast, August, 2016, Still, Courtesy the artist, Photo: Stephan Ciupek/Filmgalerie 451



Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys, *Mondo Cane (The Town Crier)*, 2019, Courtesy the artists and Galerie Isabella Bortolozzi, Berlin, Photo: Nick Ash



Collier Schorr, *Wes Portrait*, 2009–2018, Courtesy the artist, Modern Art, London and 303 Gallery, New York



Sharon Hayes, *Ricerche: one*, 2019, Still, Courtesy the artist and Tanya Leighton, Berlin



Bouchra Khalili, *The Tempest Society*, 2017, Still, Courtesy mor charpentier, Paris, © VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2022



Mohamed Bourouissa und Alice Ifergan-Rey, *Je vous raconte comment Mohamed Bourouissa a changé des chômeurs en sculpture dans un camion à Marseille*, 2019, Still, © Mohamed Bourouissa / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2022 and Alice Ifergan-Rey



Artur Żmijewski, *Dieter, Patricia, Ursula*, 2007, Still, Courtesy the artist, Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zürich, and Foksal Gallery Foundation, Warsaw

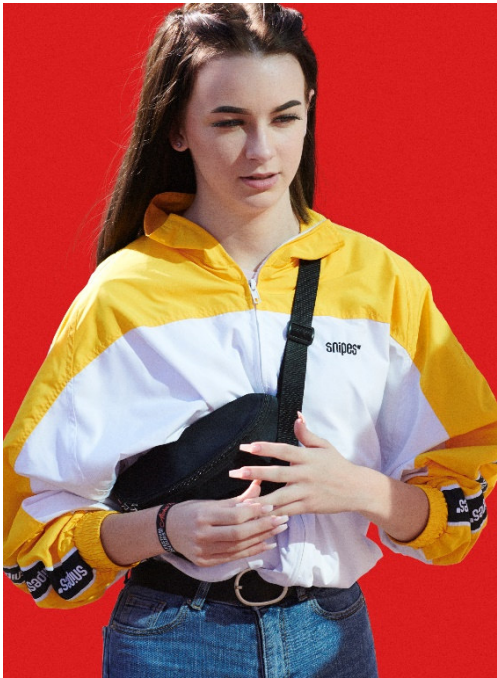


Soham Gupta, Untitled, from the series „Angst“ (2013-17),
Collection Museum Folkwang Essen, Courtesy the artist



Photo Note	23rd October 2015
Hoed	

Hans Eijkelboom, Photo Note 23rd October 2015 (Hoed),
Courtesy the artist



Ilya Lipkin, Untitled, 2019, Courtesy the artist and Lars Friedrich, Berlin



Tobias Zielony, from the series „Golden“, 2018, Courtesy the Artist and KOW, Berlin