

CORINA GERTZ

lives and works in Düsseldorf, Germany

Corina Gertz completed her studies in fashion design, pattern making and couture tailoring before working as a photographer. She lived in Düsseldorf, Florence, Cape Town, and Hong Kong while she created collections for international companies e.g. *Roberto Cavalli*, *Ton Sur Ton* or *Isabel de Mestre*.

To create her series of averted portraits, which reflect her passion for the colourful diversity of cultural particularities in our world, Corina Gertz travels around the globe. Her main focus is on clothing traditions, the preservation of craftsmanship and history. These averted portraits are representations of generations, an expression of the identity shared by many women. Gertz's depictions are a phenomenon of collectivity and at the same time deeply personal.

For the titles of the photographs Corina Gertz uses the respective abbreviation of the country in which the photo was taken. For example, ESP for Spain or CUB for Cuba.

Corina's independent projects are exhibited in international museums and galleries and are available in book and film format.

In 2013 and 2014 Corina gave lectures and workshops at the Art Academy Kunming, at the University for Art Xijing in Xi'an, and at the Technical University Hubei in Wuhan, China. Since 2015 she teaches at the College of Art and Design at Beijing University of Technology.

EXHIBITIONS

Solo Exhibitions (Selection)

2025

The Averted Portrait, Nida Photography Symposium Residency, Nida, LTU

Echoes of the Unseen, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, D

Zwiesgespräche - mit Fotografien von Corina Gertz, Deutsches Textilmuseum Krefeld, D

Corina Gertz - The Averted Portrait, Purple Path, Capital of Culture Chemnitz 2025, D

2023

Identity & Culture, (together with Michaël Aerts), Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, D

The Averted Portrait, Galerija FLU, Belgrade, SRB

2022

The Averted Portrait, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, D

2021

Thekitchenhappening21, curated by Judith Samen, Düsseldorf, D

2019

Lianzhou Photo Museum, Lianzhou, Guangdong, CHN (catalogue)

2018

Das abgewandte Porträt - Zwischen August Sander und Vermeer (The Averted Portrait - Between August Sander and Vermeer), Galerie Peter Tedden zu Gast bei Matthias Erntges, Düsseldorf, D (catalogue)

Das abgewandte Porträt, in context of *Tracht oder Mode - Die europäische Sammlung Paul Prött*, Deutsches Textilmuseum, Krefeld, D

2014

Illusions Never Die, together with Gudrun Teich, Organhaus, Chongqing, CHN

2011

KunstwerkSTADT Pöbneck, D

2010

Under Shiva's Shield, Visual Gallery, Photokina, Cologne, D (catalogue)

2009

Under Shiva's Shield, Textile Museum Sanskriti Kendra, New Delhi, IND

2005

Beauty of Kaokoveld, Syrius, Düsseldorf, D

Group Exhibitions (Selection)

2025

...und wir fangen gerade erst an, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, D
Mit vielen Freunden ist der Weg leichter, Johanna Ey Foundation, Düsseldorf, D
Symbiosis, Nine Art Space, Shanghai, CHN
Reiners Contemporary Art, Marbella, ESP
Die GROSSE, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, D

2024

Erinnern, Museum Kunst der Westküste, Föhr, D
Zwischen Sturm und Stille, Internationales Maritimes Museum Hamburg, D
Love for Detail, Kunsthalle Darmstadt, D
Je suis, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, D
Reconstruction, Nine Art Space, Shanghai, CHN

2023

Costume X Fashion - Kostüme als Inspiration für Kunst und Mode (Theatrical costumes as inspiration for art and fashion), Theatermuseum, Düsseldorf, D
SURFACE, Museum of Science and Technology, Dresden, D (catalogue)
Rethinking Identities, MNHA Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art, Luxembourg, LUX
Global SinoPhoto Awards Exhibition, FUJIFILM House of Photography, London, UK
DIE GROSSE, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, D (catalogue)

2022

DongGang International Photo Festival 2022, KOR (catalogue)
Die Macht des Mythos, DA! Art Award, Stadtmuseum Düsseldorf, D
traurig heiter - 2 Wolken, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, D

2021

Look! Enthüllungen zu Kunst und Fashion, Marta Herford Museum für Kunst, Architektur und Design
DIE GROSSE, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, D (catalogue)

2020

Fleurs, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, D
Reconstruction, Shanghai Art Museum, Shanghai, CHN
Fùchûn, KENNAXU Gallery, Shenzhen, CHN
Cloud Project, Nine Art Space, Shanghai, CHN

2019

Très Chic - Mode in der Kunst, Kunstverein Ludwigsburg, D (catalogue)
I'm Comin' Home, South x Southeast photogallery, Molena, Georgia, USA
Mood In Heart, Shanghai Art Museum, Shanghai, CHN
Puterea persistentei, Palatul Mogoșoaia, Bucarest, ROU
DIE GROSSE, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, D (catalogue)
Beyond the Sphere of Reproduction, A Sino-German Exhibition Project, Artron Art Center, Shenzhen, CHN (catalogue)
PHOTOFAIRS Shanghai, Nine Art Space shows works by Corina Gertz, Shanghai, CHN

2018

Jenseits des Dokumentarischen, Städtische Galerie Iserlohn, D (catalogue)
Beyond the Sphere of Reproduction, A Sino-German Exhibition Project, GCA The Galaxy Museum of Contemporary Art, Chongqing, CHN (catalogue)
Beyond the Sphere of Reproduction, A Sino-German Exhibition Project, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sanya, CHN (catalogue)
DIE GROSSE, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, D (catalogue)
2nd Shenzhen International Photography Exhibition, CHN
Tianshui Photo Biennale, CHN (catalogue)
PHOTOFAIRS Shanghai, Nine Art Space shows works by Corina Gertz, Shanghai, CHN
National Gallery of Uzbekistan, Tashkent, UZB (catalogue)
Emscher Gold - Sammlung Tedden, Galerie Münsterland e.V., Emsdetten, D (catalogue)

2017

Jenseits des Dokumentarischen, Städtische Galerie KUBUS, Hannover, D (catalogue)

Jenseits des Dokumentarischen, Städtische Galerie Bietigheim – Bissingen, D (catalogue)

Beyond the Sphere of Reproduction, A Sino-German Exhibition Project, White Box Art Center, 798, Beijing, CHN (catalogue)

Photo Festival Jinghong, Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, CHN (catalogue)

Mizhi Cave House International Photography Art Festival, Shanxi, CHN

Art Space for Moving Image, Photo Beijing, CHN (catalogue)

2016

Photo Festival Jinghong, Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, CHN (catalogue)

2015

Beyond the Sphere of Reproduction, 6 German photographic Researchers, Photo Beijing, CHN (catalogue)

Back from Chongqing, Atelier am Eck, Düsseldorf, D

2014

Wedding Dresses 1775-2014, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, GB (catalogue: 'The Wedding Dress' by Edwina Ehrmann, V&A, London)

Beijing Friends – From Phenomenon to Essence, Kunstverein Aalen, D

China Friends – From Phenomenon to Essence, DCKD, Düsseldorf, D

2013

Portas Abertas, Fórum Fundacao Eugénio de Almeida, Evora, PRT

In Out Space / Sculpture Architecture, Tipographia Hall, Bucarest, ROU

2012

The Wedding Dress: 200 Years Of Wedding Fashion, National Museum of Singapore, SGP curated by Victoria & Albert Museum, London (catalogue)

Unveiled, Western Australian Museum, Perth, AUS curated by Victoria & Albert Museum, London (catalogue)

2011

White Wedding Dress: 200 Years Of Wedding Fashion, Bindigo Art Gallery, Victoria, AUS, curated by Victoria & Albert Museum, London (catalogue)

Unveiled: 200 Years Of Wedding Dress, Museum of New Zealand, NZL, curated by Victoria & Albert Museum, London (catalogue)

Visual Aids, CRG Gallery, New York, USA

Embracing Our Differences, Island Park, Sarasota, Florida, USA (catalogue)

Water Biennale, Bad Breisig, D (catalogue)

Eyes on Asia, Museo delle Culture del Mondo, Genova, ITA (catalogue)

2010

8 Views, 10 festival for fashion & photography, Vienna, AUT

ECO-Creations, fashion from recycled material, Longmont Council for the Arts / Muse Gallery, Longmont, Colorado, USA

The-zip-association, House of Silk Culture, Krefeld, D

Redux, fashion from recycled material, Desotorow Gallery, Savannah, Georgia, USA

2009

Art Center, fashion illustrations from recycled materials, Mount Clement, Michigan, USA (honorable mention)

Sowing Seeds, International Artist Village Camp, SAR, Rajasthan, IND

Kaman Art Gallery, Jodhpur, IND (catalogue)

2007

Cranbrook Art Museum, Detroit, USA

Dt. Architektur Museum, Frankfurt a. M., D

Pro Arte Institute St. Petersburg, RUS

On behalf of the exhibition series *Shrinking Cities*, a project (2002-2008) of the Federal Cultural Foundation, under the direction of Philipp Oswalt (Berlin) in co-operation with the Leipzig Gallery of Contemporary Art, the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation and the magazine *archplus* (catalogue)

2006

10. Int. Architekturbiennale, Venice, ITA

University of Tokio with Art Deco Museum, Tokio, JPN

Pralt Manhattan Gallery / von Alen Institute, New York, USA

On behalf of the exhibition series *Shrinking Cities* (catalogue)

2004

Namibia, A Separated History, Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum, Cologne, D (catalogue)

Films / Documentaries / Books / Essays

2018

Co-editor of the book *Bauhaus und die Fotografie - Zum Neuen Sehen in der Gegenwartskunst (Bauhaus and Photography - On New Vision in Contemporary Art)*, together with Prof. Dr. Christoph Schaden and Prof. Dr. Kris Scholz, published by Kerber Verlag

2017

Editor of the book *80 Jahre Künstlersiedlung Golzheim* about 8 decades of art produced in the artists' colony Düsseldorf-Golzheim

Werkbund Akademiereihe 19 / *Cracks, Holes, Fractures - Harmony and Disharmony in Architecture* - author of a fashion-philosophical essay about the distressed style in fashion

Various fashion-philosophical articles for L'OFFICIEL Magazine LV

Fashion-philosophical article for THEO Magazine

2014

45' documentary film *Organhaus - Art between Yangtze and Rhine*, - directing and producing - Premiere at the Düsseldorf Film Museum

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eu6pj8thWvI>

2013

60' documentary film *Island along the Rhine - The Golzheim Artists' Colony* - directing and producing - Premiere at the Düsseldorf Film Museum, internationally screened with English and Chinese subtitles

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjAkb4g8gk>

2008

Editor of the book *Künstler Tatorte - Künstlersiedlung Franz-Jürgens-Straße* about the Düsseldorf artists' colony, in collaboration with Prof. Annette Leyener and Prof. Dr. Kris Scholz, published by Edition Braus, Heidelberg

Awards and Residencies

2018

Appointed member of DGPh, D
Artist in residence, Toot Yung Art Space, Chiang Mai, THA

2016

Prize-winning Photo Festival Jinghong, Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, CHN

2014

Artist in residence, Organhaus, Chongqing, CHN

2012

Artist in residence, Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, CHN
Artist in residence, The Cill Rialaig, IRL
Artist in residence, Fundación Valparioso, Mojácar, ESP

2010

Artist in Residence, Sowing Seeds, Village Sar, Jodpur, IND

2009

Artist in residence, Sanskriti Foundation, New Delhi, IND

Lectures / Seminars

2020

Corona und Solidarität, Hans-Böckler-Stiftung, Düsseldorf, D

Panel discussion presentation *ABBAU - Kein Raum mehr für die Kunstszene in Düsseldorf? (cutback - No more space for the Art Scene?)* with cultural administration and politics at Salon des Amateurs, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, D

2019

Conference co-organiser of *Von der Selbstausbeutung in die Altersarmut -*

Künstler suchen Perspektiven (From Self-exploitation to Old-age Poverty - Artists Develop New Perspectives) with lectures, panel discussions, and workshops, Town Museum of Düsseldorf, D

Workshop co-organiser of *Wir gründen eine Künstlergenossenschaft (We establish an artists' cooperative building society)*, Town Museum of Düsseldorf, D

Symposium co-organiser of *Wohin geht die fotografische Entwicklung? (In What Direction Is the Development of Photography Heading?)*, Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences, D

2018

Hochschule Niederrhein (University of Applied Science), Mönchengladbach, D

2017

Latvian Art Academy Riga, LVA

Werkbund Akademie 2017, D

Qipao Design Competition, Anren, Chengdu, CHN

2016

Latvian Art Academy Riga, LVA

2015

Beijing University of Technology, CHN

2014

Xijing University, Xi'an, CHN

Hubei University of Technology, Wuhan, CHN

Art Academy Kunming, CHN

XYL MOMA Museum, Chengdu, CHN

2013

Xijing University, Xi'an, CHN (appointed visiting professor)

Hubei University of Technology, Wuhan, CHN

XYL MOMA Museum, Chengdu, CHN