

FORGET MY NAME

Photographs by Eric Terrey
10 March – 5 May 2024

Opening 10 March, 3 – 7 pm

Musical performance by Benedikt Bindewald,
featuring compositions by Florian Bergmann and Farzia Fallah, 4 pm
artloft.berlin, Gerichtstrasse 23, 13347 Berlin — www.artloft.berlin



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The philosophy of parkour reflects the essence of Eric Terrey's daily creative approach to photography. Parkour is an athletic discipline involving the art of body movement as self-expression, efficiency in timing as a principle, and respect for others as a philosophy. It also promotes self-improvement by bringing physical and mental limitations to light while at the same time offering ways to overcome them. Parkour is a creative way to train the body and mind with the goal of being effective and liberated in one's environment. It builds confidence and requires determination, but is non-competitive, encouraging harmonious social connections.

Terrey's artistic path began in parkour's philosophy. This young photographer's environment was a spectrum of connections to genuine community in Berlin's urban milieu. The people he encountered practiced ethics engendering new ways to compete with one another, predomantly by choosing not to compete with one another. Terrey developed his own ethical rules outside the mainstream, simultaneously separating the image as work from the image of the author of the work.

"My work has no fixed origins or inspirations," said Terrey. "It is an amalgamation of my past, present, my experiences and the visual input that I actively absorb. . . . As I am not the kind of person who wants to make a name for myself, I will not go into detail about individual clients or brands that I have already photographed for. I always want my work to be seen as work."

In one series of black-and-white photographs taken underwater, acrobats, dancers, and parkourists collectively create evocative formations of movement. The human body consists of around 70 percent water, which also forms the first environment we experience—in the womb. Flowing connections in configurations of bodies are spontaneous, reflecting minimal choreographic instruction. Little is altered in photo-shopping. In this most natural environment, the movement of the human body is unforced, expressive of connectedness in motion.

The practice of photography requires learning fostered by curiosity, which itself leads to self-development. After sustaining an injury in 2017, Terrey arrived at a turning point in his passion for product photography. *Forget My Name* presents images exemplary of Terrey's visual expression, revealing the driving forces in his approach to the practice and photography: curiosity and responsibility, efficiency and determination, liberation and movement. These concepts are the most important elements of Terrey's creative progression.

FORGET MY NAME — Photographs by Eric Terrey is part of a series of exhibitions at Gerichtstrasse 23, a building that has become a dynamic multicultural organism, considered by visitors from many corners of the world as an edifice with an open, free-spirited Berlin character. G23 is a space offering layers of continuously developing creative activities exploring new initiatives across various disciplines.

Exhibition curation: Tanya Berlinski
Poster design: studiopyda.com

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