

TATRA AFTERIMAGES

Photographs by Rafał Swosiński
14 November 2021 — 31 January 2022

Opening on the 14th of November 3 – 7 pm
Musical performance by Lil Ulmann & Michael Haudenschild at 4 pm
artloft.berlin, Gerichtstrasse 23, 13347 Berlin — www.artloft.berlin



© Rafał Swosiński, *Hello From the Earth*, 2005, silver gelatin print

Mountains present Rafał Swosiński with a gigantic photographic atelier, offering unlimited space for the hypnotic spectacle of light and shadow, water and ice, stone and cloud. Ritualistically, Swosiński makes annual autumn expeditions to the Tatra mountains to capture the mystery and the richness of nature with his large format camera.

The months from September to November are a magical interval for a nature photographer, with the chord of all seasons interwoven. At this time of the year the light is most varied and its aura fluctuates through snow and rain, warmth and cold, color and monochrome. The sunrise and sunset can be embraced within 12 hours walk. In the Tatra, the artist ventures forth, hunting for natural monuments, discovering vertical mirrored reflections on lake surfaces, making careful observations of vegetation.

From the original 4" x 5" negatives, Swosiński will enlarge the image to a huge format or, more often, print 1:1. Though alchemical results are often discovered during the printing process, the large format of the negative also lends a magical plasticity to the final printed image.

Swosiński's resulting gelatin silver prints are hypnotic. As critic Bogdan Konopka says, in nature "photography tears out the image from the continuity of changes, each time taking it into a different time instance." Each recorded image takes hours, days, months, often many years of returns to the place where each time the tripod shivers in the wind, frozen hands hold the light meter and an eye full of humility waits for the right moment.

Tatra Afterimages – Photographs by Rafał Swosiński is part of a series of exhibitions at Gerichtstrasse 23 in Berlin, a building that has become a dynamic multicultural organism, described by visitors from many corners of the world as an edifice with an open free-spirited Berlin character. G23 is composed of layers of continuously developing creative activities, exploring new initiatives across various disciplines.

The artist and artloft.berlin wish to thank Paweł Kosicki for dedicating his support and expertise to successfully produce the moving images.

Exhibition curated by Tanya Berliński
Poster design: studiopyda.com

Visitors are required to show proof of vaccination. Those recovered from COVID-19 should refrain from entering if they have had symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

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