

PRESS RELEASE

Algeria - 91/19
Michael von Graffenried and Youcef Krache

Exhibition 05.06 – 27.07.2019**Opening reception** Wednesday June 5th 2019, from 6 pm to 9 pm, both photographers will be present

"From 1991 to 2000 Michael von Graffenried took these "photographs of a war without images" (the title of his book published by Editions Hazan in 1998), in a country with no cameras. He became the only Western photographer to testify throughout Algeria's black decade. Youcef Krache, who was only four years old at the time, is now working in a period of optimism where Algerians, every Friday protest, take millions of photos with their smartphones. The young people in the pictures show their joy, their faces express the will of absence of violence, the desire to be peaceful."

Benjamin Stora, May 2019

The new exhibition of the Galerie Esther Woerdehoff confronts two perspectives on Algeria through photography.

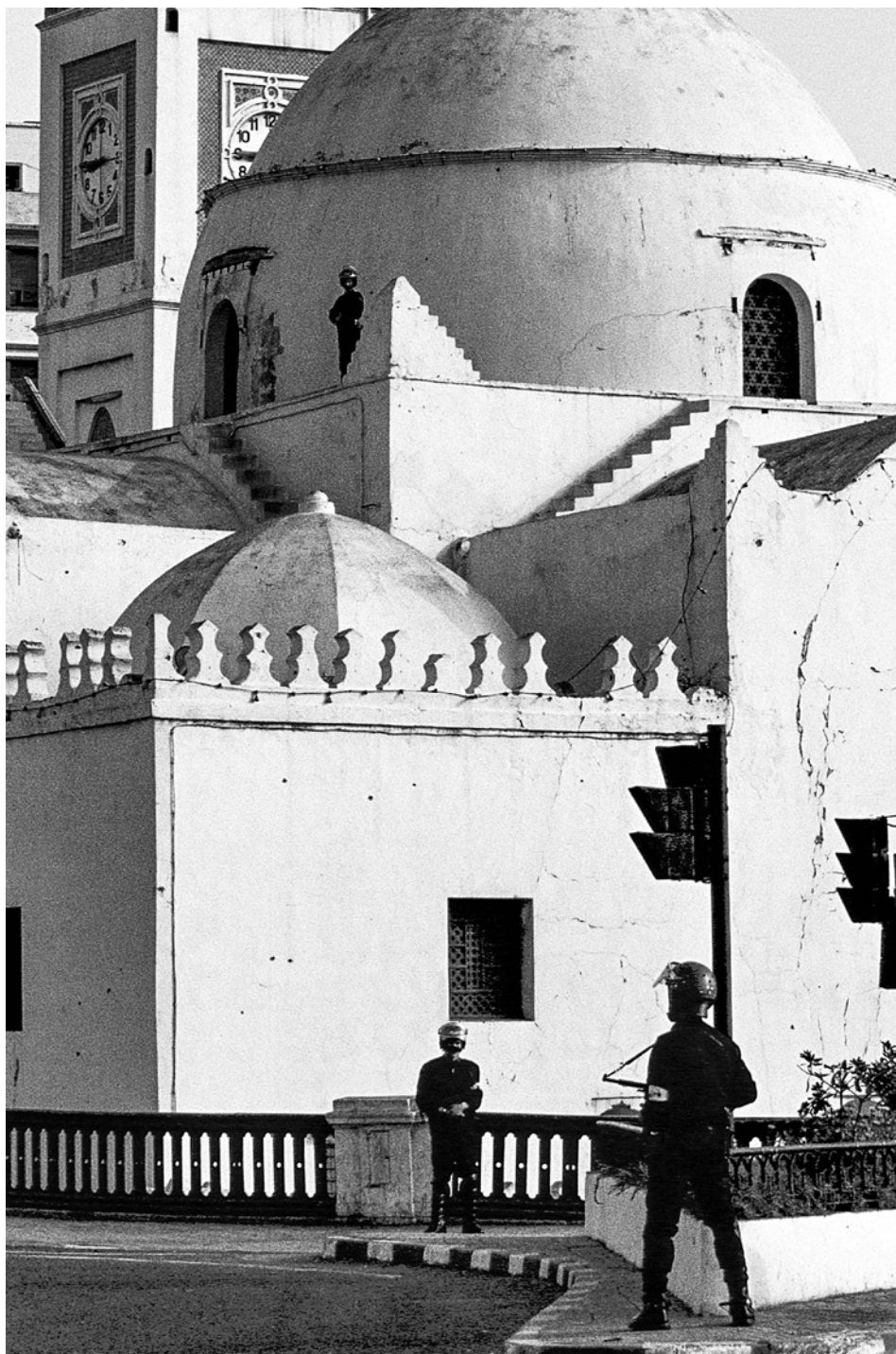
First, the vintage prints of Michael von Graffenried, taken in 1991 when the Swiss photographer travelled to Algeria and followed the first free elections that led to the victory of the Islamic Salvation Front in favour of the creation of an Islamic state. The army's intervention interrupted the electoral process and a civil war lasting about ten years followed, with terrorist attacks, murders of intellectuals and journalists and violent repression. From 1991 to 2002, Michael von Graffenried made about thirty trips to Algeria and chose the panoramic format that became his signature, with a camera aiming at belly level that allowed him to photograph his subjects without their knowing it. He will be one of the few Western photographers to document terrorism, its repression and the daily life of Algerians in this civil war situation.

Second, the work of Youcef Krache, an Algerian photographer born in 1987, who lives and works in Algiers. He is a member of the 220 collective whose photographers offer a new perspective on society. In a contrasting black and white with a strong grain, Youcef Krache claims to "propose mirrors to society" through his projects and photographs the street and the Algerian population in its daily life. Since the street demonstrations in February 2019 protesting against Bouteflika's candidacy for the presidential election and calling for a political transition, he has chosen to focus his photography on covering this situation.

Youcef could have been one of those children photographed on a playground or on the street by Michael. Nearly 30 years apart, these photographs confront two moments of history and the hopes of a people.

For any information and requests for visuals, please contact us: Florence Pillet - florence@ewgalerie.com

Press visuals



Michael von Graffenried, *Mosquée Djamaa El Djedid sur la place des Martyrs, Alger*, 1992

Vintage gelatin-silver print, 30 x 40 cm

The use of images is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition and valid up to its end.

Obligatory mention: © Michael von Graffenried, Courtesy Galerie Esther Woerdehoff

Press visuals



Youcef Krache

Les derniers jours de B, Telemly Alger, 2019

Les derniers jours de B, Alger, 2019

Pigment prints, 40 x 173 cm, edition of 5

The use of images is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition and valid up to its end.

Obligatory mention: © Youcef Krache, Courtesy Galerie Esther Woerdehoff

Press visuals

Michael von Graffenried, *Manifestation sur la place des Martyrs à Alger*, 1991
Vintage gelatin-silver print, 30 x 40 cm

The use of images is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition and valid up to its end.

Obligatory mention: © Michael von Graffenried, Courtesy Galerie Esther Woerdehoff

Press visuals

Youcef Krache, *Prémices d'une victoire*, Extraite du projet *El Houma*, Climat de France Alger, 2017
Pigment print, 40 x 50 cm, edition of 5

The use of images is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition and valid up to its end.
Obligatory mention: © Youcef Krache, Courtesy Galerie Esther Woerdehoff

Press visuals



Michael von Graffenried, *Terrain de jeux à Alger*, 1992
Vintage gelatin-silver print, 30 x 40 cm

The use of images is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition and valid up to its end.

Obligatory mention: © Michael von Graffenried, Courtesy Galerie Esther Woerdehoff

Press visuals

Youcef Krache
Série 20 cents, Djnan Lakhdar Alger, 2017
Pigment print, 40 x 50 cm, edition of 5

The use of images is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition and valid up to its end.
Obligatory mention: © Youcef Krache, Courtesy Galerie Esther Woerdehoff

Press visuals



Michael von Graffenried, *membre d'un comité d'autodéfense, Igoujda, Kabylie*, 1995
Vintage gelatin-silver print, 43 x 116 cm

The use of images is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition and valid up to its end.

Obligatory mention: © Michael von Graffenried, Courtesy Galerie Esther Woerdehoff

BIOGRAPHY

Artist

Youcef Krache

Born in 1987 in Constantine, Youcef Krache lives and works in Algiers as part of photographers group collective 220. A self-taught photographer, he graduated from the National School of Tourism with a master's degree in marketing. His photographs often show spaces, landscapes and urban characters. He was nominated for the Foam Paul Huf Award 2017, for The Joop Swart Masterclass in 2016 and 2017, for the Magnum Foundation Fund in 2018 and participated in portfolio readings for the New York Times. He has exhibited his photographs at the Dak'Art 2014 Off Biennale, at the Bamako Photographic Meetings in 2015 and 2017, at the second edition of the Biennale of Arab World Photographers in Paris and at La Friche de la Belle de Mai in Marseille. In Algeria he showed his photos in several group and individual exhibitions including La Picturie Générale, IQBAL exhibition at the Musée National d'Art Moderne et Contemporain d'Alger and also by exhibiting on the walls of Algiers directly in contact with the population. His photos were published in *The Guardian* and in the daily newspaper *Le Monde* and its magazine. He also works in the film industry as director of photography and set photographer and has just launched a publishing house specializing in images.

Exhibitions

2019

Algérie - 91/19, with Michael von Graffenried, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Paris, France

Face à la Mer, Tanger 2019 (Special mention of the jury), with collective220, Morocco

2018

Iqbal, Cité internationale des arts, Paris, France

Iqbal, Friche de la belle de mai, Marseille, France

Festival international de photographie et d'art visuel, with collective220, Kerkennah, Tunisia

Swab, Barcelona, Spain

2017

Iqbal, MAMA d'Alger, Algeria

Biennale de la photographie Africaine, Bamako, Mali

Show Exposition: Krache, LIKIP, Algiers, Algeria

2016

Les rencontres d'Arles Off, Arles, France

Le mois de la photographie Européenne Off, Berlin, Germany

2015

Biennale de la photographie africaine, Bamako, Mali

2ème rencontre de photographes Euromaghrebins, Project Kairouan

Artifariti, International art and human rights meeting, sahraouis refugee camp/ Western Sahara

Exhibition of 220 photos in the street, Algiers, Algéria

Picturie General III , Algiers, Algérie

2014

Biennale de Dak'Art Off, Dakar, Senegal

Les rencontres de Ghar El Melh, Tunisia

Awards

Nominated for the Foam Paul Huf Award, 2017

Nominated for the Joop Swart Masterclass 2016

Afac ADPP with Magnum Foundation and The Prince Claus Fund, 2016 et 2017

Publications

Magazine Le Monde, Le Monde daily

The Guardian

Offthewall Magazine

Chik Magazine

Brownbook Magazine

Aperture

Les Inrocks

Polka Magazine

Fisheye Magazine

Artnewspaper

Telquel

L'Obs

Le Figaro

Libération

Something We Africans Do

El watan

Cinema

Mauvais sang by Laid Djeloul, director of photography

Exterminator by Abdelghani Raoui, Image 2015

Opération Maillot by Okacha Touita, set photographer 2014

Alger conjugée au Pluriel by Djamil Beloucif, image/ set photographer 2014

Bir d'eau by Djamil Beloucif, Camera 2013

BIOGRAPHY

Artist

Michael von Graffenried

Michael von Graffenried was born in Bern, Switzerland in 1957. Now living and working between Paris, Bern and Brooklyn, he started as a self-taught photojournalist in 1978, travelling the world for numerous publications and now works on long term projects using different kinds of media frames, such as outdoor campaigns on public billboards or film. His documentary film *War without Images*, produced together with Mohammed Soudani, was first screened at the Locarno filmfestival in 2002. He has exhibited his pictures widely in Switzerland and France, as well as in New York, Algiers, Hong Kong and Beirut. His photographs are in the permanent collections of the Swiss Foundation for Photography, Winterthur, Musée de l'Elysée in Lausanne, Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris and several other major European collections. His work appeared in many books, such as *Sudan, a forgotten war* (Benteli 1995), *Naked in Paradise* (Dewi Lewis 1996), *Inside Algeria* (Aperture 1998), *Cocainelove* (Benteli 2005), *Eye on Africa* (2009) or *Bierfest* (Steidl 2014). Michael von Graffenried was given the title of Chevalier des Arts et Lettres of the French Légion d'Honneur in 2006 and the Dr. Erich Salomon Prize of the German Society of Photography 2010. He was the third Swiss photographer to obtain this award after René Burri and Robert Frank. In 2010, the Maison européenne de la photographie in Paris held a major retrospective exhibition of his works.

Always seeking to take an incisive and singular look at the world, he has shifted towards a more conceptual approach to photography and is now involved in several artistic and media projects.

Solo shows
(selection)**2017**

Rétrospective, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Paris

2016

Changing Rio, Maison de France, Rio de Janeiro, Brésil

2014

Bierfest, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Paris

2012

On the Edge (on public billboards), Varanasi, India

Shoreditch Stories, London

Inside Cairo, Parker's Box Gallery, Brooklyn NY

35 mm Film, Leica Gallery, New York

2010

Eye on Africa, Esther Woerdehoff Gallery, Paris

Outing, Retrospective, Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris

2009

Eye on Africa, Paul Klee Center, Bern Switzerland

2008

War without images - Algeria, Hangar - UMAM, Beirut, Lebanon

2007

Our Town, Kornhausforum Museum Bern, Switzerland
 Inside Cairo, rooftop photography installation, Down Town Cairo

2006

Graffenried in page, Esther Woerdehoff Gallery, Paris (Month of Photography)
 Our Town, Bank of the Arts, New Bern, North Carolina, United States

2005

Rosanna, Astrid, Peter and the others, Swiss National Museum, Zurich

2003

Michael von Graffenried – World Panorama, Library of the city of Bordeaux, France
 Museum of Fine Arts Bern, Switzerland (Curated by Harald Szeemann)

2002

Helveticum 02, Museum of Art, Neuchâtel, Switzerland

2000

Algérie, photographies d'une guerre sans images, National Library El Hamma, Algiers

1999

World Panorama, Fotomuseum Winterthur, Switzerland

1998

Algérie, photographies d'une guerre sans images, Pavillon Delouvrier, Parc de la Villette, Paris

1997

Naked in Paradise, Witkin Gallery, New York
 Naked in Paradise, Galerie Scalo, Zurich, Switzerland
 Sudan, Museum Zündorfer Wehrturm, Cologne, Germany
 Galerie Agathe Gaillard, Paris

**Group
Shows**
2019

Photo London, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Londres, United Kingdom

2018

Photo London, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Londres, United Kingdom
Haute Photographie, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Stockholm, Sweden
Paris Photo, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Grand Palais, Paris

2016

Salon Zürcher Photo, New York, United States
Der Freie Körper, Fotografien aus drei Epochen, Heuberg 24 & Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Basel, Switzerland

2014

Drive In (with Galerie Esther Woerdehoff), Galerija Fotografija, Ljubljana, Slovenia

2006*En français sous l'image*, Espace Electra, Paris**2002***Big is beautiful*, Musée d'art et d'histoire, Neuchâtel, Switzerland**2000***La grande illusion*, Musée d'art et d'histoire, Neuchâtel, Switzerland**1999***Afriques*, Musée de la photographie, Charleroi, Belgium**1998***Le sport*, Galerie du Château d'Eau, Toulouse, France

Summer group show, Witkin Gallery, New York, United States

1997*Weltenblicke - Reportagefotografie und ihre Medien*, Fotomuseum Winterthur, Switzerland**1996***Ein Fenster zur Schweiz*, Kiev, Ukrain**1995***Magic moments Leica*, travelling show, Germany, France, United States**1993**

Havane (Cuba), Miami, Atlanta (United States)

A la recherche du père, Espace Photographique de Paris, France*La Slovénie au quotidien*, Banque de Slovénie, Ljubljana, Slovenia*La Syrie au quotidien*, Institut du monde arabe, Paris, France**1989**

World Press Photo 1989 - travelling show

1988*Photos d'artistes soviétiques en Perestroïka*, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Bern, Switzerland**1986***Photokina*, Cologne, Germany**1984**

Berner Photogalerie, avec René Burri, Switzerland

Portraits d'artistes, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Berner Galerie, Berne, Switzerland

Palais des arts, Paris

Awards**2010**

Prix Dr. Erich Salomon, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Photographie

2006

Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres, Ministère de la Culture, France

1989

World Press Photo Award

1987 et 1985

Bourse fédérale des arts appliqués, Kornhaus, Bern, Switzerland

**Publications
and Films
(selection)**

Changing Rio, Offizin Zurich, 2016
Bierfest, Steidl Göttingen, 2014
Outing, Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Conversation with Hans Ulrich Obrist, 2010
Eye on Africa, Schwabe Basel, 2009
Cocaine Love, Benteli Bern, 2005
The Eye of Switzerland, 15 years of Swiss Press Photo, Benteli Bern, 2005
Inside Algeria, Aperture New York, 1998
Algérie, photographies d'une guerre sans images, Editions Hazan Paris, foreword by Benjamin Stora, 1998
Naked in Paradise, Dewi Levis, Stockport, 1997
Sudan, a forgotten war, Benteli Bern, 1995
Swiss people, Jean Genoud, Le Mont-sur-Lausanne, 1991
Swiss image, Benteli Bern, 1989

mvgphoto Youtube channel, 2014
On the Edge, par Mohammed Soudani, 2012
Shoreditch Stories, par Peter Balzli, 2009
Minaret in Briklane London, 2009
Cocainelove, with Roland Lanz, 2005
Michael von Graffenried – Photo Suisse (EN) by Andreas Hössli, 2004
Algeria – War without images by Mohammed Soudani, 2000

Collections

Centre National des Arts Plastiques - Centre Pompidou, Paris
 Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris
 Fotomuseum / Swiss Foundation of Photography, Winterthur
 Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne
 The Pilara Foundation in San Francisco
 Völkerkundesammlung, Lübeck
 Museum of Fine Arts, Bern