

SPONTANEAITY AND MELANCHOLY

ACHIM LIPPOTH – PHOTOGRAPHING CHILDREN WITHOUT CLICHÉS

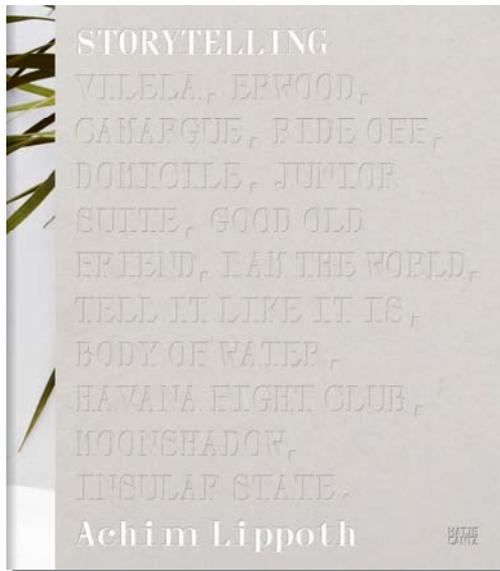
Achim Lippoth creates portraits of children, representing very diverse facets of childhood, from spontaneity to meditateness. The Cologne-based artist examines the clichés about children, as well as the expectations of their roles. His most recent works are now presented in the monograph *Geschichten über das Kindsein / Storytelling*.

Berlin, March 14, 2017 – Whether in the form of photojournalism or a minutely detailed presentation, his work with children is the focus of Achim Lippoth's (*1968 in Ilshofen) creative process. If adults appear at all, they're merely extras. Rarely does one see young people so at home with themselves, moving naturally, without any of the clichés that belittle them. Lippoth's images reflect profound seriousness, inscrutability, and melancholy, as well as incredible energy, pleasure in being alive, and cryptic humor.

In his series *Rage Attack*, for instance, a furious girl cuts off her doll's hair, and a boy destroys a television by hitting it with his robot. Although Lippoth chose precisely framed and composed images for this series, he allowed the children in the *Wölflinge* series to roam through industrial landscapes at night, wearing tattered clothes. "It's always about carefree childhood, about family and belonging, something timeless," says Lippoth. To underscore this transcendence of time, Lippoth, who usually photographs in color, has published his new series, *Camargue*, in black-and-white.

Lippoth discovered photography on his own while studying art nearly twenty-five years ago. From that point onward he's been interested in the topics of children, reflections upon being a child, and childhood in the twentieth century. "From the start I had success with kids, and so I just kept going. I found my niche." In 1995 Lippoth founded a cult magazine, *kid's wear*, and is an in-demand fashion and advertising photographer. Among his clients are national and international agencies and companies. His photo series have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *Stern*, *Zeit Magazin*, and *Wallpaper Magazine*. The Cologne-based artist has received many awards for his work, most recently the Silver Lion in Cannes and the Epica Award.

The current publication, *Geschichten über das Kind sein / Storytelling* presents Lippoth's extensive photographic oeuvre from recent years. Parallel to the book release, an eponymous exhibition can be seen until June 11, 2017, at the Bayer Erholungshaus in Leverkusen.



**ACHIM LIPPOTH
GESCHICHTEN ÜBER DAS KINDSEIN /
STORYTELLING**

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www.editiongerdhatje.com

PRESS CONTACT

Sara Buschmann
Head of Press Department
s.buschmann@hatjecantz.de
Tel. +49 30 3464678-08

Jennifer Berndt
Junior PR-Manager
presse@hatjecantz.de
Tel. +49 30 3464678-23

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