

## ESTHER'S WORLD: THE GLAMOUR, LUCK, AND SOFT TONES OF A GREAT PHOTOGRAPHER

For more than twenty-five years Esther Haase has worked for international clients and famous magazines. The photographer playfully shifts from the genre of fashion to (celebrity) portraiture and photojournalism. *Esther's World* is now the first book to contain the photographer's favorite pictures.

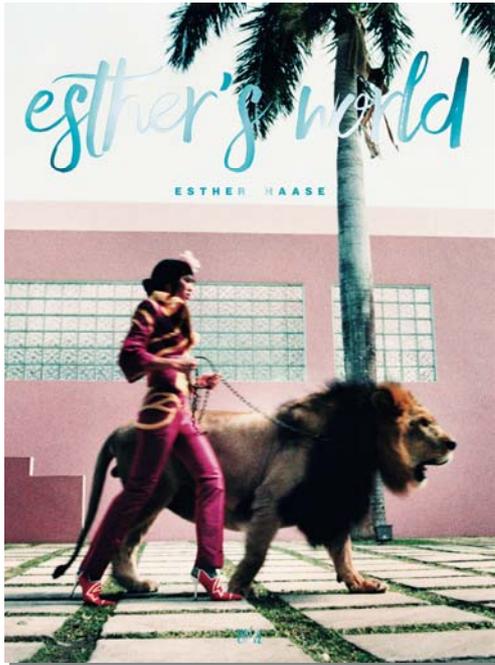
Berlin, September 21, 2017 – She's photographed Angela Merkel, Karl Lagerfeld, and Vivienne Westwood; worked for Indian *Vogue* and Italian *Vanity Fair*; designed ad campaigns for Falke and Escada; and conceived the ad "Berlin, Du bist so wunderbar" for Berliner Pilsner. About herself, Esther Haase (\*1966) says that her life is a dance with the camera through the world. And, in fact, the artist, who was born in Bremen and now commutes between Hamburg and London, initially studied ballet and was on the stage before she turned to photography.

A sense of ease permeates Haase's work; the women are cheerful and relaxed, always self-confident, strong, sexy, and stylish. She is interested in telling stories, whether through blurred movement; lyric, delicate, or bright colors; or in contrasting black-and-white. Some of her pictures are like cinematic dreams, while others are baroque presentations or witty snapshots. Her pictures celebrate the pleasure of being alive, passionate, self-confident games with sexuality, breaking out of the rigid corset of everyday life—and, above all, human beings as a whole: adventurous, bold, erotic, occasionally melancholy and reflective, but always conscious and aware.

What may look like a spontaneous snapshot is the result of hard work and inexhaustible energy. Haase's experience as a choreographer helps her to arrange her protagonists into precise compositions with the elaborate settings and costumes typical for her. As a former ballet dancer, she has a gift for emphasizing physicality and for understanding movement as dance.

"What I appreciate most about Esther is the fact that she has always remained true to herself. No matter what the big fashion circus around her is currently presenting, her stage, just as her unmistakable style, remains her own," says F.C. Gundlach, who produced Haase's first exhibition in 1999. "This has brought her great recognition both nationally and internationally. Her pictures are timeless and function outside the context of their creation."

For *Esther's World* the great German fashion photographer has selected photographs from a period of nearly three decades, opening up the treasure chest of her favorite motifs.



**ESTHER HAASE  
ESTHER'S WORLD**

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**ABOUT HATJE CANTZ**

Hatje Cantz is a groundbreaking international publishing company specializing in art, architecture, and photography. Since 1945 Hatje Cantz has been using its profound expertise and enthusiasm for craftsmanship to produce and publish books of the highest quality. We currently release around two hundred new titles annually.

Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries, collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION GERD HATJE as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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## BILDÜBERSICHT



Sarah  
Berlin, 2014  
© Esther Haase



Riot Girl Ella  
London, 2015  
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Gabriele Schwartzkopff with Elfi  
Hamburg, 2015  
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Gia at Dalston Heights  
London, 2014  
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Heiligendamm, 2003  
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The Commitment, Julieta & Pedro Tortoni  
Buenos Aires, 2008  
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Samuel's perfect jump, Hotel Westminster  
Paris, 2012  
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King Kong & the white woman  
Hamburg, 2012  
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Aminata & Sarah Leonie in my kitchen  
Hamburg, 2016  
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Pernille & Natalia at Studio Sala  
Paris, 2010  
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