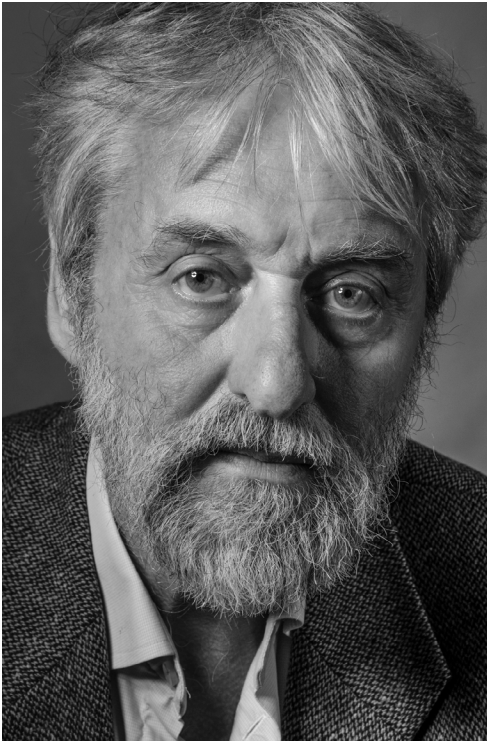


Portrait Ulrich Domröse, aus der Serie „Besucher“, 2017, Foto: © Ulrich Wüst



Ulrich Domröse takes his leave

**Katia Reich will head the
Photography Department
from 1 December 2020.**

Ulrich Domröse (*1955 in Ziesar), long-standing head of the Photography Department at the Berlinische Galerie, is taking his retirement after 29 years. Katia Reich will succeed him on 1 December 2020.

“What has fascinated me about Ulrich Domröse in the ten years that we have been working together is the care he takes, his close affinity with the artists and his impressive knowledge of photographic history. I have discovered so much through him, above all art photography in East Germany.”
Thomas Köhler, Director of the Berlinische Galerie

Domröse studied art history at the Humboldt University in Berlin from 1976 to 1981. In 1991, after the Berlin Wall came down, he joined the Photography Department at the Berlinische Galerie as a curator. In 2002 Domröse took over from Janos Frecot as head of the photography department at Berlin’s public museum of modern art, photography and architecture, which is celebrating its 45th anniversary this year.

The Berlinische Galerie boasts one of Germany’s leading photography collections with some 80,000 items. It reflects Berlin’s contribution to the development of photography from the middle of the 19th century up to the present day. Focal themes include portrait and urban photography, new camera techniques explored by the Modernists and auteur photography since the 1970s. It is to Domröse’s credit that the museum is such a high-quality repository for the photographic history of the GDR and has consistently expanded its holdings of outstanding work by contemporary photographers, not least with major cycles by Michael Schmidt, the photographic estate of Christian Borchert and works by Dieter Appelt, Thomas Demand, Thomas Florschuetz, Boris Mikhailov, Viktoria Binshtok, Tobias Zielony, Seiichi Furuya and Loredana Nemes.

Another key highlight was acquiring the estate of Otto Umbehr (1902-1980), aka Umbo, in 2016. In partnership with the Sprengel Museum Hannover and the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, Domröse thus made a valuable contribution to filling gaps in this fonds.

Domröse has been responsible for many widely acclaimed exhibitions and significant publications on historical and contemporary photography. Unforgotten trailblazers include: “German Art Photographers” in 1997 at the Martin-Gropius-Bau, “The Photographer Herbert Tobias” in 2008, “Friedrich Seidenstücker: Photographs 1925-1958” in 2011, “The Shattered Society: Art Photography in the

GDR” in 2012, “Tobias Zielony: Jenny Jenny” in 2013, “Faraway Focus: Photographers Go Travelling (1880-2015)” in 2017 and just this year: “Umbo. Photographer: Works 1926-1956” in partnership with Inka Schube at the Sprengel Museum Hannover.

Katia Reich takes the helm at the Photography Department

“I have been following Ulrich Domröse’s activities with great interest ever since my student days in Berlin in the 1990s. His successful exhibition and book ‘The Shattered Society: Art Photography in the GDR 1949-1989’ (2012) laid the foundation stone for anchoring East German photography within international art history. It will be at once an honour and an incentive for me to build on Ulrich Domröse’s profound achievements, including in the field of historical and contemporary photography, and to contribute new elements.” Katia Reich

Katia Reich (*1969 Hamburg) studied art history in Berlin and Milan and has worked as an art historian and curator since 1999. As director of Berlin’s LOOCK Galerie from 2013, Katia Reich brought international artists such as Gregory Halpern, Martin Parr and Alec Soth to the exhibition programme, while introducing East German photographers like Sibylle Bergemann, Manfred Paul and Ulrich Wüst to an international audience.

In 2012 she curated the 5th edition of the European Month of Photography in Berlin (EMOP), which unites over 100 venues across the city every two years. In support of this event, she devised the Portfolio Walk for the Portfolio Review launched in 2012 and created the format “Show Photography – Show and Be Shown”, which has featured Viktoria Bintschok, Estelle Blaschke, Adam Broomberg and Olivier Lugon. Since 2008 she has served on the advisory board to the European Month of Photography Berlin (EMOP).

As project manager for the Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art at KW Institute for Contemporary Art between 2005 and 2012, she supported more than 300 projects by curators of international repute – among them the photographers Michael Schmidt, Shirana Shahbazi and Larry Sultan & Mike Mandel, experimental film-makers Bruce Conner and John Smith and artists Mohamed Bourouissa, Shannon Ebner and Nilbar Güreş. In 2009 and 2010 she co-curated KW’s Highlights from the Cologne KunstFilmBiennale in Berlin.

In 2003 and 2005, under the curatorship of Julian Heynen, she implemented contributions in the German Pavilion at the Biennale di Venezia. From 1999 to 2005, in the photography task force at the Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst (NGBK), she was conceptually responsible for numerous exhibitions and events.

Since 2018 she has also been teaching final year photography students at the Lette Verein in Berlin. Since 2010 she had been providing courses to promote the professionalisation of artists, including at Berlin University of the Arts (UDK) and weißensee kunsthochschule berlin.

Contact Berlinische Galerie

Ulrike Andres
Head of Communication and Education
Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 829
andres@berlinischegalerie.de

Contact:
Paula Rosenboom
Communication
Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 831
rosenboom@berlinischegalerie.de

Berlinische Galerie
Berlin’s Museum of Modern Art,
Photography and Architecture
Alte Jakobstraße 124–128
10969 Berlin
Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 600
berlinischegalerie.de