

Freundeskreis Willy-Brandt-Haus e.V.

Contact: presse@fkwbh.de

The *Freundeskreis Willy-Brandt-Haus e.V.* presents the exhibition

Echoes of War

Vintage photographs from World War II

Collection Benita Suchodrev

Exhibition from September 12 - January 10

Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. | Free entry | ID required

Access only with a time slot ticket, booking online at www.fkwbh.eventbrite.com



The exhibition *Neue Zeit? Warschau – Ukraine – Berlin* will be shown simultaneously

Berlin 1945 © Collection Benita Suchodrev/private

The Exhibition **Echoes of War** presents a selection of original photographic images from the Second World War. The Photographs follow the gaze of those who observed, experienced, caused and suffered through the events, resulting in visual documents where politically and strategically important information as well fleeting and poetic moments are captured. These historical photographs tell individual stories that present the subjective, private views of the numerous individuals behind these pictures and the far-reaching echo of the stories they tell. The photographs had been taken by professional war correspondents, soldiers and private persons and show rare aerial shots, pictures of public executions, parachute jumpers minutes before landing, Soviet and German child-soldiers and everyday life in bombed cities during and after the war. The photographs originate mostly from Germany, England, France, Poland, Russia and the USA.

The more than 130 selected motifs are shown along with the original captions where the choice of words adds an additional layer to the visual information, revealing propagandistic ideas as well as very personal dedications. Having acquired the photographs through auctions, private research, contacts to fellow collectors and contemporary witnesses as well as to antique dealers worldwide, the Russian-American artist photographer **Benita Suchodrev** obtained a treasure of personal memories that spawns historical insights, promotes dialogue and challenges the viewer with an unusual approach to the war experience. The exhibition does not set out to make a political statement nor beautify the atrocities of war.

Compiled and curated from the viewpoint of an artist and photographer, the exhibition raises new associations that are unburdened by strict scientific connotations. Instead it documents the dark and light moments, the human effort to keep visual aesthetics alive under barbaric conditions and the varying perceptions of a world at war.

For several years Benita Suchodrev has also been active as a photo collector. She lives and works in Berlin.

Exhibition catalog "Echoes of War", Benita Suchodrev.

Media Partner:
Photography in Berlin (PiB)
Technical support:
Verwaltungsgesellschaft Bürohaus Berlin mbH

WILLY-BRANDT-HAUS
Stresemannstr. 28
10963 Berlin
(U-Bhf. Hallesches Tor)

Freundeskreis Willy-Brandt-Haus e.V.

Contact: presse@fkwbh.de

“As far as war photographs are concerned, I am always touched and often amazed when I discover images that are not just historically relevant, but also reveal an artistic motivation, the motivation to capture something ‘aesthetic’ or even ‘poetic’ in a picture, at a time that actually does not permit it. ”

Benita Suchodrev

Feel free to make an appointment with the Photographer Benita Suchodrev in our house on September 9 or 10.

All inquiries please to presse@fkwbh.de



»Viele von uns kennen noch Menschen, die den Zweiten Weltkrieg miterlebten. Wir, die Nachkriegsgenerationen, haben viele Eindrücke sammeln können, doch diese sind lediglich Echos, die niemals so klar und eindeutig wahrgenommen werden können wie die ersten Klänge. Dennoch dienen diese Echos als Erinnerung und Bestätigung dafür, dass es diese ersten Klänge wirklich gab.«

Benita Suchodrev

ECHO des Krieges



London 1941 © Collection Benita Suchodrev/private



Hotel Kaiserhof, Berlin 1946, © Collection Benita Suchodrev/private

Freundeskreis Willy-Brandt-Haus e.V.

Managing and Artistic Director Gisela Kayser | T 030 25 99 37 85

Press contact T 030 25 99 37 87 | F 030 25 99 37 88

presse@freundeskreis-wbh.de | www.fkwbh.de | Like us on Facebook

Media Partner:

Photography in Berlin (PiB)

Technical support:

Verwaltungsgesellschaft Bürohaus Berlin mbH

WILLY-BRANDT-HAUS

Stresemannstr. 28

10963 Berlin

(U-Bhf. Hallesches Tor)