



Fotografiska
Berlin

Fotografiska Berlin presents

Whiteface

September 14th, 2023 - December 4th, 2023



*Candice Breitz Still from Whiteface, 2022 Dual-channel video installation, colour, loop Duration 35 minutes, 23 seconds
Commissioned by the Museum Folkwang with support from the Kunsthalle Baden-Baden*

Berlin, Germany, 30 June, 2023 – In anticipation of its grand opening on 14 September 2023, Fotografiska Berlin – The Contemporary Museum of Photography, Art and Culture is thrilled to announce *Whiteface*, a solo exhibition by Candice Breitz.

Candice Breitz has long been recognized as one of the world's most influential contemporary artists. Her body of work has explored the intersection of political and social forces with individual and collective identity over the last three decades. In recent years, her works have been exhibited at the Venice Biennale, the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art and Tate Liverpool, and collected by major museums worldwide, captivating audiences and inviting meaningful conversations across cultural boundaries.

Whiteface, the dual-channel installation that will be presented at Fotografiska, offers powerful commentary on questions of race and representation, focusing sharply on how such issues

resonate within our attention economy. Breitz holds a critical mirror up to whiteness, inviting reflection on privileges that white people have taken for granted for far too long.

“Fotografiska has always held Breitz in high regard as an artist for the way she conveys strong and urgent messages to her audiences. As an institution wanting to bring relevant conversations and local artists to the fore, we found her work, Whiteface, to be an important instrument in today’s social discourse. Her work combines performance, image, and language to deliver the unpleasant truths that exist amongst us in a wise and witty way,” says Director of Exhibitions Marina Paulenka. *“At the core of our work, Fotografiska Berlin aims to challenge established narratives and give ground for new perspectives. We firmly believe that fostering an inclusive and mindful community is essential to accomplishing this objective. We are excited to present Whiteface by Candice Breitz as one of our inaugural exhibitions in Berlin, as it ignites the crucial discourse we consider paramount,”* adds Executive Director, Yousef Hammoudah.

Parallel to the central installation, *Whiteface*, Breitz will present seven single-channel videos from the series, *White Mantras*, as well as a series of photographic portraits of the characters that make up the cast of *Whiteface*. All works will be on view as of our grand opening on 14 September, closing on 4 December 2023.

On 14 September, Fotografiska Berlin will open its doors for the beginning of Berlin Art Week with three opening exhibitions, all of which examine aspects of visual culture in the contemporary social landscape. In addition to Juliana Huxtable’s exhibition, *USSYPHILIA*, and *Whiteface* by Candice Breitz, the third opening show will be announced in August. Fotografiska Berlin will present a series of rotating exhibitions throughout the year, showcasing both established and emerging artists.

About *Whiteface*

Whiteface weaves together a wide range of found video footage that documents “white people talking about race.” Breitz draws on a long-standing archive which includes voices of prominent political figures, news anchors and talk show hosts; as well as those of lesser-known or anonymous YouTubers. As such, the work reflects white perspectives that run the gamut from neo-Nazi ideology and far right propaganda to everyday racism and the posturing of “good white people.”

Wearing nothing but a white dress shirt and zombie contact lenses, Breitz rotates through a series of cheap blonde wigs as the work unfolds, among which her own platinum head of hair is featured. The artist’s unwigged appearance among the characters that populate the piece, serves to acknowledge her own embeddedness in whiteness.

While some of the disembodied voices that Breitz lip-syncs to in *Whiteface* may be recognizable, specific white folks are not the primary target of this stinging satire. Rather, it is the condition of whiteness that Breitz seeks to prod into visibility. [Read more here.](#)

For more information visit www.fotografiska.com/berlin

Whiteface was commissioned by the Museum Folkwang with support from the Kunsthalle Baden-Baden.

Save the Dates:

7 September 2023, for **press reception** of pre-opening Week, information and registration here: press.berlin@fotografiska.com

7 September – 13 September 2023, for **pre-opening week**.

Biography Candice Breitz

Candice Breitz (born in Johannesburg, 1972) is a Berlin-based artist. Her moving image installations have been shown internationally. Throughout Breitz's career, she has explored the dynamics by means of which an individual becomes him or herself in relation to a larger community, be that the immediate community that one encounters in family, or the real and imagined communities that are shaped not only by questions of national belonging, race, gender and religion, but also by the increasingly undeniable influence of mainstream media such as television, cinema and social media. Most recently, Breitz's work has focused on the conditions under which empathy is produced, reflecting on a media-saturated global culture in which strong identification with fictional characters and celebrity figures runs parallel to widespread indifference to the plight of those facing real world adversity. In 2022, she completed the *White Noise Trilogy*, a trio of multichannel video installations that includes *Love Story* (2016), *TLDR* (2017) and *Whiteface* (2022). [Read more here.](#)

About Fotografiska Berlin

Fotografiska, the Contemporary Museum of Photography, Art, and Culture, was founded in Stockholm with a strong commitment to showcasing thought-provoking and cutting-edge visual art. It champions talents from diverse backgrounds, both locally and internationally, fostering a dynamic and inclusive artistic community. Fotografiska Berlin offers a captivating program of carefully curated exhibitions, events, concerts, workshops, and talks, complemented by on-site amenities such as a bakery, bars, and a fine-dining restaurant across its six floors. The museum extends its opening hours every day to 11pm, allowing visitors to explore and engage with the museum's offerings at their own pace. The new location in Berlin's Mitte district spans an impressive 5,500 square meters on Oranienburger Straße. Fotografiska Berlin will be the fourth museum of the Fotografiska group, following Stockholm, Tallinn, and New York. Through its unwavering dedication to showcasing outstanding artistic talent and embracing its historical context, Fotografiska humbly contributes to the global art community while providing an enriching experience for all who visit.

Images and assets

We are providing assets in our [Press Room](#) for your convenience.

Password to access our Sharepoint resources: FGBerlinOpening

Find a short teaser video from *Whiteface* [here](#).

Please note: When using these images, they may not be cropped or combined with overlaying text. The respective captions are mandatory. Please include the © of the images as noted in the filename in all usage.

Press Relations

Alex Möller | Hans Krestel
press.berlin@fotografiska.com