

GALERIE GISELA CAPITAIN

ELFIE SEMOTAN

Light Without Resistance

21.07. - 04.09.2022

GALERIE GISELA CAPITAIN

Galerie Gisela Capitain is pleased to present Elfie Semotan's third solo exhibition at the gallery.

Within the past four decades Semotan has created a diverse body of photographic works, ranging from landscapes, nudes, fashion photographs, portraits as well as still lifes. With her photographs she has radically and very successfully shaped the Austrian fashion and advertising scene, critically examining modes of representation and display.

—
A photograph is more obviously about a specific moment and perspective taken. One cannot do much more than let the light and photographic technique have their say.

— Elfie Semotan —

In 2003, renowned Austrian photographer Elfie Semotan embarked on a three-week journey through the Libyan desert accompanied by Austrian writer and intellectual Christian Reder (the trip's organizer) and eight students from the University of Applied Arts in Vienna. Equipped with three analog cameras—a 35 mm, a panorama 24 x 65 mm, and a medium format 6 x 7 cm—and 150 rolls of film, Semotan created a rich body of work that captures the varied environments she encountered in the desert outside of the city of Tripoli. Ranging from photographs of places that were naturally formed as well as those built and cultivated by people, the resulting series exemplifies Semotan's distinct ability to harness the unique light and atmospheric effects of her surroundings and the spaces she photographs.

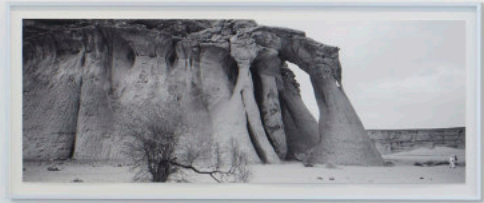
The exhibition, *Elfie Semotan: Light Without Resistance* at Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne, features 29 photographs from the artist's journey that capture the nearly imperceptible life running through the landscape.

— excerpt from the accompanying publication with an essay by Anna Stothart —

Elfie Semotan had institutional solo exhibitions at Kunst Haus Wien, Vienna, 2021, C/O Berlin, 2019, Leopold Museum, Vienna, 2018, FLATZ Museum, Dornbirn, 2017, Kunsthalle Krems, 2013, and Museum der Moderne, Salzburg, 2010, among others.

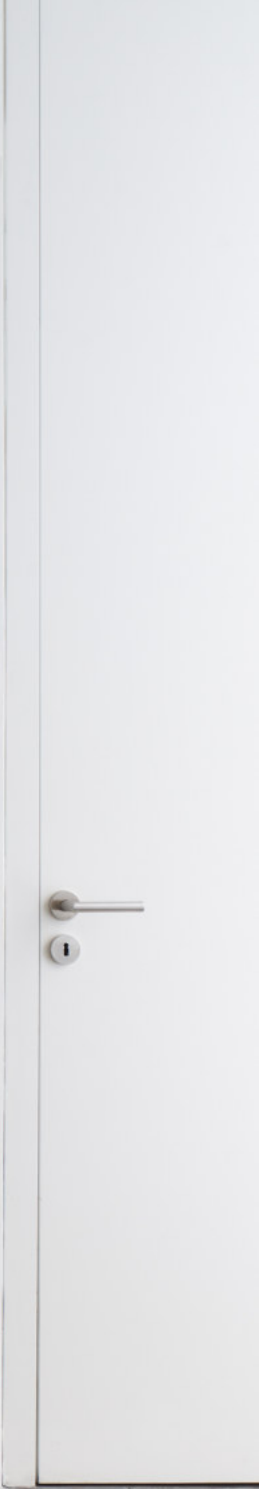












Untitled (Mountains and Rocks), Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag
Ultra Smooth paper
50 x 62 cm
Edition of 3



Untitled (Stilleben), Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

50 x 63 cm

Edition of 3

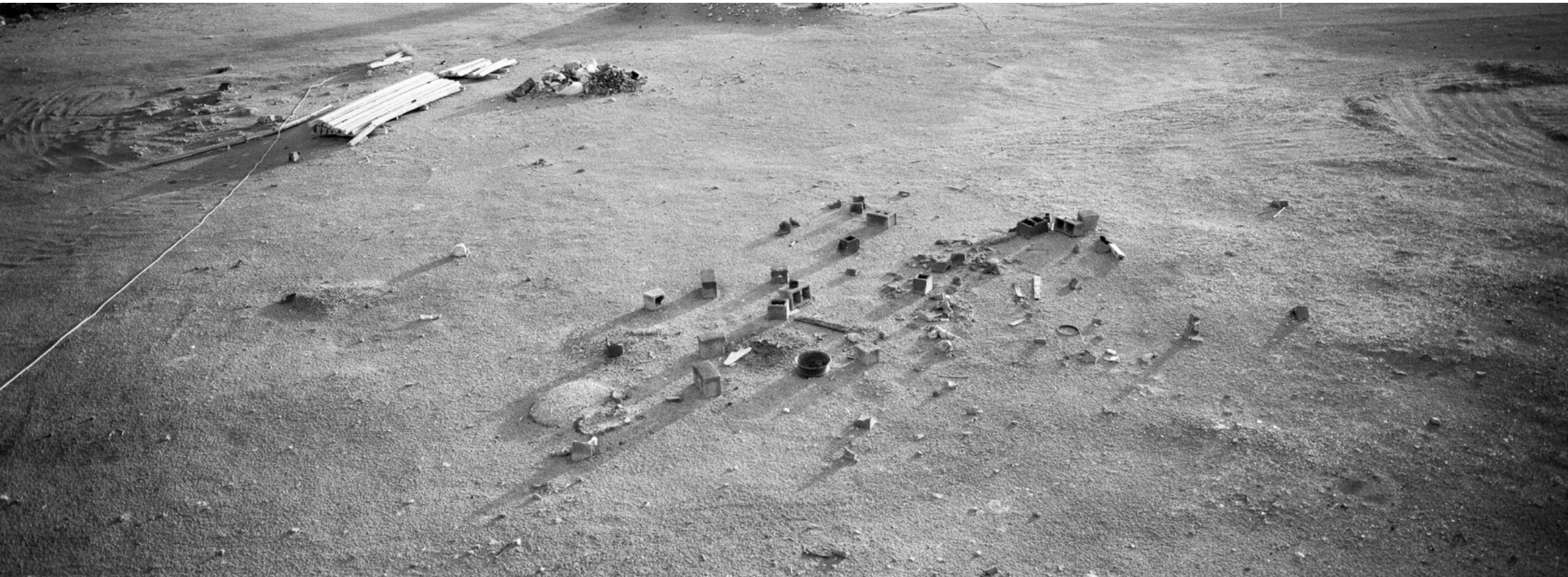


Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 76 cm
Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 76,4 cm
Edition of 3





Untitled (Stilleben), Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 109,2 cm

Edition of 3

Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 76 cm
Edition of 3



Untitled (Mountains and Sand), Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

50 x 62,5 cm

Edition of 3





Untitled (Wüste), Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 106,7 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 111,3 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya

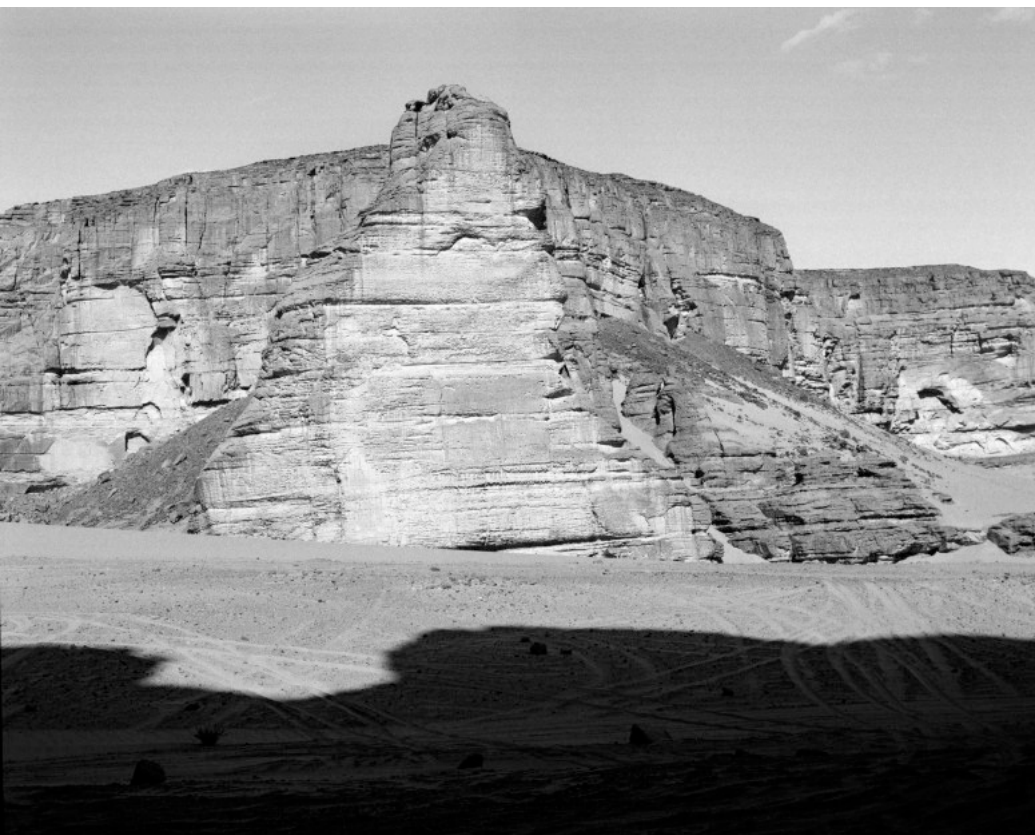
2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 109,5 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled (Mountains and Rocks), Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag
Ultra Smooth paper
50 x 62,5 cm
Edition of 3



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2003/2022
Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag
Ultra Smooth paper
50 x 62,5 cm
Edition of 3

Untitled (Mountains and Rocks), Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag
Ultra Smooth paper
50 x 63 cm
Edition of 3





Untitled, Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 109,2 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled (Mountains and Rocks), Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 108,2 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled (Mountains and Rocks), Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 108,5 cm

Edition of 3



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2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 108 cm

Edition of 3



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Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 108,5 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 110 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya

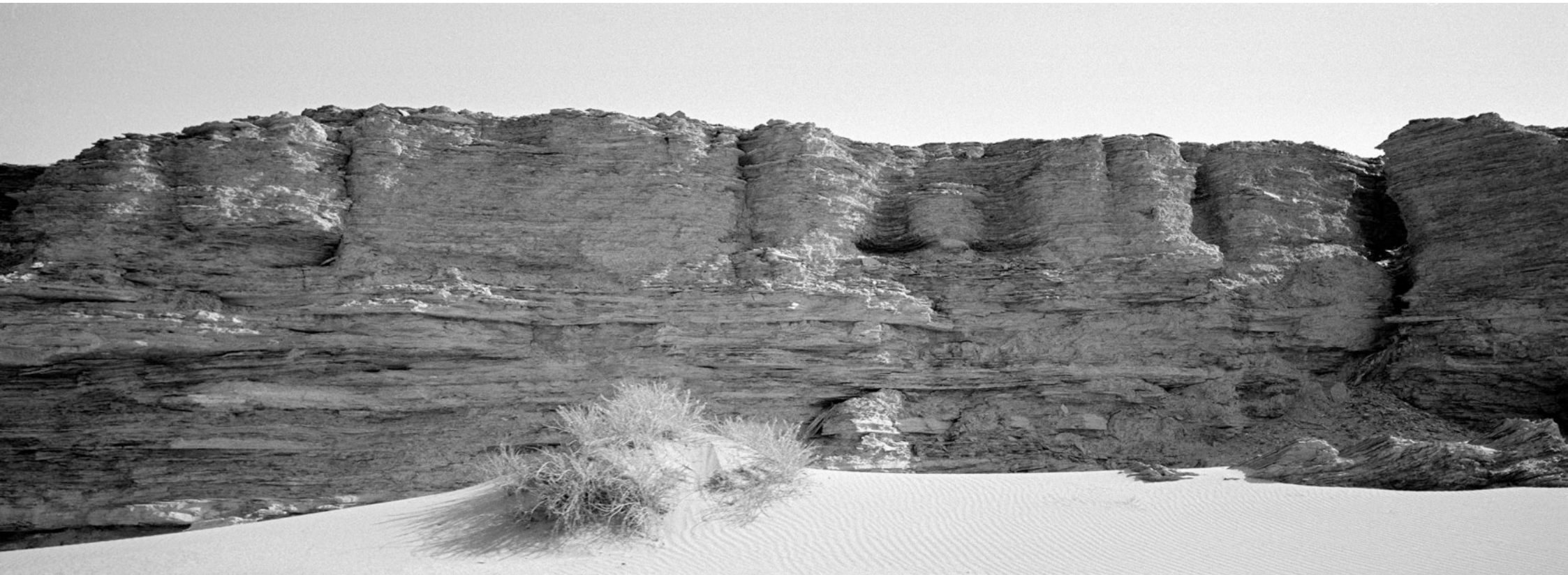
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Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 106,5 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 109,5 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled (Mountains and Rocks), Libya

2003/2022

Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag

Ultra Smooth paper

40 x 110,5 cm

Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 76,2 cm
Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 75,7 cm
Edition of 3

Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 76,4 cm
Edition of 3





Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 76 cm
Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
59,8 x 76 cm
Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 75,2 cm
Edition of 3



Untitled, Libya
2003/2022
Archival pigment print on washi paper
(AWAGAMI Kozo Thick White 110g)
60 x 76,4 cm
Edition of 3

ELFIE SEMOTAN

Born 1941 in Wels, Austria

Lives and works in New York, Vienna and Jennersdorf

Education

1960 School of Fashion Design, Vienna

Solo Exhibitions

2022

All Personal, Fotohof, Salzburg

Light Without Resistance, Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne

2021

(curated by Katrin Bucher-Trantow), Kunsthalle Burgenland

Elfie Semotan. Position and Pose, Kunst Haus Wien, Vienna

2020

Elfie Semotan - Photographer, Gabriele Senn Galerie, Vienna

2019

Bad Seeds /Painted Contacts, Congress Centrum Alpbach, Alpbach

Contradiction, C / O Berlin Foundation, Berlin

Standing, Waiting (2007/2019), Offenes Kulturhaus, Linz

2018

Eine Wiener Garderobe. Kreiert von Arthur Arbesser; fotografiert von Elfie Semotan, Leopold Museum, Vienna.

2017

Stillleben, FLATZ Museum, Dornbirn

Elfie Semotan & Michel Würthle, Gabriele Senn Galerie, Vienna

Ein verlorener Haufen kehrt zurück (with Michel Würthle), Galerie Crone, Vienna

2016

Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne

Galerie der Prager Fotoschule, Schloss Weinberg, Linz

Elfie Semotan und Daniel Spoerri, Kunst ab Hof, Hadersdorf

2015

Galerie Mezzanin, Vienna

2014

Flowers, Capitain Petzel, Berlin

Elfie Semotan und Erwin Wurm, Galerie 422, Gmunden

FO.K.U.S - Foto Kunst Stadtforum, Innsbruck

2013

Kunsthalle Krems, Krems

2012

Gabriele Senn Galerie, Vienna

Kunstgesichter (with Rudolf Sagmeister), Galerie der Stadt Wels, Wels

Zeitgenössische Kunst im Parlament. Fotografien von Elfie

Semotan, Austrian Parliament, Vienna

Ausstellungszentrum Heiligenkreuzer Hof / Universität für angewandte Kunst, Vienna

2011

Elfie Semotan - Kurt Kocherscheidt co Bruno Gironcoli,

Gironcoli Museum, St. Johann bei Herberstein

2010

Künstlerporträts, Museum der Moderne Rupertinum, Salzburg

Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne

2009

Gabriele Senn Galerie, Vienna

Photography for the BOOK PROJECT, Capitain Petzel, Berlin

Male Gestures, Galerie Für Modefotografie, Berlin

2007

OK-Centrum, Linz

Grauer Raum, Kunstraum Fuchs, Innsbruck

New York, Wien, Jennersdorf – Die Schöne Jennersdorferin,

Jennersdorf

Shower Geschichten, Galerie Momentum, Vienna

2005

Neue Galerie Graz, Graz

2006

Elfie Semotan / Erwischen. Candice Breitz / King, Galerie der

Stadt Wels, Wels

Gleichschwer; Kunstverein Kärnten Künstlerhaus Klagenfurt, Klagenfurt

2005

Universalmuseum Joanneum, Graz

2001

WestLicht, Vienna

1998

Galerie Gabriele Senn, Vienna

1988

Café Stein, Vienna

Group Exhibitions

2022

Goldmarie und Fürstenkorn. The Potatoe in Contemporary Art, Museum Brot und Kunst, Ulm
The Drawing Centre Show (curated by Franck Gautherot, Seungduk Kim, Tobias Pils & Joe Bradley), Le Consortium, Dijon

2021

Gmunden.photo (curated by Beda Achermann), Verein zur Förderung zeitgenössischer Fotografie und Medienkunst, Gmunden

2020

On everyone's lips. From Pieter Bruegel to Cindy Sherman, Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg
identities, Kunstverein Friedberg, Friedberg
room enough for former teasers (curated by Marcel Hiller, Christof Lötscher and Marco Zeppenfeld), Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne
SHOW OFF. Austrian Fashion Design, Museum für angewandte Kunst, Vienna
Bruno Gironcoli, Tobias Pils, Elfie Semotan, Galerie am Stein, Stift Reichersberg, Reichersberg am Inn

2019

Die Spitze des Eisbergs, Museum der Moderne, Mönchsberg, Salzburg
In love with printed matter, Hatje Cantz / Klosterfelde Edition, Berlin
Mode Momente. Fotografinnen im Fokus, Landesgalerie, Linz

2018

Sternenpassage, MuseumsQuartier, Vienna
Performance – Körper als Kontinuum in der Kunst, Gabriele Senn Galerie, Vienna
Photo/Politics/Austria, Museum Moderner Kunst, Vienna
Martin Kippenberger MOMAS Museum of Modern Art Syros, Fondazione Sant'Elia (in collaboration with Istituto Svizzero), Palermo
Join the Dots / Unire le Distanze, Salone degli Incanti dell'ex Pescheria, Trieste

2017

Fashion: Objects, Concepts & Visions, me Collectors Room
Stiftung Olbricht, Berlin
Ästhetik der Veränderung. 150 Jahre Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien, Museum für angewandte Kunst, Vienna

2016

ReFashioning Austria, Liu Haisu Art Museum, Shanghai

Aby Warburg. Mnemosyne Bilderatlas, ZKM | Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe
Take, Festival for Independent Fashion and Arts, Vienna
Parallel Vienna 2016, (curated by Elfie Semotan), Alte Post, Vienna
Ostlicht Selection, OstLicht Galerie für Fotografie, Vienna

2015

still. Das Stilleben in der zeitgenössischen Photographie, Museum ORTH, Orth an der Donau; Galerie im Lindenhof, Raabs an der Thaya; Haus der Kunst, Baden; Langenzersdorf Museum, Langenzersdorf; Schüttkasten, Laa an der Thaya; Festsaal der Marktgemeinde Böhheimkirchen, Böhheimkirchen; Galerie foto-forum, Bozen
Cäcilia Brown, Kerstin von Gabain Kathi Hofer, Marko Lulic, Barbara Mungenast, Elfie Semotan, Hans Weigand, Gabriele Senn Galerie, Vienna
Vienna For Art's Sake, Belvedere Winter Palace, Vienna
Le Souffleur: Schürmann trifft Ludwig, Ludwig Forum, Aachen

2014

Frisch eingetroffen. Neuankäufe Fotografie, Landesgalerie Linz
Skulpturenprojekt, Viertel Zwei, Vienna
Call Me On Sunday, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna

2013

Kunstgesichter, Galerie der Stadt Wels, Wels

2012

DLF 1874: Die Biografie der Bilder - Eine Inventur der Voraussetzungen, Halle 14, Leipziger Baumwollspinnerei, Leipzig
Generation 21 - Sechs Künstlerfamilien mit Neumarkter Wurzeln, Landesgalerie Burgenland, Eisenstadt
Reflecting Fashion. Kunst und Mode seit der Moderne, Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig, Vienna
Generation 21, Burgenländische Landesgalerie, Eisenstadt

2011

Zeitzeugen – Photographie in Österreich nach 1945, Künstlerhaus k/haus, Vienna
Rollenbilder – Rollenspiele, Museum der Moderne Mönchsberg, Salzburg
Als die Wälder auf Reisen gingen, Kunstverein Pforzheim im Reuchlinhaus, Pforzheim
Proposals for Venice, Landesgalerie Linz, Linz
Le Paris Bar à Paris, Suzanne Tarasieve, Paris
Kippenberger meets Picasso, Museo Picasso, Málaga
Absolut Wien. Ankäufe und Schenkungen seit 2000, Wien Museum, Vienna

2009

Aus der Sammlung: Einführung in die Kunstgeschichte 6, Landesgalerie Linz, Linz
SPOTLIGHT Neuzugänge seit 2006, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg

2008

Kunst im Heim, Capitain Petzel, Berlin
Augenecho Kurt Kocherscheidt - Malerei / Elfie Semotan - Fotografie, Arp Museum, Rolandseck
Die Schatzinsel, Galerie der Stadt Wels, Wels

2007

City of Women, Fotohof, Salzburg

2006

pose and sculpture, Casey Kaplan Gallery, New York

2005

Les Grands Spectacles, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg

2004

Ins neue Jahr Weiblich, Galerie 422, Gmunden
Transferprojekt SAHARA, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna
Das Bild der Frau: Gegenpositionen. Künstlerinnen in Österreich 1960-2000, Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Wörlen, Passau

2002

Austrian Cultural Institute, New York
Kunsthalle, Krems
Libyen, Kunstraum Karlsplatz, Vienna

2001

Schuermann Collection, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, Washington D.C.
Sturm der Ruhe. What is Architecture?, Architekturzentrum Wien, Vienna

1998

Schloss Goldegg, Austria
Lifestyle, Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz
Peter Kogler, Elfie Semotan, Manfred Wolff-Plottegg, Atelier Soardi, Nice

1997

Nolan & Eckmann Gallery, New York