



Press release

Essen, 16 November 2021

From 1 December, the Red Dot Design Museum will show the photo exhibition "FORTY FACES – 40 Jahre People-Fotografie von Ralf Schultheiß"

From 1 December 2021 to 6 March 2022, the Red Dot Design Museum in Essen will present a photo exhibition with forty works by German photographer Ralf Schultheiß on the occasion of his 40th anniversary as a photographer. Over the coming three months, visitors will encounter large-scale 'people photographs' at different locations in the museum, against a backdrop that marries the old with the new as well as industrial architecture with contemporary design. The photos date from a period of four decades. In individual portraits and group pictures, they show 'normal' people and celebrities alike, including portraits of actor and Fassbinder muse Hanna Schygulla and of musical artists Trude Herr and Gianna Nannini from the 1980s, photographs of fashion designers Wolfgang Joop and Giorgio Armani as well as of Donald Trump from the 1990s before he became the US President.

"Ralf Schultheiß has the ability to capture the unique essence of the people he photographs," explains Professor Dr. Peter Zec, founder and CEO of Red Dot. "So we are delighted to be able to show a retrospective of his work in the Red Dot Design Museum".

Photographer Ralf Schultheiß

Born in Essen in 1952, Ralf Schultheiß started out as one of the first students to study visual communication under Professor Willy Fleckhaus at the Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen. A communication designer, Fleckhaus not only trained Schultheiß' eye but also informed the visual aesthetic in West Germany for a long time. After completing his studies, Schultheiß began his career as a photographer at Frankfurter Allgemeine Magazin before going

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freelance in 1981. Over the past forty years, Schultheiß has photographed people all over the world – commissioned by such well-known clients as Getty Images and "Stern" magazine. The exhibition "Forty Faces" has been curated by Schultheiß himself and provides an insight into his life's work.

Public tour with photographer Ralf Schultheiß

12 December 2021 | 2–3 p.m.

Photographer Ralf Schultheiß will guide interested visitors through his exhibition "FORTY FACES" personally and tell the stories behind the large-scale photographs. As spaces are limited, you must reserve your place in advance by phone (Tel.: +49 201 30104–60).

Press invitation to the exhibition opening on 30 November 2021

Dear colleagues,

We cordially invite you to the opening of the exhibition. The vernissage will take place on Tuesday, 30 November 2021 at 7 p.m. in the Red Dot Design Museum.

Press tour: At 6 p.m., Ralf Schultheiß will guide a press tour through the exhibition and there will also be a chance to ask questions.

Speakers at the vernissage itself will include Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Ursula Gather, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach Foundation, Thomas Kufen, Lord Mayor of the City of Essen, and Prof. Dr. Peter Zec, founder and CEO of Red Dot.

Because guest numbers are severely curtailed due to the pandemic, please register by no later than 23 November 2021 by e-mailing museum@astridruta.de. All attendees must provide proof either of vaccination or of recovery from coronavirus.

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reddot design museum

“FORTY FACES – 40 Jahre People-Fotografie von Ralf Schultheiß”

from 1 December 2021 to 6 March 2022

Red Dot Design Museum Essen

Gelsenkirchener Straße 181

45309 Essen

Germany

Opening times and entrance fees

Tuesdays – Sundays & public holidays: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mondays: closed (except on public holidays and during school holidays in North Rhine-Westphalia)

Entrance fee for special exhibitions: EUR 9 (reduced rate: EUR 4)

Children under the age of 12: free

Fridays: pay what you want

Note on the pandemic: All visitors to the museum must provide proof either of vaccination or of recovery from coronavirus (This is known as the '2G rule' in Germany). Schoolgoers below the age of 16 are excepted from this rule provided that they have a valid school ID.

For more information and up-to-date notices, see www.red-dot-design-museum.de

About the Red Dot Design Museum Essen

Making good design tangible and exhibiting the quality of daily objects – that is the task of the Red Dot Design Museum, the roots of which date back as far as 1955. With roughly 2,000 exhibits from around 50 countries, it presents the entire range of current product design. The museum is situated in the former boiler house of the UNESCO world heritage site Zeche Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex and extends across five floors and more than 4,000 square metres. It presents well-designed objects that have been selected as winners by renowned experts in one of the largest international design competitions, namely the Red Dot Design Award. In the world's largest exhibition of contemporary design, visitors are encouraged to touch and try out many of the exhibits. Special thematic exhibitions complement the inspiring insight into the fascinating world of design.

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