



GALERÍA ESPACIO MÍNIMO

# ERWIN OLAF

## ***B&W. Early Works.***

From November 15th, 2014 to January 17th, 2015

Opening: **Saturday, November 15th**, from 12 pm onwards

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Fifteen years have passed since our first solo exhibition of **ERWIN OLAF** in the **Espacio Mínimo** Gallery. At the time, the show hung at our former location. Since then, we have organized four more Olaf exhibitions in the Madrid location. In those fifteen years, Olaf has played an important role in three of our group exhibitions - *Art & Fashion No.1*, and the commemorations of our fifteenth and twentieth anniversaries in the gallery. We are always excited to show his work, and we continue to show his latest photographs in our booth in national and international art fairs after a decade and a half.

In that first show in November 1999 and since, we have highlighted the important role color has played in the different series, the most recent of which being *Mature*, evolving from a bold, daring palette that shines out from within the photograph – as seen in *Royal Blood* –, almost offensive – as in *Paradise, Rouge* – to a more intimate, subdued palette, limited to a confined spectrum of shades – *Grief, Hotel, Keyhole, Berlin* –, and even flirting with an ostensible monochromatic color scheme – *Dusk, Dawn*.

But before that first encounter with our gallery, **ERWIN OLAF** had realized an earlier project, a series executed in a purer black and white format, one which seems to lack sufficient attention to it, perhaps eclipsed by the brilliance of his subsequent works, but one that was already established and personal, in which some of the most definitive characteristics of his work begin to appear, and from which one can discern the inspirations of many subsequent series by the artist.

These are the early works in black and white, photographs never hung before in our past shows of the artist, that we have chosen to bring back so that we may, with the perspective of the past that time provides us, and taking into account the work that followed, we can judge the series within a new, more accurate standard.

**ERWIN OLAF** (Hilversum, The Netherlands, 1959), lives and works in Amsterdam. He has had solo exhibitions, among others, *Fodor Museum* in Amsterdam (1990), *Stedelijk Museum*, Amsterdam (1992), *Frankfurter Kunst Verein* Frankfurt (1993), *Kunsthall* in Rotterdam (1993) *Fotofestival Naarden* (1995), *Ludwig Museum* in Cologne (1998), *Museum of Modern Art* in Hasselt (2001), *D'Arte Provincia di Nuoro Museum* (2002), *Museum Sztuki Lodz* (2003), *Groninger Museum*, Groninger (2003), *Galleria d'Arte Moderna* in Bologna (2005), *Museum of Modern Art*, Moscow (2005), *Australian Centre of Photography* in Sidney (2005), *The Hague Museum of Photography*, The Hague (2008), *South Eastern Centre for Contemporary Art* in Winston-Salem (2008), *Photo Museum Antwerp* in Antwerp (2009) ... and some important group shows.

His work is represented in some of the most prominent museums and public and private collections worldwide.

For further information or to request images, please contact the Gallery  
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