

GALERIE SPRINGER BERLIN

PRESS RELEASE

ARNOLD ODERMATT

CLOCKING OFF

Preview: Friday, 11/03/2017, 3 pm - 8 pm
Exhibition: 14/03 - 06/05/2017
Film screening: 07/04/2017, 7 pm
Lopper, a film by Arnold and Urs Odermatt

Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday 12 pm to 6 pm
Saturday 12 pm to 3 pm
Individual visits by appointment



Arnold Odermatt, Stansstad, 1964, 45 x 45 cm , Gelatin silver print
© Urs Odermatt / Windisch

Berlin, 24/02/2017 In the forthcoming exhibitions, Galerie Springer Berlin presents selected works by Arnold Odermatt from "Feierabend" (After Work), which has been published by **Steidl Verlag** in October 2016. The book includes photographic series of objects and people from within the photographer's environment, such as funiculars, cattle trade, village events and portraits. Odermatt also documented the then ground-breaking construction of the Swiss **Lopper** motorway.

This is the first outing of these masterful images, running in parallel to the large, ongoing exhibition of Odermatt's works in Zurich, curated by Daniel Blockwitz. On the occasion of the Zurich exhibition, **Hartmann Books** released an extensively biographical publication

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which fills the gap in German-language literature on Arnold Odermatt: **"A good image must be sharp!"** A book launch with the team from Hartmann books is planned for the gallery weekend (date to follow).

On 07/04/2017 at 7 pm, Galerie Springer Berlin will be screening *Lopper*, the documentary film by Arnold and Urs Odermatt. In the early 1960s, Arnold Odermatt documented the construction of "Lopper", the first Swiss motorway. It produced 300 metres of black and white film on 16mm. The director Urs Odermatt, son of Arnold Odermatt, restored, digitalised and produced the historical film material.

About Arnold Odermatt

The artist was born in 1925 in Oberdorf in the Swiss canton Nidwalden. He attended primary and secondary school in Stans and trained as a baker and confectioner. In 1948, Odermatt joined the police service and retired in 1990, having held the posts of lieutenant, chief of traffic police and vice commander of the Nidwalden Police. From the very beginning of his time in service, he asked to be able to take photos of the numerous collisions which he witnessed in his line of work. But it is not merely these accidents which are the focus of the passionate photographs which made his name. He also utilised his family, colleagues, fellow villagers and the mountain landscape as motifs for his work. At the beginning of the 1990s, his son, the director Urs Odermatt, discovered decades of archived traffic accidents while researching for his film "Wachtmeister Zumbühl". Impressed by the quality of the works, he was promoted to publisher of all of Arnold Odermatt's hitherto published books. The books "Karambolage", "On Duty", and "Off Duty" were published by Steidl Press, following by "Feierabend" (After Work) in Autumn 2016. In 2001, Harald Szeemann presented a selection of 32 works by Odermatt at the Venice Biennale. Thereafter followed numerous international solo and group exhibitions, including the solo exhibitions at The Art Institute of Chicago (2001), Centro Cultural Okendo in San Sebastian (2005) and La Chambre, Strasbourg (2012). Photobastei Zurich will be presenting the exhibition of works until 12 March 2017. The works of Arnold Odermatt can be found in many international collections and museums. The artist lives and works in Stans.

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