

Press release

Hommage à Berlin

Hein Gorny
Adolph C. Byers
Friedrich Seidenstücker
Photographs 1945 – 1946

May 7th – October 9th 2011

The exhibition is curated by
Antonio Panetta,
Artistic director of
the *Collection Regard*

Collection Regard

Marc Barbey
Steinstraße 12
10119 Berlin
Opening Hours:
Fridays, 2 – 6 pm and
by appointment
www.collectionregard.com



Hein Gorny, Adolph C. Byers, Brandenburg Gate, 1945 – 1946
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Press preview: Friday, May 6th, 2011; 9.30 – 11.00 am

Exhibition opening: Friday, May 6th, 2011; 5.00 – 9.00 pm

The Berlin collection *Collection Regard* quietly unleashes the work of Hein Gorny (1904 – 1967) and Adolph C. Byers (1913 - 1974) in a long overdue tribute to the photographers' groundbreaking pictorial excursion through the rubble of post WW II Berlin. *Hommage à Berlin* entitles both the exhibit and the publication made available to the public this May - 65 years after the inception of "In Memoriam"; the never realized book project on Gorny's and Byers' work.

In 1945, the German photographer Hein Gorny collaborated with the American Adolph C. Byers on an adventurous and, for the period, nearly unimaginable photographic excursion that resulted in unique aerial photographs documenting the city of Berlin and its destruction in the aftermath of the war.

With an imagistic sensibility rooted in the New Objectivity – in which Gorny had already distinguished himself through much-publicized animal and advertising photographs – as well as dramatic contrasts of light and dark, the ruins of formerly imposing structures are impressively sketched. The traditional repertoire of Berlin pictures such as the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag, the Gendarmenmarkt and the Alexanderplatz are brought into focus. Gorny, however, also sought out less well-known structures – such as the Kaiserhof, the Ahmadiyya Mosque in Berlin-Wilmersdorf and the Gasometer near Victoria Luise Platz.

The aerial photographs are augmented with photographs taken by Gorny and Byers on the ground. With further photographs from animal photographer Friedrich Seidenstücker – considered one of the pioneers of the unpretentious *Street Photography*, Gorny and Byers created a distinctive, powerful and sensitive collection of post war testimonials.

All 80 silver gelatin photographs are part of Marc Barbey's *Collection Regard*. Marc Barbey, a Frenchman, has been augmenting his collection since 2005 and it now ranges from the earliest beginnings of photography to the 1970's. *Collection Regard* is entrusted with the administration of Hein Gorny's estate and besides Gorny's extensive Œuvre, Barbey's collection also includes work by Lotte Jacobi, Heinrich Riebesehl, Siegfried Lauterwasser and Robert Capa (among others).

Marc Barbey continues to refine and expand his photographic repertoire with the help of artistic director Antonia Panetta, placing an emphasis on "Berlin" and German photography in general. The collection is located in the center of Berlin and aims to present various themed exhibits as well as serve as a hub for international dialogue and provide the opportunity for an in-depth analysis of photography.

On the occasion of the exhibition, the trilingual (German, English and French) publication *Hommage à Berlin – Photographien 1945/1946 – Hein Gorny, Adolph C. Byers and Friedrich Seidenstücker* will be published; a book by the Collection Regard from Marc Barbey with a text by Enno Kaufhold; hardcover (160 pages); Editor: Collection Regard, Marc Barbey; Price: 49,90 EUR; ISBN: 978-3-00-033886-1



Hein Gorny, Adolph C. Byers, Großer Stern, Berlin, 1945-1946
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Hein Gorny, Waisenbrücke, Berlin, 1945-1946
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