



LIMITED EDITION

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EAST END OF EUROPE by Patrick Bienert

Text: Florian Illies

How heavy is Europe? How heavy is the burden of History? How difficult will the future be? These are the questions posed by Patrick Bienert's photographs. He is an inconspicuous man and observer, who almost disappears behind his camera, so that the energy of the model and the surroundings flow not towards him, but towards his camera lens. Bienert has always travelled around Georgia, a remote country on the fringes of Europe, in search of its identity. A country that, for all its rich and unique History, still seems somewhat lost in

the present. The formidable faces Patrick Bienert found there are full of pride and archaic beauty, yet every cheek appears as if brushed by a breeze of futility. As Hartmut Böhme once wrote, "Time works as forgetting against remembering", and we can see how Bienert is looking to overcome Böhme's philosophy, capturing the preciousness of the moment — so that it doesn't get lost.

— Florian Illies



Patrick Bienert

Patrick Bienert is a German photographer exploring ideas around concepts of cultures and identity grounded on the heritage of street and documentary photography. Between his personal projects he works on commissions in the field of fashion and portraiture. In the end of 2017 he self-published the book *Wake up nights* about the young nightlife culture from Kiev, Ukraine. His photographic projects have been exhibited at Webber Gallery, London, Calvert Foundation, London, Amphitheatre, Tunis, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, Fotografie Salon, Berlin and the Store Studios, London. Editorial commissions have been published in *Arena Homme+*, *Another Magazine*, *Dazed&Confused*, *Pop*, *Re-Edition*, *Purple*, *Vogue Italia* and *The New York Times Magazine*.

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PRE-SALE FROM THE 7TH OF NOVEMBER 2019

East End of Europe

Patrick Bienert

Wie schwer ist Europa? Wie schwer ist die Last der Geschichte? Und wie schwer die der Zukunft? Von diesen Fragen erzählen die Fotografien Patrick Bienerts. Er ist ein diskreter Mensch und ein diskreter Beobachter, er verschwindet fast hinter seiner Kamera, damit nicht er, sondern deren Linse der Ort ist, an dem sich die Energie des Gegenübers und dessen Umgebung bündelt. Bienert ist immer wieder nach Georgien gereist, an den Rand Europas, ein fernes Land, das sich selbst sucht, obwohl es so eine reiche, einzigartige Geschichte hat und dennoch in der Gegenwart ein wenig verloren wirkt. Es sind ungeheure Gesichter, die Patrick Bienert hier gefunden hat, voll Stolz, voll archaischer Schönheit und doch zieht über jede Wange der Windhauch der Vergänglichkeit. *„Die Zeit arbeitet als Vergessen immer gegen das Erinnern“*, so hat Hartmut Böhmne geschrieben, und man sieht, wie Bienert mit diesem Projekt genau dem entgegenarbeiten will: die Kostbarkeit des Moments einfangen – damit er nicht wegläuft.

How heavy is Europe? How heavy is the burden of History? How difficult will the future be? These are the questions posed by Patrick Bienert's photographs. He is an inconspicuous man and observer, who almost disappears behind his camera, so that the energy of the model and the surroundings flow not towards him, but towards his camera lens. Bienert has always travelled around Georgia, a remote country on the fringes of Europe, in search of its identity. A country that, for all its rich and unique History, still seems somewhat lost in the present. The formidable faces Patrick Bienert found there are full of pride and archaic beauty, yet every cheek appears as if brushed by a breeze of futility. As Hartmut Böhmne once wrote, *“Time works as forgetting against remembering”*, and we can see how Bienert is looking to overcome Böhmne's philosophy, capturing the preciousness of the moment – so that it doesn't get lost.

— HOW HEAVY IS THE BURDEN OF HISTORY?

— AND HOW DIFFICULT IS THE BURDEN OF THE FUTURE?

THE WEIGHT OF THINGS



















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Ofr.

PARIS EXHIBITION

Opening / Book presentation

Tuesday 7th of January 2020 5pm-8pm

Closing / Book signing

Tuesday 14th of January 2020 5pm-8pm

Ofr. 20 rue Dupetit-Thouars 75003 Paris



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