

# Sebastian Wells

## Typ/Traube/Tross



© Sebastian Wells, from the series „Typ/Traube/Tross“, 2021

### Exhibition

15.3. – 19.5.2024

### Opening

Thursday, March 14, 2024

7 pm

Introduction by

Dr. An Paenhuysen

Cultural historian

### Artist Talk

with Sebastian Wells and

Dariia Kuzmych, artist

Saturday, April 6

4 pm

### Address

**Haus am Kleistpark**

Projektraum

Grunewaldstraße 6–7

10823 Berlin

Phone 90277-6964

[www.hausamkleistpark.de](http://www.hausamkleistpark.de)

Free admission

No barrier-free access

Tue-Sun 11 am-6 pm

In the exhibition “Typ/Traube/Tross” (“Type/Cluster/Baggage”), Ostkreuz photographer Sebastian Wells examines the identity construct of nationalist movements, using Flanders as an example. His photographs explore the question how social practices, uniforms, and visual symbolism forge a conception of community based on nationalisms and a collectively imagined notion of history.

Uniform on, uniform off: Two rows of portraits of members of an ultranationalist student fraternity in Flanders face each other on opposing walls. With their stringent aesthetics, they point to the influence of clothing and the hierarchies it communicates. Furthermore, we see impressions from Sebastian Wells’s travels through Flanders. An overgrown fragment of a wall, trenches, a pile of newspapers, protesters against covid-19-related policies wrapped in a nationalist variant of the Flemish flag: The images weave a complex web of signs past and present. Sebastian Wells also examines the literal writing of history. In his artistic engagement with a historical publication aimed at capturing the characteristic “Germanic face of the people,” he uncovers racist discourses and reflects on the power of text and image.

At the heart of Europe, extremist right-wing views abound. With his works, Sebastian Wells demonstrates how notions of identity and history are visually staged and communicated. The artist sees his role as that of an archaeologist searching for traces of the past in the present.

Sebastian Wells (b. 1996 in Königs Wusterhausen, Germany) studied photography at Ostkreuzschule in Berlin, the University of Applied Sciences and Arts in Bielefeld, and the KASK (Royal Academy of Fine Arts) in Gent. He has been a member of the photography agency Ostkreuz since 2019. Sebastian Wells also co-founded the Ukrainian-German art magazine “солони́я”, the third issue of which will be published in spring 2024. He lives and works in Berlin.

### Press contact

Gallery director

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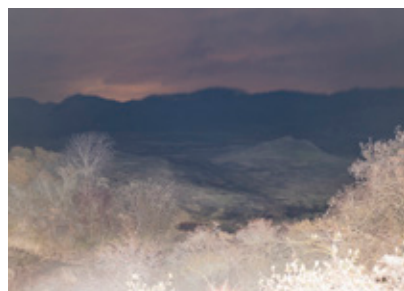
### Press photos

Printable image material at:

[hausamkleistpark@](mailto:hausamkleistpark@ba-ts.berlin.de)

[ba-ts.berlin.de](mailto:ba-ts.berlin.de)

An exhibition of the Department of Art, Culture, Museums Tempelhof-Schöneberg. The project is funded by the Bezirkskulturfonds.



All photos: © Sebastian Wells, from the series „Typ/Traube/Tross“, 2021-2023