

Loredana Nemes

Haut und Holz

The exhibition “Haut und Holz” (in English: Skin and Wood) at Haus am Kleistpark presents four series by photographer Loredana Nemes. These series, created over the past six years, explore themes of nature, love, and feelings of rootedness.

In “Sicilia” (2024–25), on view in Germany for the first time, she pays tribute to the connection—and diversity—between humankind and nature by portraying Sicilians and their favorite trees during her many travels across the European island. In doing so, she enters a conversation with the lively presence of the landscape while also hearing islanders’ stories of nature, love, flight, and a deep sense of connection with the earth of Sicily. In “Sicilia,” the artist absolves herself from clichés and presents a new, unique understanding of the island—blending black-and-white and color for the first time.

In the series “Immergrün” (in English: Evergreen; 2020), she explores how photography might visualize decades of love. How can one find an expression for the spiritual and physical kinship of lovers? Loredana Nemes found the answer in analog double exposures in which she enables photographic celluloid and chance to weave together the lifelong couples’ bodies on a negative. She combines these photographs with poetic texts that relate her encounters with the 14 couples in a condensed form.

The series “Graubaum und Himmelmeer” (a poetic title calling to mind trees in gray and a sea of sky; 2019–23) and “White” (2024) are an ode to trees and their beauty throughout the seasons. Both these series also refer to the region of Transylvania, where Loredana Nemes was born and which she had to leave in 1986 for political reasons. What also stayed behind: the beech trees and the Carpathian Mountains that supported her. In 2019, she encountered the national park Jasmund and its beech trees on the island of Rügen for the first time—trees long familiar to her from her childhood. She returned there fourteen times to transform “her” beech trees into soft shades of gray, tracing the footsteps of Caspar David Friedrich on the high cliff path. She juxtaposed these images with the vast sea. “White” brought Nemes to the other end of Germany, where during a period of repose in the Alps she met with the magical charm of these snow-covered, misty conifers. She writes, “There are days when the sky and the earth disappear, and that which remains is beautiful. There are days when one can carve fir trees out of the clouds and look at them for hours on end. In such moments, the ‘now’ gleams in great solitude.”

In “Haut und Holz” (in English: Skin and Wood), Loredana Nemes presents trees and faces, human features and plant forms that are portrayed with formal clarity and poetic restraint. The works are neither documents nor idealizations of nature; rather, they listen to it. The artist’s gaze meets that of the trees and people, who all become partners of conversation in an unspoken dialogue.

Loredana Nemes (born in 1972 in Sibiu/Hermannstadt, Romania) first studied German literature and mathematics at the renowned RWTH University in Aachen before turning to photography in 2001. Since then, she has lived and worked as an artist in Berlin. Her works have been on display in numerous national and international exhibitions, most recently at the Stadthaus Ulm and Berlinische Galerie. Her works are also represented in a number of collections worldwide, including the Folkwang Museum in Essen and the Spallart Collection in Salzburg. Nemes has published numerous monographs, e.g. “Graubaum und Himmelmeer” (2023), “Immergrün” (2021), “Gier Angst Liebe” (2018), “beautiful” (2013), and “beyond” (2010).

Exhibition

17 October – 14 December
2025

Opening day

Thursday, 16 October
7 pm
Introduction by
Dr. Hans von Trotha,
author and garden historian

Artist Talk

Wednesday, 19 November
7 pm
Loredana Nemes
in conversation with
Ulrich Domröse,
photo historian

Artist Tour at the Finissage

Sunday, 14 December
3 pm
with Loredana Nemes

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Free admission

No barrier-free access

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An exhibition of the Department of Art, Culture, Museums
Tempelhof-Schöneberg.
The project is funded by the KoGa-Fonds.
With the kind support of Sylva-Foundation, Tricase, Lecce, IT.



Tecla & Gioele, Donnalucata + Pini, Madonie, 2024,
aus der Serie *Sicilia* © Loredana Nemes



Pino, Palermo + Domenico, Palermo, 2024, aus der
Serie *Sicilia* © Loredana Nemes



Elena, Scopello, 2025, aus der
Serie *Sicilia* © Loredana Nemes



Graubaum 7, 2019, aus der Serie
Graubaum und Himmelmeer,
2019-2023 © Loredana Nemes



Graubaum 19, 2019, aus der Serie
Graubaum und Himmelmeer,
2019-2023 © Loredana Nemes



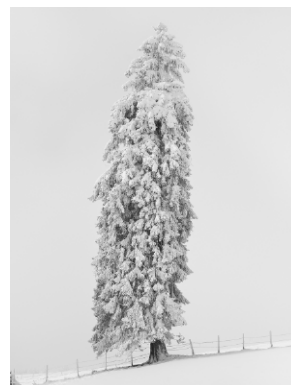
Himmelmeer 28, 2021, aus der
Serie *Graubaum und Himmel-*
meer, 2019-2023 © Loredana
Nemes



White 04, 2024, aus der Serie
White © Loredana Nemes



White 03, 2024, aus der Serie
White © Loredana Nemes



White 01, 2024, aus der Serie
White © Loredana Nemes



Barbara und Günter, 2020, aus der Serie
Immergrün © Loredana Nemes



Astrid und Wolfgang, 2020, aus der Serie
Immergrün © Loredana Nemes



Astrids Hände, 2020, aus der
Serie *Immergrün* © Loredana
Nemes