

# GRACIELA ITURBIDE

Exhibition period: **March 8th – June 30th, 2019**

Opening: **Thursday, March 7th, 7 pm**

Press tour: **Thursday, March 7th, 12 noon**

Frankfurt am Main, 07.03.2019 – With her black and white images **GRACIELA ITURBIDE** brings us the shadows of human existence. Traditions and their fragility, belief and religion, community and death are common themes for the artist. Within a five-decade career she has built an oeuvre that is fundamental for understanding the development of photography in Mexico and the rest of Latin America. The Fotografie Forum Frankfurt (FFF) honours this icon of Latin American photography, who was born in 1942 in Mexico City, with her first retrospective in Germany. The exhibition has been organised by Fundación MAPFRE in Madrid, and in cooperation with the FFF highlights seminal works from all creative phases of this exceptional photographer.

On view are early works such as her first major photographic project *Juchitán de las Mujeres* (*The Women's Juchitán*), which was produced between 1979 and 1988. This documentation of the matriarchal community on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Oaxaca, made Iturbide renowned – and her characteristic picture language visible. The artist often creates images that seem to shift between the documentary and the lyrical, mirroring the diversity of life itself.

To illustrate cultural tensions between two civilizations, for example the question how indigenous culture can continue to survive within western culture, Iturbide focused on the Seri Indians of the Sonoran Desert. Furthermore the FFF showcases portraits of the *White Fence* gang members, from the 1980s in Los Angeles, intimate images made in the house of Frida Kahlo, as well as photographs of mythical gardens, landscapes and birds, which Iturbide created in her homeland and on her visual itinerary in countries such as India, Italy, Korea or Madagascar.

Graciela Iturbide grew up in a traditional Catholic family. She first studied film at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (Independent National University of Mexico) and then, inspired by her mentor Manuel Álvarez Bravo discovered photography as her true vehicle for creative expression. It also helped her to cope with a personal tragedy, the death of her six-year-old daughter. Iturbide's photographs have been exhibited all over the world and she has received multiple recognitions for her work, amongst others with the *W. Eugene Smith Fund Grant* (1987), the *International Grand Prize of the Museum of Photography* in Hokkaido, Japan (1990) and the prestigious *Hasselblad Award* (2008). Graciela Iturbide lives and works in Coyoacán, the artists' quarter of Mexico City.

Project Partners:



## FOTOGRAFIE FORUM FRANKFURT

The Fotografie Forum Frankfurt (FFF) is one of the leading centres of photography in Europe. As an exhibition space, institution and event forum the FFF deals with all aspects of photography. Since its founding in 1984 it has presented more than 250 exhibitions with historic and contemporary artists. Additionally, the program of the FFF comprises of regular workshops, talks and discussions with internationally renowned photographers, artists and experts. Further information available at [www.fff Frankfurt.org](http://www.fff Frankfurt.org)

Fotografie Forum Frankfurt is supported by Förderkreis Fotografie Forum Frankfurt e.V., Stadt Frankfurt am Main and Olympus Deutschland GmbH.



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## **EXHIBITION FACTS**

The exhibition **GRACIELA ITURBIDE** is organized by Fundación MAPFRE in cooperation with the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt.

## **CURATOR'S TOUR**

with Celina Lunsford, Fotografie Forum Frankfurt  
Sunday, 17.03., 07.04., 05.05. and 28.05., each 3 pm

## **EXHIBITION PUBLICATION**

**GRACIELA ITURBIDE.** Texts by Marta Dahó, Juan Villoro and Carlos Martín García. 2018, Fundación MAPFRE, Madrid; English, 292 p., ISBN-10: 8417047700

The publication **GRACIELA ITURBIDE** is also available in the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt (Prize: 55 Euro)

Other events see [www.fffrankfurt.org](http://www.fffrankfurt.org)

**OPENING HOURS** Tue–Sun 11 am–6 pm, Wed 11 am–8 pm, closed on Mon

**ADMISSION** general 7 Euro, reduced 4 Euro

## **GUIDED TOURS**

every Wednesday, 6 pm, included in admission fee

## **GUIDED GROUP TOURS**

Information and registration with E-Mail to [contact@fffrankfurt.org](mailto:contact@fffrankfurt.org)