

## MICHEL CAMPEAU THE DONKEY THAT BECAME A ZEBRA: DARKROOM STORIES

Exhibition duration: **July 13 – September 22, 2019**

Opening: **Friday, July 12, 2019, 7 pm**

Press tour: **Friday, July 12, 2019, 11 am**

Frankfurt am Main, 12.07.2019 – Obsessed with photography – that is Michel Campeau in the very best sense. The Canadian photographer explored the medium of photography throughout his artistic career. With passion and always new questions: How and why do we photograph? What do photographs reveal about everyday traditions, family and identity? How has photography influenced the way we look at ourselves? What remains analogue in our digital age? Under the title **THE DONKEY THAT BECAME A ZEBRA: DARKROOM STORIES** the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt presents different bodies of work that demonstrate Campeau's cravings for a multi-faceted play with photography.

The focus is on Campeau's often tongue-in-cheek principle: he constructs his biography with his own images as well as others'. On view are prints photographed, collected and reproduced by Campeau, including insights into darkrooms and photographs of photographic accessories. The exhibition, curated by Celina Lunsford, presents the transformation from analogue to multimedia photography – and Michel Campeau's fascination for the time before digital intoxication.

Michel Campeau (\*1948, Montreal) has been internationally active for more than 40 years. His documentary project *"Disraeli: une expérience humaine en photographie"* (1973) was the prelude to his unique practice of exploring the subjective, narrative and ontological aspects of the medium of photography. With the beginning of digital photography, he photographed the dwindling classical photo labs. At the same time, he began to collect amateur photography from Canada and elsewhere and to shape his own creative path with third party photography. His goal was to get closer to the motifs behind the photographic work of others – and thus to his own desire to tell the world in pictures.

Michel Campeau is regarded as one of the most important photographers of his generation because of his versatile work. His works have been exhibited many times, including the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa (2014) and Centre Pompidou, Paris (2015), and can be found in many collections, including the Musée Nicéphore Niépce, Chalon-sur-Saône and the Folkwang Museum, Essen.

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.



## MICHEL CAMPEAU

### THE DONKEY THAT BECAME A ZEBRA: DARKROOM STORIES

#### EXHIBITION FACTS

##### CURATOR'S TOUR

with **Celina Lunsford**, Fotografie Forum Frankfurt  
Sunday, **July 28**, and **September 15**, each 3 pm

##### GALLERY TALK

with **Michel Campeau** and **Celina Lunsford** [in English]  
Saturday, July 13, 3 pm

##### EXHIBITION PUBLICATION

Accompanying the exhibition the book *The Donkey that Became a Zebra: Darkroom Stories* is published by Éditions Loco, Paris/MCÉ, Montreal (ISBN 978-2-84314-013-6), with texts by Joan Fontcuberta and Michel Campeau. The book is also available in the Fotografie Forum Frankfurt.

**MICHEL CAMPEAU. THE DONKEY THAT BECAME A ZEBRA: DARKROOM STORIES** is an FFF exhibition, curated by Celina Lunsford. The project is supported by the Embassy of Canada (Berlin) and the Feith Stiftung.

##### PRESS IMAGES

Can be downloaded on the FFF website: <http://www.fff Frankfurt.com/presse/>

**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@fff Frankfurt.org](mailto:contact@fff Frankfurt.org)

Other events see **[www.fff Frankfurt.org](http://www.fff Frankfurt.org)**