



Andrea Garbald

Album

Edited by Stephan Kunz

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- Features a selection of portraits of women from Val Bregaglia in the Swiss canton of Grisons by photographer Andrea Garbald (1877–1958) in the manner of a personal album
- Shows a little-known part of Andrea Garbald's oeuvre and presents his own view of his native Val Bregaglia through portraits of the valley's women
- Garbald's artistic work, rediscovered in the 1980s, continues to attract much interest
- Text in Italian and German

Photographer and artist Andrea Garbald (1877–1958) dedicated an important part of his oeuvre to the women of his native Val Bregaglia, in the Swiss canton of Grisons. As the first and, for a long time, the only photographer in the valley, he ran his own photo studio in addition to an optician's store in the village of Castasegna. Yet instead of making his artistic work public, Garbald kept his in his attic. His estate was only discovered in the mid-1980s and displayed in public for the first time in 2014 in a major exhibition.

Andrea Garbald's portraits collected in this volume show women of different ages and social classes and go far beyond the stiff official portraits that were common at the time. The sitters' posture, clothes, faces, and their eyes speak volumes: the photographs demonstrate a special intimacy and empathy towards the people portrayed. At the same time, they reveal the development of the medium and its visual language.

This new book provides an in-depth look at Garbald's unusual oeuvre and offers an insight into the subtle creativity of this local pioneer.

Text in Italian and German.

Stephan Kunz is artistic director of Bündner Kunstmuseum Chur and a member of the board of trustees of Fondazione Garbald in Castasegna, Switzerland.