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Ausgezeichnet!

Most Excellent!

Edited by Ines Bruhn

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- An artistic reflection on modern heroes and modes of distinction
- Accompanies the international *Ausgezeichnet! Most Excellent!* exhibition in Chemnitz, Germany, from November 2015 to February 2016

Heroes – the concept dates back to the dawn of civilisation. Where there was society, there were also heroes: they were the bravest, the strongest, the most exemplary and outstanding within their field. In the past, heroes have been commended by medals, trophies, and various other cross-cultural badges of honour. But what constitutes a 'hero' today? And how might we identify these extraordinary individuals, to make them stand apart from the crowd? ***Ausgezeichnet! Most Excellent!*** is a joint project, organised by the Chemnitzer Künstlerbund e. V., the Militärhistorisches Museum der Bundeswehr in Dresden (DE), and the Institute for European Studies of the Technische Universität Chemnitz (DE). It aims to cultivate a relationship between contemporary art and contemporary heroes. The exhibit has invited jewellers, sculptors, and a range of other creatives to present the current attitudes of the public towards those deemed heroic, channelling their individual interpretations of the topic into their work.

This book captures the most eye-catching and inventive exhibits in full-colour photographs. The heroic subjects vary; some real, some fictional; and the range of mediums in which they are represented exemplifies the diversity of the project. Many of the pieces are accompanied by essays from renowned authors, which reflect on historical, social and cultural contexts, making this title a comprehensive study of the modern hero. Text in English and German.

Prof. Ines Bruhn took an apprenticeship at the Deutsche Werkstatten Dresden-Hellerau and studied at the Kunsthochschule BerlinWeissensee [Academy of Fine Arts]. He went on to become the freelance curator of several international art projects and art-in-architecture projects, and currently teaches Gestaltungsgrundlagen [design principles] at the University of Applied Sciences Zwickau (DE).

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