



Blossom

By (artist) **Anna Halm Schudel**
Contributions by **Nadine Olonetzky**
Contributions by **Franziska Kunze**

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- Features striking floral pieces by Swiss photographic artist Anna Halm Schudel
- Flowers have been among most popular motifs in art throughout history
- An exquisitely manufactured photobook and an ideal gift

Flowers are a perennially popular motif throughout art history. And for good reason: lush with texture and colour, a living bouquet of blooms can be made to communicate much through the masterly brushstrokes of Vincent Van Gogh or Georgia O'Keeffe, in the hands of a skilled ikebana artist, or through the lens of contemporary photography. For more than two decades, Swiss photographer Anna Halm Schudel has focused her eye on flowers, zooming in on calyxes, pistils, and leaf veins to create exuberant feasts of colours. While celebrating the wide variety of shapes and sizes that nature and human cultivation have brought us, Schudel is no less fascinated by the process of decay. As the flowers fade, wilt, and wither, she transforms them under water into images of strange, compelling beauty, to combine their delicate beauty with a stirring *memento mori*. Eighty strikingly beautiful colour plates are complemented by two essays that examine Schudel's symbolism and put her work in context with the history of the floral still life. As exquisite as the subject itself, this beautifully designed large book is sure to inspire appreciation for this rising Swiss artist.

Text in English and German.

Anna Halm Schudel is a photographic artist who lives and works in Zurich. **Nadine Olonetzky** is a freelance writer and critic and an editor with Scheidegger and Spiess. **Franziska Kunze** is a scholar of history of art and photography and currently working at London's Victoria & Albert Museum.