

ANJA BOHNHOF

With her austere, rigorous and distinctive visual language, she makes us see public space with new eyes while granting fresh perspectives on inner worlds, and through the combination of documentary imagery and realistic, factual content, her work encourages reflection and creates space for our own thoughts and critical engagement with social questions that extend far beyond the geographical territory of India. – Silke Eikermann (art historian)

"The camera has the power to make us see the familiar as strange, and the strange as familiar." – John Berger My practice, grounded in conceptual approaches to lens-based media, begins at this moment of shift. It explores what becomes visible when order and meaning begin to transform, and the relation between the familiar and the unfamiliar changes. Research, documentation, constructed imagery, and photographic intervention are interwoven elements of my approach. I am interested in how history, usage, and cultural conditions are inscribed in things and places – and how these traces can be made perceptible through images. Many of my projects evolve within transcultural contexts. Following earlier works on recent German history, I have been working in India since 2009 and more recently in Serbia, examining spaces where different historical experiences, forms of knowledge, and aesthetic orders intersect. I seek ways to visualize these complex relations – within the image, the process, and the exchange it generates. My work moves between documentation and construction. I understand photography as a tool for examining cultural dynamics, identities, and concepts of reality – both familiar and unfamiliar.

WEBSITES

professional personal website

bohnhofphoto.com

gallery website

www.galerie-m.com/artist_image_en.php?aid=202&aname=AnjaBohnhof

MEMBER OF A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION/ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION

VdDK 1844 Verein der Düsseldorfer Künstler & BBK Bundesverband Bildender KünstlerInnen

EDUCATION

1999 - Studies in Fine Art & Visual
2004 Communication Bauhaus University,
Weimar, Germany diploma

EXHIBITIONS

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2026 | Die guten Werke Stift Klosterneuburg, Sala terrena gallery Klosterneuburg, Austria www.stift-klosterneuburg.at/
Group |
| 2026 | open studios Duinoord Duinoord The Hague, Netherlands www.openateliersduinoord.nl
Group |
| 2026 | Die Grosse Museum Kunstpalast Düsseldorf, Germany www.diegrosse.de/
Group |
| 2026 | Die Sammlung Weimar ACC Galerie Weimar, Germany acc-weimar.de/ausstellungen/a/die_sammlung_weimar-2030.html
Group |
| 2026 | Platte Ost/West Stadtmuseum Dresden, Germany stmd.de/programm/ausstellungen/plattenbau-ost-west
Group |
| 2025 | Deutscher Fotobuchpreis 2017-2025 Stadtgalerie Regensburg, Germany deutscherfotobuchpreis.de/
Group |
| 2025 | aufgehen Galerie m Duisburg, Germany www.galerie-m.com/exposition.php
Group |
| 2025 | Mit Dank erhalten Stadtgalerie Klagenfurt, Austria |

www.stadtgalerie.net/stadtgalerie/ausstellungsarchiv/ausstellung/2025
Group

- 2025 AND WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED Kunsthalle
Düsseldorf, Germany www.kunsthalle-duesseldorf.de/ausstellungen/vddk/
Group
- 2024 A Present for You Gallery Hall Academy of Fine Arts
Novi Sad, Serbia and Montenegro
Duo
- 2024 Imperialism and Agrarian Transition in South Asia
Conference at Christ Universit New Delhi, India
Group
- 2024 Typosphere earport Duisburg
earport.de/pages/de/startseite.php
Solo
- 2024 Art Düsseldorf - Art Fair Areal Boehler Düsseldorf,
Germany www.galerie-m.com/exposition.php
Group
- 2024 Tracking Gandhi Kunstraum XILIN Essen, Germany
Solo
- 2024 Die Grosse Museum Kunstpalast Düsseldorf,
Germany www.diegrosse.de/
Group
- 2023 INDIA 2009-2023 Palais für aktuelle Kunst
Glückstadt, Germany pak-glueckstadt.de/ausstellungen/india_anja-bohnhof/
Solo
- 2023 love/love Kuenstlerhaus Dortmund Dortmund,
Germany www.kh-do.de/ausstellungen/ausstellungen-2024/love/love
Group
- 2023 Photography - Anja Bohnhof Castle of Detmold
Detmold, Germany kunstverein-lippe.de/
Solo
- 2023 Wasser / Water Museum Zuendorfer Wehrturm
Cologne , Germany www.68elf.de/
Group
- 2023 Art Düsseldorf- Art Fair Areal Boehler Düsseldorf,
Germany www.galerie-m.com/exposition_en.php?
Group
- 2022 INDIA Torhaus Rombergpark Dortmund, Germany
www.dortmund.de/themen/freizeit-und-kultur/museen-und-kunst/staedtische-galerie-torhaus/
Solo
- 2022 Unruhige Zeiten / Turbulent Times Women's Museum
Wiesbaden Wiesbaden, Germany wifo2022.de
Group
- 2022 INDIA KunstHalle Cloppenburg Cloppenburg,
Germany www.kunstkreis-cloppenburg.de/
Solo
- 2022 Identität nicht nachgewiesen / Identity Not Proven
Bundeskunsthalle Bonn Bonn, Germany

	www.bundeskunsthalle.de/ Group
2022	INSIDE INDIA - Bharat Darshan Kunstraum Mercatorhaus Duisburg, Germany Group
2022	Art Düsseldorf- Art Fair Areal Boehler Düsseldorf, Germany www.galerie-m.com/exposition_en.php? Group
2021	PARIS PHOTO- Art Fair Grand Palais Paris, France www.parisphoto.com/en-gb/fair/about/archives.html Group
2021	Daily Kunstbezirk Stuttgart, Germany www.kunstbezirk-stuttgart.de/ Group
2021	Abwesenheitsnotizen/ Notes on Absence bautzner69 Dresden, Germany publishandprint.de/ Duo
2021	Abwesenheitsnotizen/ Notes on Absence Kunstraum Mercatorhaus Duisburg, Germany Duo
2021	INTERMEZZO III bautzner69 Dresden, Germany publishandprint.de/ Group
2021	INDIA Kunstverein Unna Unna, Germany kunstvereinunna.de/ Solo
2021	THE LAST DROP Galerie m Bochum, Germany www.galerie-m.com/exposition_en.php? Solo
2020	TRACKING GANDHI Satya Art Gallery - Navajivan Trust Ahmedabad, India satyaartgallery.org/ Solo
2019	TRACKING GANDHI National Gandhi Museum New Delhi, India www.gandhimuseum.org/museum/ Solo
2019	TRACKING GANDHI Stadtgalerie Klagenfurt Klagenfurt, Austria www.stadtgalerie.net/stadtgalerie/ausstellungsarchiv/auss/2019 Solo

PROJECTS

-- www.bohnhofphoto.de/projekte all
relevant press reviews are published on
my website

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2024	Cultural Department of Dortmund & Academy of Fine Arts Novi Sad Novi Sad, Serbia and Montenegro artist-in-residence
2024	e-routes Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro e-routes.eu/residency-program/residents/
2024	e-routes Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro artist-in-residence e-routes.eu/residency- program/residents/
2023	Artist in Residence, CITE des arts

- internationale, Paris, FR Paris, France artist-in-residence
www.citeinternationaledesarts.fr/en/page-daccueil/
- 2023 Gandhi Research Foundation Jalgaon, India artist-in-residence
- 2019 Artist in Residence, CITE des arts internationale, Paris, FR Paris, France artist-in-residence
www.citeinternationaledesarts.fr/en/page-daccueil/
- 2014 Goethe Institute Bangalore Kochi, India artist-in-residence
www.goethe.de/ins/in/de/kul/cpr/bangaloresidency.html
- 2012 AIR krems Krems, Austria artist-in-residence
www.kunstmeile.at/en/institutions/artist-in-residence
- 2012 Carinthia & City of Klagenfurt Klagenfurt, Austria artist-in-residence
kaernten.igkultur.at/stipendium-fuer-kuenstlerische-fotografie-medienkunst

COMMISSIONS

- 2015 territories of the self City Gallery Klagenfurt, Austria commissioned applied art, exhibition and catalogue, exhibited at Architektur Haus Klagenfurt Photographic work about well-known personalities from the region, portrayed at their childhood hiding places, in collaboration with the photographer Johannes Puch from Klagenfurt.
en.bohnhofphoto.de/files/ugd/742bbf_d2ff1a6bce874023b8d02c01e2a426.pdf
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SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

- 2022 The Last Drop Contemporary Art Collection of the Federal Republic of Germany Berlin, Duitsland The project »The Last Drop« addresses the problem of water availability and distribution and the role of women in this context in rural regions of West Bengal, India. Within the family system, responsibility for procuring water falls to women and girls, whose daily work often involves traveling significant distances to collect water from local wells.
- 2020 Tracking Gandhi Navajivan Trust, Satya Art Gallery Ahmedabad, India The exhibition, book project, and long-term project »Tracking Gandhi« trace the locations in India, Bangladesh, South Africa, and Europe that mark significant milestones or turning points in Mahatma K. Gandhi's private and political life.
- 2019 Bahak Art Collection of the German Bundestag Berlin, Duitsland »Bahak« is the Bengali word for carriers. They carry heavy loads and perform physically demanding work, often under considerable strain. For several weeks, I set up a temporary studio at the roadside in Kolkata, India and invited some of the carriers to pause briefly so I could photograph them individually, removed from the urban environment and the otherwise constant flow of the streets.
- 2019 Tracking Gandhi Mahatma Gandhi Mission Aurangabad, India The exhibition, book project, and long-term project »Tracking

- Gandhi« trace the locations in India, Bangladesh, South Africa, and Europe that mark significant milestones or turning points in Mahatma K. Gandhi's private and political life.
- 2019 Tracking Gandhi Stadtgalerie Klagenfurt Klagenfurt, Oostenrijk The exhibition, book project, and long-term project »Tracking Gandhi« trace the locations in India, Bangladesh, South Africa, and Europe that mark significant milestones or turning points in Mahatma K. Gandhi's private and political life.
- 2016 Notes on Absence Art from North-Rhine-Westphalia in Kornelimünster Aachen, Duitsland The photographs from the long-term project »Abwesenheitsnotizen / Notes on Absence« depict places associated with well-known individuals that are now open to the public as museums. For the photographic process, we temporarily removed the contents of these workspaces and living environments, creating deliberately emptied interiors. What remains when everything has been taken away? These cleared spaces direct the viewer's gaze towards 'points of uncertainty', raising questions about loss and permanence in the contemporary world and the place of posterity within it. (together with Karen Weinert, artist)
- 2008 Notes on Absence Museum Kunstpalast Düsseldorf, Duitsland The photographs from the long-term project »Abwesenheitsnotizen / Notes on Absence« depict places associated with well-known individuals that are now open to the public as museums. For the photographic process, we temporarily removed the contents of these workspaces and living environments, creating deliberately emptied interiors. What remains when everything has been taken away? These cleared spaces direct the viewer's gaze towards 'points of uncertainty', raising questions about loss and permanence in the contemporary world and the place of posterity within it. (together with Karen Weinert, artist)
- 2008 WHH17 State Art Collections Dresden Dresden, Duitsland The work »WHH17« consists of twelve photographs of the inside of a high-rise building. The title is the name of a type of building, a prefabricated concrete slab building from GDR times. The photographic results show empty rooms, which constitute the living space and kitchen area. In GDR times, when these buildings were new, they were highly sought after, but since German reunification they have been increasingly characterized by a sense of vacancy. Individual clues to the previous tenants can still be found in the empty flats, which are clearly identifiable as East German new builds from the 1980s, not least because of their

standardized glass cabinets [Hellerauer Glasvirtrinen], which was highly typical of the period. (together with Karen Weinert, artist)

PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 Tracking Gandhi Monograph edition inventio Anja Bohnhof Dortmund, Germany
www.bohnhofphoto.de/publikationen
The photographer Anja Bohnhof followed, over a period of five years, the geographical traces of the visionary and resistance fighter Mahatma Gandhi and travelled to numerous places in India, Bangladesh, South Africa, and Europe that are significant to his life and work. This is a unique book project that required a great deal of perseverance and commitment. It also includes images of locations that have not previously been considered in relation to Gandhi. The result is both extensive and complex, offering numerous points of departure for an engagement that goes far beyond biographical aspects. In addition to their documentary quality, the photographs develop a distinct tension between the present condition and a historically auratic charge. The relevance of Gandhi in contemporary times is further deepened through text contributions by Tushar A. Gandhi, the Mahatma's great-grandson, and by author Rainer Hörig, who specializes in South Asian topics.
- 2015 Abwesenheitsnotizen / Notes on Absence 2004-2015 Monograph hesperus print Anja Bohnhof & Karen Weinert Dresden, Germany
www.hesperusprint-shop.de/de/abwesenheitsnotizen-von-anja-bohnhof-und-karen-weinert.html
The photographs from the long-term project »Abwesenheitsnotizen / Notes on Absence« depict places associated with well-known individuals that are now open to the public as museums. For the photographic process, we temporarily removed the contents of these workspaces and living environments, creating deliberately emptied interiors. What remains when everything has been taken away? These cleared spaces direct the viewer's gaze towards 'points of uncertainty', raising questions about loss and permanence in the contemporary world and the place of posterity within it.
- 2013 Bahak – The Burden of Things Monograph Revolver Publishing Anja

REVIEWS

- 2025 en.bohnhofphoto.de/presse all press reviews are published on my website

Bohnhof Berlin, Germany
www.bohnhofphoto.de/publikationen
»Bahak« is the Bengali term for carriers.
They carry heavy loads and perform physically demanding work, often under considerable strain. For several weeks, I set up a temporary studio at the roadside in Kolkata, India and invited some of the carriers to pause briefly so I could photograph them individually, removed from the urban environment and the otherwise constant flow of the streets.

2010 Zu den Akten Monograph hesperus print Anja Bohnhof Dresden, Germany
www.hesperusprint-shop.de/de/zuden-akten-von-anja-bohnhof.html »Zu den Akten« (To the files) processes of collecting, administration, archiving, evaluation and research are carried out: aloof functional buildings, endless corridors and shelves with row upon row of files, film reels and papers, which have been labeled, numbered and stored in acid-free cardboard boxes. The photographic view is reserved and objective. No attempt was made to go looking for unexpected finds or eye-catching items in the collections; rather the idea was to show papers that have been ordered and filed in grey boxes. The interpretation and analysis of GDR history is entirely based on the documents that have been saved and kept in these rooms.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2025 WALK OF WATER UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme & onewater India 3rd place South Asia for THE LAST DROP
<https://onewater.blue/>

2025 changes Hoepfner Foundation Karlsruhe, Germany 9th prize for "The Other Side of Reality"

2024 Production Grant: Kunst.Transfer Dortmund Cultural Department City of Dortmund Dortmund, Germany

2023 Project Grant: Kulturwerk VG Bild-Kunst GmbH Kulturwerk VG Bild-Kunst GmbH Bonn, Germany

2022 Artist Grant: Stiftung Kunstfonds Stiftung Kunstfonds Bonn, Germany

2019 German Photo Book Award 2019/20 Deutscher Fotobuchpreis Stuttgart, Germany Silver Award for my publication "Tracking Gandhi", edition inventio

REPRESENTATION

-- Galerie m Duisburg, Germany
https://www.galerie-m.com/artist_image_en.php?aid=202&aname=AnjaBohnhof

2019 10. International Creative Media Award
ICMA Hamburg, Germany Award of
Excellence for my publication "Tracking
Gandhi", edition inventio

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2008 - author for essays for photographic
2026 magazines and art books On-going

2006 - Lecturer in Photography | Editorial
2014 Practice, Cologne University of Applied
Sciences, GER



Zilt & Zout, 2025
fine art photography, 50 x 60 cm / 70 x 90 cm



Zilt & Zout, 2025
fine art photography, 60 x 50 cm / 90 x 70 cm



Nickname Amby: Journeys Through Past, Power, and Climate, 2025
fine art photography, 70 x 90 cm



Nickname Amby: Journeys Through Past, Power, and Climate, 2025
fine art photography, 70 x 90 cm



Nickname Amby: Journeys Through Past, Power, and Climate, 2025
fine art photography, 70 x 90 cm



Nickname Amby: Journeys Through Past, Power, and Climate, 2025
fine art photography, 90 x 70 cm



Nickname Amby: Journeys Through Past, Power, and Climate, 2025
fine art photography, 70 x 90 cm



The Other Side of Reality, 2024
fine art photography, 60 x 40 cm / 100 x 70 cm



The Other Side of Reality, 2024
fine art photography, 60 x 40 cm / 100 x 70 cm



Typosphere - Tables, 2023
fine art photography, 50 x 60 cm / 70 x 90 cm