

Tempelhofer Feld – Art and Photo-Documentary

Starting in December, the photographic work of Berlin art-duo Helmut Kolb and Sigrid Weise will be featured on the promotional panels behind the tracks at the Paradestraße U-Bahn station. Their work depicts the evolution of the airfield at this former airport.

Tempelhofer Feld is a place of freedom – an area of anarchy – an urban biotope. Here, guerilla-gardeners are having a blast, as are unicyclists, longboarders, kite-flyers, and joggers, both with and without dogs. Of course, it wasn't always this way. Helmut Kolb and Sigrid Weise have observed the development of the airfield since the removal of the barbed wire fence that once surrounded it. Their artistic photographic work documents the changes on the „Feld“ from its opening in May 2010 to the adventurous conditions of the here and now.

Their works depict the former airfield as an area of freedom for people, animals, places – and also for crazy ideas. Graffiti, for instance, testifies to the influence of Berliners on urban planning, both in the present and in the past. Their long-term study provides the beholder with an impression of the sprawling of nature, of the growing wilderness in the Feld and at the same time a feeling of vastness in the middle of this large city, a feeling perhaps aided by the spectacular 360-degree panoramic views found there.

Of course, the Feld wasn't always a spot for athletes, gardeners, and the idle: currently, on the site, the excavations of former Nazi-work camps are being revealed. Through the use of multiple exposure photography, the layers of the past take shape and form, providing fascinating insight into the „before“ and the „beneath“ of the Tempelhofer Feld. What remains, and what will happen next? Much of what is on the Feld will cease to exist in the coming years. The project of the artist duo Helmut Kolb and Sigrid Weise, Vieraugenblick (four-eyes-view), will also document the ongoing development by means of this unique space-time witness. Their work, which begins in December, will be featured on the promotional panels at the Paradestraße U-Bahn station, showing just a small selection of their „work in progress“.

Vieraugenblick is the first joint project of the photographer Helmut Kolb and the artist Sigrid Weise.

The realization of Helmut Kolb's work is supported by the Dezentralen Kulturarbeit Tempelhof-Schöneberg. Exhibitions by Sigrid Weise have been featured in recent years in Tempelhof.

The artist-duo is currently seeking additional sponsorship in order to continue to display their Flugfeld-Work on the U-Bahn station panels.

Elvira Kolb-Precht

(translation by Leah Cole)

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