

»I use photography as a medium to get an insight of different lifestyles and ideas of life conception. My aim is to show daily life and common rituals as simple and complex, boring and absurd as they are. Not a special technique but only the situation I am able to freeze by taking a picture counts. My photos can be seen as a very personal visual collection. But additionally they can tell stories and maybe even give an idea of how our society is working by showing only most absurd extracts of it. I think humour is a good way to get an approach.«

Verena Brandt (b. 1978, Germany) studied communication design w. focus on photography at the University of Applied Sciences Hamburg and is now working as a freelance documentary and portrait photographer for magazines, commercial clients and on personal longterm projects. Since 2007 she is member of the German agency Visum Photo. Her work has been shown at festivals as the Lumix Festival for International Photojournalism 2008 and awarded with renowned prizes and scholarships. In 2007 she received a VG Bildkunst scholarship for »Villa Germania«, a series about German retirees in Thailand, and a Gruner+Jahr Photo Award in 2008.

CV

1978 born in Hamburg
1999 – 2005 Communication design studies w. focus on photography, University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg
since 2005 Freelance photographer and designer based in Berlin
since 2007 Member of Visum photo agency

Exhibitions (selected)

2004 »Dessau«, University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg
2005 »Vaulting Girls«, Berliner Liste – modern art fair, Berlin
2006 »Canon ProFashional Award«, Forum für Fotografie, Cologne
2006 »A Chinese Ghost Story«, NBI in der Kulturbrauerei, Berlin
2008 »Villa Germania«, Lumix festival for young photojournalism, Hannover
2008 »The Office« / »Villa Germania«, G+J photoaward, G+J Foyer, 4th Triennial of Photography, Hamburg
2008 »Villa Germania«, Photokina, Kunsthaus Rhenania, Cologne
2009 »Geschossen und gedruckt«, C/O Berlin
2009 »Living at the Danube«, Schillerhaus, Bucharest / Romania
2009 »Sayings«, Wiesbadener Fototage, Galerie Preto und Wiesel
2009 »Villa Germania«, Schömberger Fotoherbst, Schömberg / Black Forest
2009 »Living at the Danube«, Romanian Cultural Institute Berlin

Awards/Scholarships (selected)

2004 Merian prize for digital photography
2005 Peter C. Schlüschen scholarship
2007 VG Bildkunst scholarship
2008 G+J photoaward, winner in the category »staged«, nominated in the category »documentary«
2008 South Tyrol award for young photojournalists, finalist
2010 Hansel Mieth Preis, award / honourable mention

Other

2009 Workshop »Living at the Danube«, lecturing and speaking,
Institute for Foreign Relations (IFA), Romania

Publications (selected)

Books / Catalogues: »Living at the Danube« 3/2010, »Wiesbadener Fototage 2009«, »Geschossen und Gedruckt 2009«, »G+J Photo Award 2008«, »Canon ProFashional 2006«
Magazines / Newspapers: Spiegel, Neon, Zeit Campus, Page, Chrismon Plus, Süddeutsche Zeitung, Das Magazin (D), Frankfurter Rundschau, Missy Magazin, ADAC Reisemagazin, Prinz, Photopresse, Welt am Sonntag, Der Wedding, Stadtkind, Berliner Morgenpost

Clients

NDR, Oldenburg Tourism, Nuova, junge meister*, Virtual Nights, Adina Apartment Hotels, Filmfest Oldenburg, Designmai, Degewo, Hugo Boss, Brise Schifffahrt, Tigerbeer