



Peter Weller: Marienhütte bei Eiserfeld/Sieg, 1909–1914, Bestand Die Photographische Sammlung/
SK Stiftung Kultur, Köln; Originalnegativ Dauerleihgabe des Siegerländer Heimat- und Geschichtsvereins,
Siegen; Neuabzug 2002 in Kooperation mit Bernd & Hilla Becher

ANALOGIES -

Bernd & Hilla Becher, Peter Weller, August Sander Photographic industrial landscapes, architecture and portraits

Until September 20, 2020

An exhibition by Die Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur, Cologne
in cooperation with Studio Becher and the Landeshauptstadt Düsseldorf

Noteworthy pictures and sources of inspiration for Bernd and Hilla Becher are in the focus of the presentation and at the same time enter into a dialogue with selected works by the photographer couple. The photographs by Peter Weller and August Sander, whose works selected for this exhibition date back to the first three decades of the 20th century, fascinated the Bechers since the beginning of their work in the early 1960s. They had discovered Weller's negative archive, owned by the Siegerländer Heimat- und Geschichtsverein in Bernd Becher's hometown of Siegen, and Sander's first publication "Antlitz der Zeit" (1929) had long been a photographic "must-read" for them. While Peter Weller, who voluntarily worked mainly for the documentation of mines and blast furnaces plants in the Siegerland and Westerwald, is comparatively less well known, August Sander is one of the big names in photography history, a personality who is directly associated with his portrait work "People of the 20th Century".

The exhibition shows content and methodological correspondences in the creation of the three photographic positions. The documentary description of industrial landscapes in the Westerwald and Siegerland can be found both in the systematic work of Weller and the Bechers, even motivic analogies can be illustrated. The serial as well as the typological view of reality also characterizes August Sander's empathetic and analytical portrait photographs. Not only portraits of craftsmen and workers are being shown, but also those that were created in his home region in the Siegerland, such as in the small town of Herdorf, and are largely unknown.

Peter Weller's photographs are modern prints that were created under the supervision of Bernd and Hilla Becher. The modern prints, which present motifs by August Sander, were created in collaboration with the grandson of the photographer Gerd Sander and also by Die Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur. The Photographs by Bernd and Hilla Becher are modern prints from the Studio Becher, under the management of Max Becher.

Curator of the exhibition: Gabriele Conrath-Scholl (Director of Die Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur, Köln, Im Mediapark 7, 50670 Cologne)

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