

Notes From Future

Moritz Koch



EXO gallery

“Notes From Future”, an exhibition by Moritz Koch, embarks on a profound exploration of human existence, questioning contemporary societal norms and structures. Through staged photography, Koch creates a distant future where protagonists navigate mystical and enigmatic landscapes. Initially, they appear on the verge of uncovering a hidden conspiracy—a subtle reference to the current erosion of trust in societal institutions and democratic processes. However, the core of this journey delves much deeper, raising existential questions about the meaning of life and humanity's place within the vast expanse of the universe.

Visually, the series reflects Koch's signature style, playing with contrasts between past and future. This juxtaposition gains relevance in the context of the Artemis missions, prompting reflections on whether we are entering a new Space Age 2.0, and whether this era of space exploration offers a mental escape from the complexities of our time.

The use of elaborate lighting and carefully selected locations—earth stations, space telescopes, observatories—amplifies the mysterious and sublime atmosphere of the works. These scientific landmarks of observation and communication transform into monuments in an ongoing search for knowledge, linking the present with the unknowable future.

Koch's masterful storytelling immerses viewers in his sci-fi worlds, where the conventions of human society seem to dissolve. His captivating narrative style reshapes our perception and ignites the imagination, drawing the audience so deeply into these constructed worlds that they become active participants in the scenes themselves.

“Notes From Future“, eine Ausstellung von Moritz Koch, begibt sich auf eine tiefgründige Erkundung der menschlichen Existenz und stellt dabei zeitgenössische gesellschaftliche Normen und Strukturen infrage. Durch inszenierte Fotografie erschafft Koch eine ferne Zukunft, in der Protagonist*innen mystische und rätselhafte Landschaften durchstreifen.

Zunächst scheinen sie kurz davor zu stehen, eine verborgene Verschwörung aufzudecken – ein subtiler Verweis auf das schwindende Vertrauen in gesellschaftliche Institutionen und demokratische Prozesse. Doch der eigentliche Kern dieser Reise geht viel tiefer und wirft existenzielle Fragen nach dem Sinn des Lebens und der Stellung der Menschheit im Angesicht der unendlichen Weiten des Universums auf.

Visuell spiegelt die Serie Kochs unverkennbaren Stil wider, indem sie mit Kontrasten zwischen Vergangenheit und Zukunft spielt. Diese Gegenüberstellung gewinnt im Kontext der Artemis-Missionen an Bedeutung und regt Überlegungen an, ob wir in eine neue Ära des Space Age 2.0 eintreten und inwieweit dieses Zeitalter der Raumfahrt eine mentale Flucht vor den Komplexitäten unserer Zeit ermöglicht.

Die aufwendige Lichtgestaltung und die sorgfältige Auswahl der Schauplätze – Erdfunkstationen, Weltraumteleskope, Observatorien – verstärken die geheimnisvolle und erhabene Atmosphäre der Werke. Diese wissenschaftlichen Orte der Beobachtung und Kommunikation verwandeln sich in Monumente einer fortwährenden Suche nach Erkenntnis, die Gegenwart und eine ungewisse Zukunft miteinander verbindet.

Kochs meisterhafte Erzählkunst zieht die Betrachter*innen in seine Science-Fiction-Welten, in denen die Konventionen der menschlichen Gesellschaft zu verschwimmen scheinen. Sein fesselnder Erzählstil formt unsere Wahrnehmung neu und entfacht die Vorstellungskraft, sodass das Publikum so tief in diese konstruierten Welten eintaucht, dass es selbst Teil der Szenen wird.



Events

Vernissage

Friday, February 7, 19:00

Art Karlsruhe 2025

February 20 - 23, 2025

Stuttgart Crime Nights

March 15, 19:00

Reading with Helene Falk and panel discussion with
Moritz Koch



Moritz Koch

Moritz Koch is a photo director whose work focuses on the medium of staged photography. As a Gen Z artist, Koch draws inspiration from visionary photographers such as Alex Prager and Tim Walker, as well as acclaimed filmmakers like Pablo Larraín and Pedro Almodóvar.

Koch approaches photography with an unparalleled level of precision and sophistication. His elaborate productions often involve months of meticulous planning, featuring dozens of vintage cars, countless props, intricate costumes, and up to 150 extras. These scenes, reminiscent of grand film sets, are not crafted for motion pictures, but for the singular purpose of creating one meticulously composed photograph. Every element is carefully orchestrated, leaving nothing to chance.

Koch's storytelling narrative explores a wide range of contemporary issues, including social ideals, the fast pace of modern life, climate change, and digitalization. He also delves into a vision of the future that reflects the tension between utopia and dystopia. As with his creative process, the human experience remains central to his themes. His art grapples with existential questions surrounding the transience of life, the search for meaning, fate, and death, while also reflecting on interpersonal structures and conflicts.

Additionally, Koch's aesthetic reflects a "post-futuristic" character, with nostalgic references to the Space Age and iconic figures like Jackie Kennedy. The influence of American photographer Gregory Crewdson, famous for his meticulously staged, surreal scenes, can also be seen in Koch's detailed and theatrical approach to his art. Furthermore, his passion for fashion, automobiles, and architecture plays a significant role in shaping his visual style, as these interests are woven into his highly curated and symbolic imagery.

Koch (b. 2000) currently lives and works in Mainz, Germany.



Minerva's arrival
Moritz Koch

2022
Staged Photography, Fine Art Print
on Baryta
100 x 200 cm (Ed. of 5 + 1 AP)
50 x 100 cm (Ed. of 7 + 1 AP)



Greed
Moritz Koch

2023
Staged Photography, Fine Art Print
on Baryta
100 x 200 cm (Ed. of 5 + 1 AP)
50 x 100 cm (Ed. of 7 + 1 AP)



Manifest
Moritz Koch

2023
Staged Photography, Fine Art Print
on Baryta
100 x 200 cm (Ed. of 5 + 1 AP)
50 x 100 cm (Ed. of 7 + 1 AP)



Minerva's funeral
Moritz Koch

2023
Staged Photography, Fine Art Print
on Baryta
100 x 200 cm (Ed. of 5 + 1 AP)
50 x 100 cm (Ed. of 7 + 1 AP)



Minerva's funeral
Moritz Koch

2023
360° digital photography
1viewed through virtual glasses



Minerva's wedding
Moritz Koch

2021
Staged Photography, Fine Art Print
on Baryta
100 x 200 cm (Ed. of 5 + 1 AP)
50 x 100 cm (Ed. of 7 + 1 AP)



In happiness we die
Moritz Koch

2021
Staged Photography, Fine Art Print
on Baryta
100 x 200 cm (Ed. of 5 + 1 AP)
50 x 100 cm (Ed. of 7 + 1 AP)



Forgotten path
Moritz Koch

2023
Staged Photography, Fine Art Print
on Baryta
100 x 200 cm (Ed. of 5 + 1 AP)
50 x 100 cm (Ed. of 7 + 1 AP)

Notes From Future

Moritz Koch

February 7 - March 22, 2025

EXO gallery

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Wed - Fr: 11:00 - 18:00
Sat: 15:00 - 18:00