

## Christian Voigt Collection & Photography

**Christian Voigt Collection & Photography – 100 years of contemporary history captured in photographs. Unique, previously unpublished pictures illustrate the culture of an entire era.**

Great things evolve from passion, and passion frequently has its seeds in coincidence. The latter also played a major role concerning the collection of the Hamburg-based photographer Christian Voigt. In his collection of photographs which have just been published for the first time, three generations of photographers provide a personal insight into life over the past 100 years. An insight which is as beautiful as it is fascinating – because for the photographer, the collection is also a long period of family history come to life.

“The idea is for the collection to show one hundred years of photography, of an era and a culture”, says Christian Voigt. “This is about history – contemporary history, to be precise. The pictures are interesting from an emotional point of view, and I would like to use them to bridge the gap between art and commerce. I intend to achieve this target by creating certain points of contact and thus evoking certain emotions in the viewer.”

On the one hand there is the private part of the collection – the basic collection taken from the personal belongings of the family. Unforgettable impressions of travels, family photographs, technology and landscapes which today no longer exist as shown by the pictures. Which reflect the power and calmness of the past. On the other hand, there are more recent pictures taken by Christian Voigt and famous photographers such as Robert Lebeck or Harry Morey Callahan which are carefully integrated into the collection. In this context, the magic word is emotionality – emotionality that is evoked by the Christian Voigt Collection time and time again. Independently of which decade they date back to, the black and white pictures will not leave any viewer unmoved.

The origins of this legendary collection are attributed to Isolde Voigt (1897 – 1988), a publisher with a major passion for photography. In 1924, Arndt Voigt, representative of the next generation, is born. Having initially inherited the publishing house, he, too, discovers his love of photography in the late forties. With the birth of Christian Voigt in Munich in 1961, the third generation enters the world. “Photography has always been an immediate focus of our family”,

explains Voigt. "I grew up with cameras and soon learned to take the omnipresent camera as a matter of course. Whether it was a Rolleiflex or a Leica - the camera accompanied and documented our lives."

Following the decease of his father Arndt Voigt and his grandmother Isolde, Christian Voigt finds countless photographs in his grandmother's attic – and subsequently develops an idea, resulting in the establishment of Christian Voigt Collection & Photography. "When I started processing the collection of photos taken by three generations, I quickly realised that these were not simply family pictures, but a unique contemporary document."

The photos that make up the collection, all of which are premium-quality pieces of art, are only available in a limited edition. All of the photographs can be relied upon to provoke a high degree of emotionality within an exclusive framework. "I like these pictures because they capture a calmness and an era which no longer exist as seen here. Without the hectic rush that is so characteristic of shootings nowadays", says Christian Voigt. "Time and time again, it is a visual exchange, a dialogue between old and new. I also learn a lot about my own photography by looking at these pictures."

**Further information is available at [www.christianvoigt.com](http://www.christianvoigt.com)**

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