

Faces

The Power of the Human Visage

12 February – 24 May 2021

Starting from Helmar Lerski's outstanding photo series *Metamorphosis through Light* (1935/36), the exhibition *Faces* presents portraits from the period of the Weimar Republic.

The 1920s and '30s saw photographers radically renew the conventional understanding of the classic portrait: their aim was no longer to represent an individual's personality; instead, they conceived of the face as material to be staged according to their own ideas. In this, the photographed face became a locus for dealing with avant-garde aesthetic ideas as well as interwar-period social developments. And it was thus that modernist experiments, the relationship between individual and general type, feminist roll-playing, and political ideologies collided in—and thereby expanded—the general understanding of portrait photography.

Artists:

Gertrud Arndt, Marta Astfalck-Vietz, Irene Bayer, Aenne Biermann, Erwin Blumenfeld, Max Burchartz, Suse Byk, Paul Citroen, Carl Theodor Dreyer, Andreas Feininger, Werner David Feist, Trude Fleischmann, Jozef Glogowski, Paul Edmund Hahn, Lotte Jacobi, Grit Kallin-Fischer, Edmund Kesting, Rudolf Koppitz, Kurt Kranz, Germaine Krull, Erna Lendvai-Dircksen, Helmar Lerski, László Moholy-Nagy, Lucia Moholy, Oskar Nerlinger, Erich Retzlaff, Hans Richter, Leni Riefenstahl, Franz Roh, Werner Rohde, Ilse Salberg, August Sander, Franz Xaver Setzer, Robert Siodmak, Anton Stankowski, Elfriede Stegemeyer, Edgar G. Ulmer, Umbo, Robert Wiene, Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz, Willy Zielke