

## MICHAEL WOLF

Born in Germany, then raised in Europe, Canada, and the United States, Wolf began his interest in photography when studying at UC Berkeley and the Folkwang School with Otto Steinert in Essen, Germany. Wolf later moved to Hong Kong in 1994 to begin his artistic career as a contract photographer for Stern Magazine. Since 2001, Wolf has been focusing on his own projects, drawing his focus to the tradition of socially concerned photography, while also engaging with the radical transformation of photography of recent years.

Wolf found his inspiration as an artist living in Hong Kong and China, where the ever-shifting cityscapes provided him with constant stimulation. Rather than creating images that describe the immensity of China's urban transformation, Wolf's work in this region is based on the power of the vernacular. By 'collecting' a series of these urban minutiae he has been able to paint a much larger picture, not only of the contemporary Chinese city, but rather of the more universal realities of urban life. The stunning 'blown-up' images of Chicago's modernist architecture in 'Transparent City' offer a point of contrast against the closed-up concrete towers from Hong Kong and China. These images oscillate between a microscopic and macroscopic view of the city and seek to reveal what goes on inside the windows within each cityscape.

## EDUCATION

1971-1972	North Toronto Collegiate Institute, Toronto, Canada
1972-1973	UC Berkeley, CA
1973-1976	Studied photography and visual communications at the University of Essen, Germany, with Otto Steinert; Degree in Visual Communication

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021	Michael Wolf   <i>Street View*</i> , Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto, ON
2020	Spotlight on Michael Wolf, Flowers Michael Wolf   Retrospective, Bau-Xi Gallery Michael Wolf: Life in Cities, Robert Koch Gallery
2019	Life in Cities Retrospective, Urania, Berlin, Germany Bottrop-Ebel '76, Josef Albers Museum Michael Wolf   Metropolis, Bruce Silverstein Gallery
2018-2019	Life in Cities Retrospective, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, Germany
2018	Bottrop-Ebel '76, Flowers Gallery, Kingsland Road, London, UK Life in Cities Retrospective, Stelline Foundation, Milan, Italy
2017-2018	Life in Cities Retrospective, The Hague Museum of Photography, Netherlands
2017	Life in Cities Retrospective, Les Rencontres de la Photographie, Arles, France City, Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto, ON
2016	Hong Kong, Informal Solutions, Centre Photographique - Pôle Image Haute-Normandie, France Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto, ON
2015	Paris Rooftops, Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto, ON Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto, ON Paris Rooftops, M97 Project Space, Shanghai Digital Conditions, Kunstverein Hannover, Hannover, Germany Blind Walls and Night Trees, Wouter Van Leeuwen Galerie, Amsterdam, NL Hong Kong Narratives, Michael Wolf's studio, Hong Kong Back Alley Deconstructed, Pop Up at wontonMeen, Hong Kong Words Matter, Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, CA Hong Kong Inside Out, Tin Shed Gallery, Sydney, Australia
2014	Paris Abstract, Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, CA My Favorite Thing, Wouter Van Leeuwen Galerie, Amsterdam, NL The Real Toy Story, K11 Art Foundation, Shanghai

- Architecture of Density, Flowers Gallery, London, England  
 Icones, Musée des Beaux Arts de Liege, Liege, Belgium
- 2013 Architecture of Density, The Scout Shots & Small God, Big City, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 Small God, Big City, 25 Books, Berlin, Germany  
 Tokyo Compression, Recontres Gaspesie, Canada  
 Architecture of Density – X Bienal de Arquitetura, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
 Transparent City, Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto, Canada  
 Industrial Architecture, M97 Gallery, Shanghai  
 Small God, Big City, M97 Gallery, Shanghai
- 2012 Street View Portraits, Wouter van Leeuwen Galerie, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 Hong Kong and Shenzhen biennial of urbanism/architecture, Hong Kong  
 Total City – Ivam Institut D'art Modern, Valencia, Spain  
 Bamboo Theater Exhibition: Portraits of Cantonese Opera Singers – Museum M+, Hong Kong, China
- 2011 Untitled – Flowers, London, England  
 Life in Cities – Christophe Guye Galerie, Zurich, Switzerland  
 Real Fake Art / Tokyo Compression Revisited – 25 Books, Berlin, Germany  
 Sh Contemporary, Shanghai, China  
 Life In Cities – Gun Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden  
 Metropolis – Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
 I'm Watching You – Elipsis Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey  
 Fear in the City – Monnaie de Paris, France  
 Tokyo Compression – Forum Für Fotografie, Cologne, Germany
- 2010 Hong Kong Corner Houses – Upper Station Street Gallery, Hong Kong, China  
 We Are Watching You – La Galerie Particulière, Paris, France  
 Street View / Tokyo Compression – Gallery Fifty One Fine Art Photography, Antwerp, Belgium  
 Tokyo Compression – 25 books, Berlin, Germany  
 Street View & Tokyo Compression – Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 ISEEYOU – Bruce Silverstein Gallery, Chelsea, New York, USA  
 Life in Cities – M97 Gallery, Shanghai, China  
 Architecture of Density – M97 Gallery at art HK 2010, Hong Kong, China  
 Paris Street View – Curated by Foam, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 Paris Street View – Goethe Institute Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
- 2009 Metropolis – La Galerie Particulière, Paris, France  
 Transparent City – Wouter van Leeuwen Gallery at Art Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 Architecture of Density & Transparent City - Elipsis Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey  
 Art Brussels, Brussels, Belgium  
 Transparent City – Gallery Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 AIPAD: The Photography Show – New York, USA  
 Transparent City – Gallery Fifty One Fine Art Photography, Antwerp, Belgium  
 Transparent City & Architecture of Density – Entropy Art, Naples, Italy  
 The Armory Show – Modern, New York, USA
- 2008 Transparent City – Museum for Contemporary Photography, Chicago, USA  
 Transparent City – Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
 Butterfly Dream: Shanghai Moca Envisage II – Moca, Shanghai, China  
 Translocalmotion: Shanghai Biennale – Shanghai Art Museum, Shanghai, China  
 Hong Kong Back Door – Lumervisum Gallery, Hong Kong, China  
 Art Chicago Photography Show, Chicago, USA  
 Heritage: Hong Kong Corner Houses – Goethe Institute, Hong Kong, China
- 2007 Fake Pictures & Architecture of Density – Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 Real Fake Art and 100 x 100 – Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
 China Projects – Gallery M97, Shanghai, China  
 Fake - Portraits of Chinese Copy Art – Goethe Institute, Hong Kong, China  
 Hong Kong Industrial – Ursula Huber Gallery, Basel, Switzerland
- 2006 Architecture of Density / China Copy Artists – Gallery Fifty One Fine Art Photography, Antwerp, Belgium

Hong Kong Front Door Back Door – German Museum for Architecture, Frankfurt, Germany  
 Architecture of Density / Architecture of Work – Art Fair Zurich/ Gallery Huber, Switzerland  
 Architecture of Density – Gallery Fifty One Fine Art Photography at Paris Photo, Paris, France  
 100 x 100 – Gallery of the Goethe Institute, Hong Kong, China  
 100 x 100 / Architecture of Density – Daegu Photo Biennale, Korea  
 Architecture of Density – 798 Photo Gallery, Beijing, China  
 Architecture of Density / 100 x 100 – Gallery Laif, Cologne Germany  
 Architecture of Density – Janet Oh Gallery, Seoul, Korea  
 New Work from Hong Kong – Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
 Architecture of Density – Hasted-Hunt Gallery, New York, USA  
 Architecture of Density – 1918 ArtSPACE, Shanghai, China  
 Architecture of Density / 100 x 100 – Gallery Laif, Cologne, Germany  
 Architecture of Density – Janet Oh Gallery, Seoul, Korea  
 New Work from Hong Kong – Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
 Architecture of Density – Hasted-Hunt Gallery, New York, USA  
 Architecture of Density – 1918 ArtSPACE, Shanghai, China  
 Hong Kong Architecture – AIPAD New York, Robert Koch Gallery  
 Sitting in China – Kap Forum, Cologne, Germany  
 2005 Hong Kong: Front Door/Back Door – Gallery Colette, Paris, France  
 Useful, Cute and Collected. The Photographed Animal – Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany  
 Architecture of Density – Ping Yao Photography Festival, Ping Yao, China  
 Architecture of Density – Art Basel / Robert Koch Gallery, Basel, Switzerland  
 2004 Architecture of Density – Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
 The Real Toy Story – John Batten Gallery, Hong Kong, China  
 Hong Kong the Back Door – Hong Kong Art Walk, Hong Kong, China  
 2003 Architecture of Density – Bryant Park during New York Fashion Week, New York, USA  
 Portraits of Chinese People – John Batten Gallery, Hong Kong, China  
 Sitting in China – Kestner Museum, Hannover, Germany  
 Images Against War – Galerie Lichtblick, Cologne, Germany

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 Father's Day Collection, Bau-Xi Gallery  
 Bau-Xi Gallery at Art Toronto 2022, Bau-Xi Gallery  
 Robert Koch Gallery at The Armory Show 2022, Robert Koch Gallery  
 2021 Bau-Xi Gallery at Art Toronto 2021, Bau-Xi Gallery  
 In my bubble, CHRISTOPHE GUYE GALERIE  
 Robert Koch Gallery at The Armory Show 2021, Robert Koch Gallery  
 Focus on Photography, Foster/White Gallery  
 2020 Flowers at Photo London 2021, Flowers  
 Curator's Collection | 2020 Preview, Bau-Xi Gallery  
 Bau-Xi Gallery at Photo London 2020, Bau-Xi Gallery  
 Flowers at Photo London 2020, Flowers  
 Bruce Silverstein Gallery at Art Basel Online Viewing Rooms 2020, Bruce Silverstein Gallery  
 Flowers at Art Central 2020, Flowers  
 2019 Harvest / Hanging Fruit, M97 Gallery  
 Rooftops, GALLERY FIFTY ONE  
 Civilization: The Way We Live Now, UCCA  
 Flowers Contemporary I, Flowers  
 Bruce Silverstein Gallery at The Photography Show 2019, presented by AIPAD, Bruce Silverstein Gallery  
 2018 [SPACE] Street. Life. Photography. Street Photography aus Sieben Jarhzehnten, Deichtorhallen  
 Bruce Silverstein Gallery at The Photography Show 2018, presented by AIPAD, Bruce Silverstein Gallery  
 Flowers at Art Central 2018, Flowers

2017 GALLERY FIFTY ONE at Paris Photo 2017, GALLERY FIFTY ONE  
Bruce Silverstein Gallery at Paris Photo 2017, Bruce Silverstein Gallery  
Bau-Xi Gallery at Art Toronto 2017, Bau-Xi Gallery  
Flowers at EXPO CHICAGO 2017, Flowers  
Flowers at Photo London 2017, Flowers

2016 Bau-Xi Artists | Whiteout, Bau-Xi Gallery  
Bau-Xi Gallery at Art Toronto 2016, Bau-Xi Gallery  
Robert Koch Gallery at EXPO CHICAGO 2016, Robert Koch Gallery  
Flowers at Art Central 2016, Flowers  
Flowers at Art Stage Singapore 2016, Flowers  
In and/or out: Seiichi Furuya and Michael Wolf, Düsseldorf, Germany  
BackStory, GALLERY FIFTY ONE  
Bruce Silverstein Gallery at Paris Photo 2016, Bruce Silverstein Gallery

2015 Bau-Xi Gallery at Art Toronto 2015, Bau-Xi Gallery  
Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen at Unseen Photo Fair 2015, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen  
The Road, Robert Koch Gallery  
Woman and Work, Gemeentemuseum Helmond

2014 Decisive Moments, Honolulu Museum of Art, Hawaii  
Up, Close & Personal, Fuchs Projects, New York  
Urban Spirit (Group Exhibition), CHRISTOPHE GUYE GALERIE

2012 Von Sinnen: Wahrnehmung in Der Zeitgenoessischen Kunst – Kunsthalle Zu Kiel, Kiel Germany  
Public: Collective Identity | Occupied Spaces – The Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto, Canada  
Infinite Balance: Artist environment MOPO, San Diego  
Making History – Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany  
The Near and Elsewhere – PM Gallery, London, UK  
Davos Art Exhibition – Meeting of the World Economic, Davos, Switzerland

2011 Prix Pictet: Growth – Gallery of Photography, Dublin, Ireland  
Prix Pictet: Growth – Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington DC, USA  
Fotodoks – Münchner Stadtmuseum, Munich, Germany  
Infinite Balance: Artists and the Environment – Museum Photographic Arts, San Diego, USA  
Cities: Visionary Places – Torrance Art Museum, Los Angeles, USA  
Metropolis. City Life in the Urban Age 2011 – Noorderlicht Photo Festival, Groningen, Netherlands  
Prix Pictet: Growth – Arteversum, Dusseldorf, Germany  
Sifest #20 – Savignano Immagini, Savignana Sul Rubicone, Italy  
Hail Traveler! Rick Wester Fine Art, New York City, USA  
Summer in the City – Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
NY Temporary: The City Through Photography, Film and Video – Muse Center of Photography, New York, USA  
Prix Pictet: Growth – Galleria Carla Sozzani, Milano, Italy  
Prix Pictet – Christophe Guye Galerie, Zurich, Switzerland  
Prix Pictet: Growth – Thessaloniki Museum of Photography, Thessaloniki, Greece  
Street Photography Now – Uno Art Space, Stuttgart, Germany  
Prix Pictet – Passage de Retz, Paris, France  
10 years – Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam Netherlands

2010 Street Photography Now, Contributed, Berlin Germany  
Renversements de Faits / Abstractions Photographiques – Le Château d’eau, Toulouse, France  
Street Photography Now – Third Floor Gallery, Cardiff, UK  
Alles Wieder Anders – Ruhr Museum, Essen, Germany  
Bredaphoto 2010, Breda, Netherlands  
Meer – Voorkamer, Lier, Belgium  
City Flâneur: Social Documentary Photography – Hong Kong Heritage Museum, Hong Kong, China  
From the Vanishing Point – Demolished Public Housing Estates in Hong Kong – 1a Space, Hong Kong, China  
Untitled– Elipsis Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey  
The New York Photo Festival – New York, USA

- Index 1.0 – Gallery Fifty One Fine Art Photography, Antwerp, Belgium  
 Homelesshome – Museum on the Seam, Jerusalem, Israel
- 2009  
 Cities - Places Visionaires – Auditorium Arte, Rome, Italy  
 The Bare Necessity of Art – Etherton Gallery, Tucson, USA  
 Parallax – M97 Gallery, Shanghai, China  
 Landscape As Dream – Studio La Citta, Verona, Italy  
 Dystopia – Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
 Art Rotterdam, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2008  
 Transparent City – Stephen Daiter Gallery, Chicago, USA  
 Summer in the City 08 – Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 China Design Now – Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England  
 Eastern Standard, Western Artists in China – Mass. Moca, North Adams, USA
- 2007  
 Two Photographers in a Dialog: Michael Wolf's Architecture of Density & Stephen Canham's Travelling  
 Gypsies Homes – Hallische Gallerien, Dresden, Germany  
 New Urban Vistas – Arthur Roger Gallery, New Orleans, USA  
 Bac! – Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain  
 Facades – Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, USA  
 Contemporary Art from the Permanent Collection – San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, USA  
 Ulisphotofest 2007 – Ulisphotofest, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2006  
 Architecture of Density – Shanghai Biennale / ArtSPACE 1918, Shanghai, China
- 2004  
 Truth! Photography's Promise of Reality – Ruhrland Museum, Essen, Germany
- 2003  
 Post Chicago: April 2003–2004 – Gallery 400, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA
- 2000  
 Peking Shanghai Shenzhen: Cities of the 21st Century – Bauhaus Museum, Dessau, Germany
- 1990  
 Otto Steinert and Students – Folkwang Museum, Essen Germany
- 1981  
 Wie Lebt Man im Ruhrgebiet – Folkwang Museum, Essen Germany
- 1979  
 Eugene Richards / Michael Wolf: Neighborhoods – Folkwang Museum, Essen Germany
- 1975  
 Portraits of Craftsmen in Essen Werden – Curated by Ute Eskildsen, Room 315 of the University of Essen,  
 Germany

## MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

- 2012  
 Hong Kong and Shenzhen Biennial of Urbanism/Architecture, Hong Kong, China
- 2010  
 100 x 100 & Architecture of Density – Venice Biennale of Architecture, Venice, Italy
- 2009  
 Transparent City – Aperture Gallery, New York, USA
- 2007  
 Pieces of China: A Retrospective of Michael Wolf's China Projects – Museum Center Vapriikki, Tampere,  
 Finland
- 2006  
 The Real Toy Story – Museum for Work, Hamburg, Germany  
 Made in China – Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, USA

## PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

- The Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam  
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York  
 The Brooklyn Museum, New York  
 The San Jose Museum of Art, California  
 The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago  
 Museum Folkwang, Essen  
 The German Museum for Architecture, Frankfurt

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2016 Informal Solutions  
Hong Kong Assemblage Deconstructed
- 2015 Hong Kong Umbrella  
Some More Hong Kong Seating Arrangements
- 2014 Hong Kong Informal Seating Arrangements  
Hong Kong Trilogy  
Hong Kong Flora
- 2013 Small God, Big City  
Hong Kong Trilogy
- 2012 Tokyo Compression Three (Peperoni Press / Asia One)  
Small Gods Big City (Hong Kong University Press)  
Bottrop Ebel (Peperoni Books)  
Architecture of Density (Peperoni Press / Asia One)
- 2011 Hong Kong Corner Houses (Hong Kong University Press)  
Portraits (Superlabo, Japan)  
Growth - Prix Pictet 2010 (Teneues Verlag)  
Tokyo Compression Revisited (Peperoni Press / Asia One)  
Real Fake Art (Peperoni Press / Asia One)  
FY (Peperoni Press)
- 2010 A Series of Unfortunate Events (Peperoni Press)  
Tokyo Compression (Peperoni / Asian One)
- 2009 Hong Kong Inside Outside (Peperoni / Asia One)
- 2008 The Transparent City (Aperture / mocp)
- 2007 Pieces of China (Tampere Museums)
- 2006 Hong Kong Front Door Back Door –German Edition (Steidl)
- 2005 Hong Kong Front Door Back Door (Thames & Hudson)
- 2003 Chinese Propaganda Posters (Taschen)
- 2002 Sitting in China (Steidl)
- 2001 China im Wandel (Frederking & Thaler)
- 1982 Maloche: Levin im Revier (Eichborn Verlag)

## RECENT AWARDS

- 2011 World Press Photo Award Competition – Honorable Mention
- 2010 Prix Pictet Photography Award  
World Press Photo Award Competition – First Place
- 2005 World Press Photo Award Competition – First Place