



PRESS RELEASE

Light from the Other Side: Shadowgraphs by Tim Otto Roth

Exhibition opening with German artist Tim Otto Roth and Wendy A. Grossman (Phillips Collection)

November 9, 2016 – January 13, 2017

Goethe-Institut Washington
1990 K St. NW Suite 03 (20th Street Entrance)
Washington, DC 20006

www.goethe.de/washington

Download Dropbox images [here](#).

(Washington, DC, November 7, 2016) – Shadows underscore the beauty of nature and escape the captivity of their surfaces in the shadowgraphs in **Light from the Other Side: Shadowgraphs by Tim Otto Roth**, on display at the Goethe-Institut November 9, 2016 – January 13, 2017.

Usually referred to as photograms, these highly-differentiated shadow records on light-sensitive surfaces are created in a process similar to an X-ray. The images in this exhibition provide a glimpse into Tim Otto Roth's fifteen years of research and development in this medium, a field also explored by the American visual artist Man Ray and currently by New York-based British artist Adam Fuss.

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From the series *flora domestica* © Tim Otto Roth



The plants and flowers whose shadows are captured on color slide film in the series *flora domestica*, making its US debut in this exhibition, appear to be backlit or illuminated from within, evoking the atmosphere of a window in a Gothic cathedral. The precise placement of a source of light in the

darkroom creates a new way of seeing space and color, underscoring the secret beauty in the shadow world of flowers.

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sterea skia © Tim Otto Roth



In *sterea skia*, Roth's 3D shadowgraphs are partially computer simulated, partially generated by red and blue lighting on Polaroid film. With the use of stereo glasses, the spatial shadow figures leave the pictorial plane and step behind or in front of the

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surface. This captures a core theme of the concept artist's work: the exploration of space in different ways, whether by translating objects into shadows, creating sound environments or capturing a fascination with the nocturnal firmament.

Tim Otto Roth (b. 1974, Oppenau/Black Forest) combines art and natural sciences in internationally-exhibited collaborations with leading research institutes and organizations such as the Hubble Space Telescope. In *Nature* (458, 836), renowned Oxford art history professor Martin Kemp summarizes his work as “a new art [...] encoding a new science.” Roth holds a degree in Theory of Visual Communication and a PhD in art and science history from the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne..

Opening reception and discussion with artist Tim Otto Roth and Wendy A. Grossman (Curatorial Associate at the Phillips Collection) on Wednesday, November 9, 6:30 - 8 pm. RSVP at www.goetheinstitutwashington.eventbrite.com

Gallery hours: M-Th 10 am – 6:30 pm; F 10 am – 3 pm

About the Goethe-Institut:

Mutual understanding among nations by promoting international cultural dialogue: this is the ambitious mission of the Goethe-Institut. On behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany, cultural institutes around the world provide cultural programs, language courses, support to educators, and up-to-date information on Germany in the context of Europe.

Founded in 1990, Goethe-Institut Washington, DC is a center for German culture and language. From its location downtown, the Goethe-Institut Washington reaches out to both individuals and organizations in the community, bridging the past, present, and future with a variety of high-quality events.

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