

# GATTEN MÖRDER INNEN

# **GESCHICHTEN VOM ÜBERLEBEN**

The exhibition "Gattenmörderinnen: Geschichten vom Überleben" (Wives That Killed: Stories of Survival) sheds light on the compelling stories of six women from Romania and Moldova who, after suffering years of domestic violence, killed their husbands in acts of desperation. Their stories reveal a desperate struggle for survival and the path to a new life.

# "AN UNTAMED WOMAN IS LIKE AN UNTENDED HOUSE."

This old saying from Romania and Moldova highlights a harsh reality: violence against wives and women is not only trivialized but often normalized by society. The two countries share not only history, language, and culture but also deeply rooted patriarchal structures. A closer look reveals a disturbing commonality: a significant proportion of women imprisoned for murder have killed their husbands.

# AN EXHIBITION ABOUT SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

This project, initiated by Romanian-born loana Pascaru, is the result of extensive research. With empathy and persistence, Pascaru uncovered these women's stories, established connections, conducted personal interviews, and crafted a journalistic portrayal of their fates. Together with photographers Miguel Hahn and Jan-Christoph Hartung (Hahn+ Hartung), known for their documentary reporting on absurd and tragic societal developments, they captured intimate insights into the lives of six women. These women symbolize countless others with similar stories. The exhibition presents powerful portraits that document the pain, resilience, and journey of these women into a new life, a life after the murder of their tormentors and the years spent in prison. The photos are accompanied by video interviews that let the women's voices be heard.

## **GUILT SHOULD NOT SWITCH SIDES**

The exhibition "Gattenmörderinnen: Geschichten vom Überleben" (Wives That Killed: Stories of Survival) invites us to see these protagonists not as murderers but as survivors. It raises questions of justice and social responsibility, encouraging reflection on combating violence against women and resisting patriarchal structures.

The exhibition is made possible through the generous support of Art Kombinat e.V.



#### **ORIGINAL TITLE:**

Gattenmörderinnen: Geschichten vom Überleben

#### **ENGLISH TITLE:**

Wives That Killed: Stories of Survival

#### **EXHIBITION:**

29 November - 8 December 2024

#### PRESS TOUR:

28 November 2024, 2pm

#### **VERNISSAGE:**

28 November 2024, 7pm

#### **OPENING HOURS:**

Daily, 12pm-8pm

## **EXHIBITION VENUE:**

Projektraum Am Flutgraben 3 12435 Berlin

#### **ADMISSION:**

Free

#### **SPONSORED BY:**

Art Kombinat e.V.

#### PRESS CONTACT:

mail@hahn-hartung.com

#### **CURATORS:**

Ioana Pascaru, Miguel Hahn und Jan-Christoph Hartung

#### **EXHIBITION PROGRAMME:**

A panel discussion on Saturday, November 30. Time: tba Guided tours are available upon request.



CONTACT

Ioana Pascaru Miguel Hahn Jan-Christoph Hartung mail@hahn-hartung.com +49 160 979 683 90

Miguel Hahn (b. 1982 in Heidelberg, Germany) and Jan-Christoph Hartung (b. 1983 in Erbach, Germany) live and work as a photographer team in Berlin. They studied photography at the University of Applied Sciences Darmstadt and HAW Hamburg. Their works have been exhibited at C/O Berlin, the Deichtorhallen Hamburg, and the Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie Arles. In 2015, Hahn+ Hartung received the Lead Award (Gold) for Reportage Photography of the Year for their story "Vietnam War – 40 Years Later", published in ZEITmagazin. In 2017, they were awarded a VG Bildkunst grant for their project "2 Minutes to Midnight" on disaster preparedness in Germany, which received the Lotto Berlin-Brandenburg Art Prize in 2020. Their work includes among others critical perspectives on German expatriates at Lake Balaton and documenting natural disaster preparedness in Indonesia. Hahn+Hartung's stories, prompting reflection on societal developments, have been featured in prominent magazines such as GEO, Stern, Le Monde, ZEITmagazin, SZ-Magazin, Dummy, and Spiegel.

loana Pascaru (b. 1994 in Suceava, Romania) worked closely as a co-author with Hahn+Hartung on the project "Gattenmörderinnen: Geschichten vom Überleben" (Wives That Killed: Stories of Survival). Born in Romania, she moved to Germany at age eleven and later studied media psychology and marketing in Berlin, Barcelona, and Lüneburg. As the initiator and originator of the project, she was responsible for research, conducting interviews, translations, networking, and exhibition planning. Through her intensive and personal engagement with these women, she effectively brings their stories to the attention of a broader audience.



Hahn+Hartung, Moldova 2023, from the series "Gattenmörderinnen: Geschichten vom Überleben" @Hahn+Hartung











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