

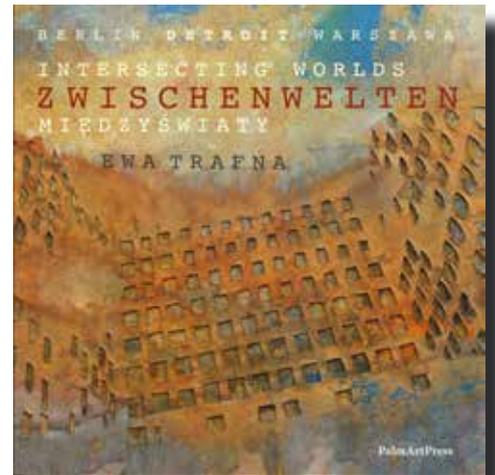


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## Title Information

### Ewa Trafna *Zwischenwelten*

Detroit, Berlin, Warszawa



In the last three decades a “new physiognomy of the continent” arose (Schlögel 2005). The breakdown of structures caused by political and, more importantly, economic developments gave Ewa Trafna during a visit to Detroit the impulse to artistically engage with her experiences of abandoned property, industrial wastelands, and the standstill of urban communication in previously thriving cityscapes.

Overseas, the artist experienced something that was familiar to her both biographically and from the fate of Polish and German cities like Łódź, Bytom, Wałbrzych as well as Oberhausen, Bitterfeld, Eisenhüttenstadt and Berlin (Oberschöneweide). Trafna’s series, originating from the memory of Detroit– although it is by all means also currently a geopolitical burning issue–expresses in a universal way how architecture bears witness to an era, both its successful times and its setbacks. But with further change they are whitewashed, built upon, repurposed. New cityscapes are created, whose transformations are barely noticeable on site, but which are not only documented by artists like Trafna, but also granted an artistic visage.

Art is an actor that engages in the process of urban forgetting and remembering. Trafna’s work provides now an opportunity to pause for a moment and a space to re-think this intermediate state between past and future, both in its melancholy but also its potential.

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#### Ewa Trafna

Painter, sculptor and performance artist, 1981-2014 numerous solo exhibitons, 2001 design and realisation of a monument in Jedwabne, 2002 main prize at the International Biennale of Architecture, Kraków, numerous awards and distinctions.

#### Dr. Uta Schorlemmer

Scholar of theatre studies and educator, studied in Berlin, Paris and Krakau, curator of several exhibitions in Leipzig und Krakau, 2008-2010 adjunct professor at the Occidental College in Los Angeles, California. 2015 warded the Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland. Numerous theater studies publications.



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