

**Adrian Sauer**  
**‚Generikum‘**  
**JAN 19 - MAR 13, 2018**

An essential constituent in Adrian Sauer's work is the conception of photography in the digital age in regard to materiality, culture, and purpose. His works are designated by a unique and idiosyncratic appearance, oscillating between hyperrealism and simultaneously an apparently unreal surface. Sauer's vantage point is always the permeation of phenomena in our visual and material culture. He herewith uses different possibilities of image-making for the respective object of his photographic interest with utmost precision. In the Thrombo ASS series Adrian Sauer outlines the idea of universal mass production and its generic ramifications while shedding light on one fraction of the globalized world. Formally reduced and only slightly enlarged, captured against the neutral background, packages appear as ‚floating shells‘ – quasi-individualized objects with identical content. Being physically present and at the same time lucid, held intentionally between matter-of-fact and slight exaggeration, Thrombo ASS serves equally as a system of mirroring and projection. Questions of ‚original‘ and ‚originality‘ are subordinated by the concern of the preservation of the human body, which obviously serves as a connecting element. In doing so Adrian Sauer manages to subtly reconnect to this essential human experience in the age of the Digital Anthropocene.

Die Konzeption des Fotografischen im digitalen Zeitalter hinsichtlich Materialität, Kultur und Verwendungsweise ist wesentlicher Bestandteil der künstlerischen Arbeit von Adrian Sauer. Seine Werke besitzen stets eine ganz eigensinnliche und einzigartige Beschaffenheit, die zwischen Hyperrealismus und einer scheinbar unwirklichen Oberfläche oszilliert. Das Durchdringen von Phänomenen unserer visuellen und dinglichen Kultur ist dabei stets Ausgangspunkt seiner Arbeiten. Dabei nutzt er die verschiedenen Möglichkeiten des Bildermachens sehr präzise für den jeweiligen Gegenstand seiner fotografischen Untersuchungen. In der Serie Thrombo ASS zeichnet Adrian Sauer das Bild einer universellen Massenproduktion und deren generische Verzweigungen. Dabei wird ein Fragment einer globalisierten Welt sichtbar. Formal reduziert und nur leicht vergrößert im neutralen Bildraum platziert, treten uns die Verpackungen als ‚schwebende Hüllen‘ entgegen – quasi individuelle Objekte mit identischem Inhalt. Physisch präsent und luzide zugleich, bewusst zwischen matter-of-fact und leichter Überhöhung gehalten, fungiert Thrombo ASS als Spiegel- und Projektionssystem gleichermaßen. Fragen nach Original und Originalität ordnen sich der Sorge um den Erhalt des menschlichen Körpers unter. Damit gelingt Adrian Sauer auf subtile Weise die Rückbindung an diese grundlegende, menschliche Erfahrung im Zeitalter des digitalen Anthropozän.

*Adrian Sauer was born in Berlin 1976, Germany. Adrian Sauer has studied at the Academy of Visual Arts, Leipzig, DE. He was Meisterschüler in the class of Timm Rautert and lives and works in Leipzig. Adrian Sauer's work has been exhibited in the past years widely at institutions across Germany and abroad. Most recently his work was part of Farewell Photography, Biennale for contemporary photography, 2017 at the Wilhelm- Hack Museum, in Ludwigshafen at Rhein. Moreover, he was participated in the traveling group exhibition, The Bauhaus #itsalldesign, in ADAM, Art and Design Atomium Museum Brussels, BE, Bundeskunsthalle Bonn, DE, Tel Aviv Museum of Art IL and Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, DE. Forthcoming this year Adrian Sauer will be exhibited at the Pasquart Photoforum, Biel/Bienne, CH (s), as well as at the group exhibition Short Story(s) of Photography at the Sprengel Museum in Hannover, DE. Works of Adrian Sauer are part of various renowned institutional and private collections like the Folkwang Museum in Essen, the Collection of the State of Saxony in Dresden, the Museum of Fine Arts in Leipzig, the DZ Bank in Frankfurt am Main and abroad the Albright Knox Gallery in Buffalo, New York, the Zabłudowicz Art Trust in London (UK), the Collection Majerus, Luxembourg, the Collection Banco Espirito Santo in Lisbon (Portugal) and the Collection Banco de Espana in Madrid (Spain). Over the last years Adrian Sauer has received various stipends and scholarships, for example in 2013 the Casa Baldi stipend of the Germany Academy/ Villa Massimo in Rome, Italy as well as several working stipends in Germany as by the Konrad- Adenauer-Stiftung, Künstlerhaus Ahrenshoop or Künstlerhaus Schloss Wiepersdorf.*