

**1:100 Past and Present, Michael Wesely**  
Artistic intervention at the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion until 13 October



*Photo: Michael Wesely*

Barcelona, 26 September 2019.-

The Fundació Mies van der Rohe and the Goethe Institut present '1:100 Past and Present', an intervention by Michael Wesely in the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion that reflects on the passage of time and can be seen until 13 October 2019.

The artist, born in 1963 in Munich is a specialist in photographs of ultra-long exposure, as a way to convey a particular sense of the passage of time. In 2017, Michael Wesely installed a camera in the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion that began the process of making one of these photographs with an exposure time of 365 days.

In the title of the intervention, 1:100 evokes the standard scale of the architecture but in this case it is proposed as a time scale that refers to the entire year in which the artist installed a camera with uninterrupted shutter open in the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion linking this period to the hundred years since the Bauhaus school was opened and now celebrated with Bauhaus100.

The result is presented with a very large scale print on glass at exactly the same point from where it was taken. An image showing what is permanent, with minimal traces of the activity of all the people and events that have elapsed without leaving a trace, only the light changing throughout the days paints the background and erases the landscape.

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In addition to the image obtained in the Pavilion, two other long-exposure photographs are presented, in a format as large as the paramentos themselves that support it, creating new materialities that also challenge us about what makes up the essence of the things.

The titles, exposure time, support and size of Michael Wesely's works presented as 1:100. Past and Present are:

"Mies van der Rohe Pavillon (2017.09.13 – 2018.09.13)", photograph on glass, 300 x 650 cm- "Railway station (17.29 – 17.34, 29.12.2005)", photograph in audibond, 300 x 700 cm-

"Giverny (15.5. – 2016.11.11)", photo in aludibond, 300 x 1000 cm

In words of the artist "The extreme length of exposure leads to a shift in perception."

The presentation of the intervention will be this afternoon at 18:30h in the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion and will feature a colloquium with the artist Michael Wesely, Joachim Jager (curator) and Ivan Blasi as moderator (Fundació Mies van der Rohe). Presentation with the Deputy Consul General of Germany in Barcelona, Theodor Proffe and the directors of the Goethe Institut, Judith Maiworm and the Fundació Mies van der Rohe, Anna Ramos.

### **Michael Wesely**

Born 1963 in Munich, lives and works in Berlin. The artist attracted great attention with his series of works on Potsdamer Platz, the Museum of Modern Art (New York), photographs of the architecture of Brasilia and Sao Paulo, as well as a series of portraits that have not yet been completed. Exhibitions, among others: Hamburger Bahnhof (Berlin); Kunsthalle (Kiel); Gemeentemuseum (The Hague); Mies van der Rohe Haus (Berlin); Sao Paulo Biennale (Sao Paulo), Havana Biennale (Cuba)

### **Joachim Jager, artistic curator**

Deputy Director Nationalgalerie Berlin

Head of Neue Nationalgalerie (Mies-building Berlin)

Born in Munich, Germany. Study of art history, cultural history, and German literature. Ph.D. with a thesis on the American artist Robert Rauschenberg. 2000-2007 curator at the Hamburger Bahnhof – Berlin. Since 2008 head of the Neue Nationalgalerie, responsible for collection and program. Since 2012 involved in the refurbishment of the Mies-building as user representative. Since 2017 involved in all plannings for the new "Museum of the 20th Century" designed by Herzog / de Meuron. Selected exhibitions curated: William Kentridge: Journey to the moon (2007); Wolfgang Tillmans. Lighter (2008), Divided Heaven. Art between 1945-1968 (2011-2013), Stella & Calatrava. The Michael Kohlhaas Curtain (2011), Otto Piene. More Sky (2014), Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Hieroglyphs (2016/2017), Pablo Picasso x Thomas Scheibitz. Signs, stage, lexicon (2019). Publisher and author of numerous books and articles on modern and contemporary art.

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## Goethe-Institut Barcelona

The Goethe-Institut is the cultural institute of the Federal Republic of Germany and is active around the world with the aim of promoting knowledge of the German language abroad and promoting cultural collaboration. In addition, the Goethe-Institut conveys a broad vision of Germany through information on the country's cultural, social and political life. It works on the basis of reciprocal dialogue and, in this sense, it is at the international level at the service of all those who actively deal with the German language and culture. To this end, it collaborates with cultural entities, both private and public, and promotes cooperation with local cultural actors, organizing and supporting a wide range of cultural activities.

## Fundació Mies van der Rohe

The Fundació Mies van der Rohe was created in 1983 by the Barcelona City Council, with the initial aim of carrying out the reconstruction of the German Pavilion, designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Lilly Reich for the 1929 Barcelona International Exhibition. In addition to attending the conservation and knowledge of the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion, the Fundació promotes debate, dissemination and awareness on contemporary architectural and urban planning issues. In accordance with its purposes, the Fundació carries out different activities such as awards, congresses, conferences, exhibitions, workshops and facilities.

- **DOWNLOAD ALL INTERVENTION MATERIAL IN:**

[https://mies.link/PressKit\\_MichaelWesely19](https://mies.link/PressKit_MichaelWesely19)

- Press release
- Images
- Gifs

- **Dates:**

INTERVENTION: Until 13 October 2019 in the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion (Avda. Francesc Ferrer i Gràrdia, 7)

Presentation of Michael Wesely intervention with artist talk and debate : 26 September 2019 at 18:30h to the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion

Access to the exhibition included at the entrance to the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion

Attending the presentation with [prior reservation](#).

Free entry with SWAB 2019 and/or Barcelona Gallery Weekend accreditation.

For more information:

## Fundació Mies van der Rohe - Press office

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