

## Art CV Dr. Kathrin Kiss-Elder

### Short version

I was born 1967 and spent three years of my childhood in Africa (Niger and Algeria). I start to photograph and write poems when I still was a child.

1987 – 1992 I studied psychology, literature and practical Theology in Berlin and Munich. I finished my PhD.Thesis on Christian transitional rituals in 1997.

I am exhibiting and publishing since a decade as artist, poet and scientist.



Upcoming exhibitions and other artistical events in 2016:

- 10/2017 The Pentateuch-Project, complete presentation in the Diocesan Museum in Opole / Poland
- 6/2017 exhibition of selected works about the Pentateuch corresponding to surahs at the Central mosc in Cologne during their Ramadan Lent.
- 8/2016 Lyric in space: Participation as a poet at the Art days of the Abbey of Brauweiler / Germany.
- 5/2016 Psalms: Participation as a poet and photographer at an international music festival in the Christuskirche, Brauweiler / Germany.
- 3/2016 GenderLess: Exhibition as a member of the international Association of Artist's at Gesis / Cologne.

Parallel to my work as an artist, I am working for the University diploma as a lecturer. I am living with my partner and three daughters in a jewish-christian family in Cologne Germany.

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## Childhood, education, art work, exhibitions and publications

### Childhood

I was born 1967 in Germany and spent my childhood in Germany, Niger and Algeria, where my father worked as a medical doctor.

I come from a family of passionate artists and learners: My great grandfather designed carpets, and his son, my grandfather, became my mentor and teacher in photography. He was a man with a very sharp eye and told me a lot about perception, memory and photographic technic, but also about picture sensibility.

My childhood in Africa means a lot for me artistically. The years in the desert of Niger and then later on the cost of Algeria, surrounded by a multitude of people of different languages, religions and cultures had an immense influence on me. Annaba, the city we lived in Algeria, was an open minded city that allowed, at this time, a lot of life styles and religions in peaceful coexistence.

When I was a child, even when I was still a rather little child, two subjects attracted me: Words, and pictures. At the age of five I decided to become a writer, and started to write poems at the age of 10. I started to develop my own language of things as a photographer since I - finally! - got an own camera at the age of 16. I was fascinated by surfaces, by details, by stories, and by the silence behind pictures.

### Education

Theology: Parallel to my art work I studied psychology, practical theology and literature, ending in my ph-D. thesis, where I inquired the meaning of Christian transitional rituals for believers today and worked a lot about the meaning of monotheist symbols and narrations in the contemporary culture. The theological professor

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Tahoua, Niger, 1971



Me and the desert, multi-layer photography, 1990



Coffee and brush, photography, 1988

of this time, Eberhard Hauschildt, is still a mentor of mine. 1996 I won the Elisabeth-Kraus- fellowship for my thesis.

Memberships: I am member of the DFV, the German Association of specialist journalists, and of the IKV, the International Association of Artists.

## Art work

Books: 1997 my first book, a child book, was published by bohém press, followed by 10 books about different subjects like learning or creativity in architecture, all in well-known editions, several of them translated in other languages.

Pictures: I specialized in multi-layer photography using my own pictures. First with an old camera where I planned double exposures, Then in a laboratory, from 2002 on, digital. This technique adds real depth to the image turning them into something hyperreal.

Exhibitions: Since 2003, where I had my first exhibition as a photographer, I exhibite regularly, also with other artists. Since then, I work with a growing number of excellent artists, painters, photographers to bring, with the other artist I am working with, our artwork, and our specific viewpoint toward society in daily life.



Requiem for Victoria,  
multi-layer photography, 1994



Purim, Cover  
multi-layer photography, 2014



The sea in the synagogue,  
multi-layer photography, 2013

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