

Curatorial Concept by Krzysztof Candrowicz

BREAKING POINT Searching for Change

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There is nothing permanent except change.
– Heraclitus

Radical change, crises, critical moments, and breaking points are frequently discussed. We cannot open a newspaper or magazine, watch a film, or go to work without being confronted, directly or indirectly, with these concepts. We are facing social, economic, political, environmental, biological, technological, and demographic changes on a global level, which are ultimately related to all our lives.

Our societies are changing faster than most can comprehend. Technology continues to change societies. The so-called "world cultures," driven by a global market and shared via social media, are a virtual collective illusion. There is an urgent need to define, understand, and navigate these new realities. The rate and scale of these changes experienced by people are simply overwhelming.

There are numerous ways of dealing with change. Clues to identify these changes may be found in a most mundane daily artefact – the computer keyboard. We use keys to operate computers, but most of the time we are not aware of the powerful terms that are hidden behind them. We use keyboard commands hundreds of times a day without thinking about their original meaning. These words will become exhibition titles and together will form a collective story about modern society.

[ENTER]	on breaking points and the necessity for change
[HOME]	on belonging, safety, migration, and nomadism
[CONTROL]	on politics, the economy, and power
[SPACE]	on urbanism, alienation, anonymity, and street life
[SHIFT]	on personal change, paradigm shifts, and alternation
[RETURN]	on roots, heritage, and learning from the past
[DELETE]	on censorship and images removed from visual culture
[ESCAPE]	on environmental changes and ecological emergencies

A BREAKING POINT is a critical moment in the process of change. It is a time when we can no longer search for new goals or values but must immediately take a new direction. Photography has an ability to freeze time and bring focus to such moments. The **Triennial of Photography Hamburg** will be an attempt to raise awareness. The festival program is a humanistic statement on sustainability and change. It is an inspiration and an invitation to act.

The eye should learn to listen before it looks.
– Robert Frank