



**Fensterfotografien (Window Photographs).** Dresden 2002/03. Series of 8 motifs. Photography / Lambda Print. Each 20 x 30 cm

In the photographic work of Martina Wolf the motive of the window in the art historical tradition of *finestra aperta* is once again taken up and thematised as the frame between inner and outer. Her **photographs, produced in Dresden, of windows in differing living situations** show the multiple possible framings of the view through curtains and blinds and the transformation of the outlook into its own picture format. Steamed up window panes filter the light and softly blur the outside. Buildings opposite block the view, drawn curtains allow only a guess as to what is to be seen outside the flat.

Wolf's studies of the window as an architectural element show not only how it directs our perception, but also how much it says about our dealings with each viewing convention that controls in- and outlook.

One can shut oneself off from one's surroundings and prevent or reduce the view inwards through curtains. The more open the view outwards, the more others can look in.

Through such simple adjustments the private appears in the both factual and serially arranged photographs. The window always takes the same position in the photograph, the rooms are always empty of people. Nevertheless, the handling of the window as a transparent connection to the outside, a threshold of visibility, reveals much about the inhabitants of the block of flats, and their relationship to privacy.

Text: **Vanessa Joan Müller**

**Ausblicke auf Landschaften**

Catalogue: Martina Wolf, Verlag für moderne Kunst, Nürnberg













