

Presenting *Cabaret Bizarre* – Opulence par excellence in a volume of photographs

Cabaret Bizarre celebrates freedom of imagination and sexual diversity with hedonistic and provocative glamour. A veritable Garden of Earthly Delights, a showcase for talented birds of paradise and freaks, a homage to the unconventional. In about 90 black-and-white photographs by Kostas Maros, this strikingly designed volume entitled *Cabaret Bizarre* (Christoph Merian Verlag) documents moments full of emotion and euphoria both on stage and behind the scenes. They are atmospherically luxuriant and convey an intoxicating delight in trash and in Dadaesque exaggeration.

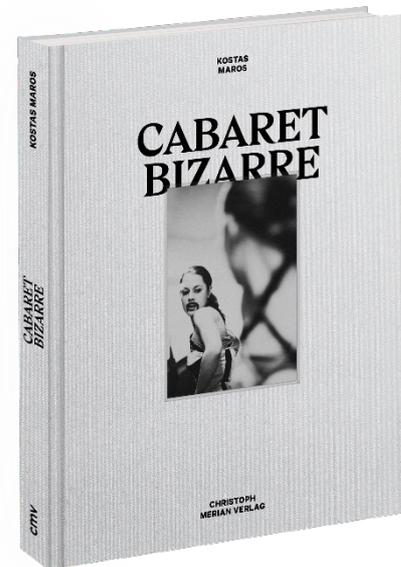
Inspired by cabarets in Berlin and Weimar in the late 1920s, by Bertolt Brecht, Federico Fellini and Luis Buñuel, Fabrice Noir fulfilled his dream of having a cabaret in Basel in 2006. This in Switzerland, unique show has staged more than 70 performances in Basel and throughout Europe to date.

Kostas Maros accompanied these performances with his camera over many years. His photographs show spectacular stage scenes and intimate moments behind the scenes. According to Charles Baudelaire, «Le beau est toujours bizarre» (The beautiful is always bizarre), and the figures from the cabaret presented in this book are indeed bizarrely beautiful. Be that confrencier or dandy, Nosferatu or punk, diva or crook – the beautiful and the ugly range close together. Bondage and piercings, wigs and furs, suspenders and make-up are stage-managed with evident delight. Cheerful provocation and the darkness of night make everything seem possible. This fascinating series of photographs has gained the photographer numerous awards.

With a text by X Schneeberger (* 1976, writer, artist, drag queen). In 2021, X's novel *Neon Pink & Blue* received one of the Swiss Literature Prizes.

About the photographer:

Kostas Maros (* 1980) is self-taught and only opted for photography in 2013 after legal training. Since then he has worked for editorial, corporate and advertising clients, while also doing free-lance reportages and art projects. Maros is represented by the 13photo agency for his commissioned work and by Galerie 94 and Galerie Wertheimer for his artistic work. His photographs have received awards, among others, in the context of the Prix de la Photographie Paris, the VFG Nachwuchsförderpreis, the Swiss Press Award and the Swiss Photo Award.



Kostas Maros

Cabaret Bizarre

166 pages, 92 b/w illustrations,
linen-bound, 22,5 x 29 cm,
German/English/French

© 2022 Christoph Merian Verlag

CHF 49.- / EUR 48,-

ISBN 978-3-85616-981-7

Printable files of the book cover and other illustrations are to be found in the Media Release relating to this publication under:

www.merianverlag.ch/presse

Should you have any questions please contact:

Andrea Bikle
Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit
Christoph Merian Verlag
St. Alban-Vorstadt 12
4052 Basel
Tel. +41 61 226 33 50
a.bikle@merianverlag.ch

We would like to thank you in advance for sending us a file copy of your review!