

GDR – MUSEUM VIEWS

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The GDR has become history. After German reunification, many East German families hoping for a different, better lifestyle discarded their daily household items as bulk refuse. A good decade later, these items are housed in specially created museums, giving a picture of everyday life in the GDR.

These interiors never saw any actual living. The cat on the couch is stuffed, and the state-owned factories that produced all the things we see depicted here have long since ceased to exist. The photographs are images of constructed spaces, in which a seemingly neutral picture of the past has been created, with no reference points in the present to challenge its objectivity. The simplification and narrative reduction through the application of formal criteria intensifies that: Over parallel perspectives and hard crops seek to communicate the dysfunctionality of the arrangements and stress the fact that we are dealing with benigne pre-selected staged productions.

The photographs were taken in privately operated museums in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Brandenburg, Berlin, Saxony and Thuringia.

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c-prints, 30 x 30 / 60 x 60 cm

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