

Även titeln är väldigt viktig för bilden

(Even the caption is very important to the image)

Erik Betshammar

23 aug – 14 sep 2014

Galleri Mors Mössa

*I remember the image. (it is a portrait) the image is black and white,
on an yellowish paper (nicotin? age?)
it is on the first spread in an album, in a plastic pocket from Sjö 18-24 the image shows a man
gray water-combed hair, tight goggles and smoothly shaved cheeks
and the eyes old eyes that do not reveal anything (not directly) a starting point, a link
a figure
I can only fantasise, not remember anything only the image*

Betshammar works in a contemporary photographic context with artworks that stem from his own experiences, memories and archives. The medium is in focus and he lets his curiosity for photography and joy for being close to the material interact in an instinctual manner.

Photography has continued to develop since its invention, but has also existed in a state of duality, from Fox Talbot's calotypes to Daguerre's method daguerreotypes, to today's partly analogue processes and fully digitized workflows. Betshammar makes use of this duality and develops upon it in his practice.

In this exhibition *Även titeln är väldigt viktig för bilden* Betshammar presents entirely new works that are both linked together, but also free standing. Through a personal and minimised expression we get a glimpse into his world. The exhibition combines installation works with photographs, and takes its starting point in his experiences of working in a contemporary photographic context. He contrasts the feeling of hopelessness found in the endless possibilities and choices that a digital image manipulator encounters with the comfort found when working with as few choices as possible with only a lightmeter a camera and light sensitive material. The photographs in the exhibition are free from digital noise, and when confronting them you are overwhelmed with a feeling of great love; the colours glow, the darkness is impassable and the light is blindingly bright.

Erik Betshammar, born 1985 in Västerås, Sweden has a MFA degree from Högskolan för fotografi (School of Photography, Gothenburg University). Since taking his exam in 2012 he has continued to work in a critical manner with photography in relation to meaning, through different forms of expression. For his degree show *Som om de här försöken – att hårt pressa ditt huvud mot mitt bröst – att tejpa samman våra händer – att be dig balansera mina dagböcker på din rygg – skulle förändra – bevara – något* he was awarded the Carl Larsson - stipend. The artworks in the exhibition at Galleri Mors Mössa are all new works that are shown for the first time.

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