



BÖHM CHAPEL

Platon: SERVICE

- Press Preview:** Tuesday, 14 April 2015, 11.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.
The artist will be present.
- Opening:** Tuesday, 14 April 2015, 1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- Duration:** 15 April – 28 September 2015
- Location:** Böhm Chapel, Hans-Böckler-Strasse 170
50354 Hürth-Kalscheuren



Platon, Seaman Jeremiah Lineberry, U.S.S. San Antonio, 2008.
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Elsheba Khan at the grave of her son,
Specialist Kareem Rashad Sultan Khan, Arlington Cemetery, 2008.

Rafael Jablonka is delighted to open the first solo show in Germany by British photographer **Platon** (*1968 in London) on **April 14th** at **BöhM Chapel**. Platon is most famous for his political portraits (Barack Obama, Muammar Gaddafi, Vladimir Putin, and George W. Bush) and images of other great influencers of our time such as Muhammad Ali, Vivienne Westwood, Edward Snowden, and Woody Allen. This show, however, presents a very different aspect of his work with the world premiere of five emotionally stirring, large-scale photographs from his award-winning **SERVICE** portfolio.

In 2008, **Platon** was granted a multi-year contract with *The New Yorker* magazine, a position previously held by the late Richard Avedon. SERVICE was the first photo essay he produced in this capacity, dedicated to the men and women serving their country in the military, and to their families. Today, 7 years later, the subjects with their steadfast clarity take on renewed urgency, especially against the backdrop of the current crisis-ridden global situation.

The portfolio was published a few weeks before Barack Obama's first presidential election, and had a significant historic impact on the election's outcome. General Colin Powell was so moved by the image of a Muslim American mother grieving over her son's grave that he decided social integration must always come before politics. Hoping that Obama would represent a more respectful and tolerant society, Colin Powell, a member of the Republican Party, endorsed the Democratic candidate, Barack Obama, and so helped tip a moving surge toward Obama's victory.



Böhm Chapel: Since fall 2010, this exceptional building has been used by Jablonka Gallery as an exhibition space for contemporary art. There is an intentional absence of display systems, partitions, and fixtures; all exhibited works either hang in the five available alcoves or are free standing. The minimalist architecture of this sacred place and the almost iconic placement of Platon's monumental works foster a contemplative atmosphere and confront the viewer with what military service stands for: compassion, dignity, strength, destruction, and perseverance.

For more information on the Böhm Chapel, the gallery, and the works, please contact:

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Opening Hours:

Tuesday, April 14th – Sunday, April 19th: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thereafter: Saturdays + Sundays, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

For press materials, accreditation and interview requests:

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