

PRESS RELEASE

Miron Zownir – *Berlin Noir* at MegaFence & Fence Entrance Tresor

Opening: Wednesday, 30 April 2025, 6 pm - 9 pm

Aftershow at Tresor from 9 pm

Duration: 30 April 2025 – 11 May 2025

Location: MegaFence Tresor, Köpenicker Strasse 70, 10179 Berlin





Miron Zownir, Berlin 1980 (left) | Miron Zownir, Berlin 2009 (right), both: © Miron Zownir, courtesy Galerie Bene Taschen

In collaboration with the Tresor Foundation, Galerie Bene Taschen is proud to present the black-and-white works of Berlin photographer Miron Zownir in front of the legendary Club Tresor. Zownir's haunting images from his *Berlin Noir* series will stretch across 100 meters of exhibition space along the MegaFence in front of Kraftwerk Berlin and the Fence Entrance to Tresor.

In this striking large-format installation, Berlin from the mid-1970s onward meets the city of today. Then as now, Miron Zownir captures the urban landscape and its protagonists in a radical, raw photographic language. The city's DNA – from before the fall of the Berlin Wall to the present day – is etched into his work. Nightlife, subcultures, and individuals on the margins of society are reflected in Zownir's images, along with the spirit of the times and Berlin's singular historical character. Renowned for his uncompromising engagement with urban reality, Zownir confronts viewers with a vivid mix of wildness, freedom, and intimacy. His photographs trace the ongoing evolution of Berlin and the resilience of its subcultures, while shedding light on the social realities of city life.

Zownir began his photographic career in West Berlin in 1975, working with analogue black-and-white film. A formative year in London (1978/79) was followed by eight-and-a-half years in New York City from 1980. His documentation of the city's subculture during the 1980s established his reputation as one of the most radical documentary photographers of his generation. After further stops in Los Angeles and Pittsburgh, Zownir returned to Berlin in 1995, where he continues to live and work.





Miron Zownir, Berlin 1980 (left) | Miron Zownir, Berlin 1979 (right), both: © Miron Zownir, courtesy Galerie Bene Taschen

Zownir's photographs have been widely exhibited in solo and group shows around the world. In 2004, the Centre de Cultura Contemporània in Barcelona presented his work alongside pieces by Picasso and Goya. In 2008 and 2009, his photographs were featured in *DARKSIDE I* and *DARKSIDE II* at Fotomuseum Winterthur. In 2016, Haus der Photographie in Hamburg hosted a retrospective featuring more than one hundred works. Further institutional shows followed. The Museum für Kunst & Gewerbe in Hamburg (2019) and the Museum für Fotografie in Berlin (2020) showcased his early Berlin and New York works as part of *WOLFGANG SCHULZ AND THE PHOTO SCENE AROUND 1980*. In 2022, Kunstmuseum Gelsenkirchen and the Museum für Moderne Kunst — Weserburg Bremen presented images from his *UKRAINIAN NIGHT* series.

In *DIX AND THE PRESENT* (2023/24) at Deichtorhallen Hamburg, 50 photographs from five of Zownir's series – shot in cities including Moscow, London, New York City, West Berlin, Berlin, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Las Vegas – were shown in dialogue with Otto Dix's etching portfolio *The War*.

Now, for the first time, Zownir's work will leave the gallery and museum context to enter the public realm. Beginning April 30, 2025, this special collaboration with the Tresor Foundation and curated by Bene Taschen – Zownir's longtime gallerist – transforms the MegaFence in front of Kraftwerk Berlin and the Tresor Club entrance into an impressive open-air gallery. The result is a bold, barrier-free dialogue between Zownir's photographic art and Berlin's dynamic urban landscape.

Contact for information about the artworks:

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