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A grandiose tour of Mexican architecture is coming to New York



Iglesia de Santa Maria Tonantzintla | 2015 (Candida Höfer, Köln / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn Courtesy Sean Kelly, New York)

Opulent interiors, delicate dances of light and shadow, and 600 years of Mexican history will soon go on display at Manhattan's Sean Kelly Gallery. *Candida Höfer—In Mexico* will run from February 2 through March 16 and present large format architectural photographs from German artist Candida Höfer.

Höfer traveled to Mexico in 2015 as part of the Mexico-Germany Dual Year, a cultural and scientific exchange program between the two countries that showcased the partnership's fruits in Mexico throughout 2016 and 2017. Höfer's photographs, which took her across Mexico, are meticulously composed, ornate shots of grand halls, museums, palaces, and auditoriums, places of convergence that, in her series, are entirely empty.

In a press release for the upcoming show, Höfer wrote that: "I realized that what people do in those places—and what the spaces do to them—is more obvious when nobody is present, just as an absent guest can often become the topic of conversation."

SEAN KELLY



Shadow 2015 (Candida Höfer, Köln / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn Courtesy Sean Kelly, New York)

More than just large-scale photos of sweeping spaces, *Candida Höfer—In Mexico* will also put intimate aspects of each building on display as well. Light falling across a doorway, or hidden nooks, were captured by Höfer's handheld camera and the fleeting instances stand in stark contrast to the much larger staged photographs. The photos are truly massive, each being at least 70 inches wide; by comparison, the more intimate photos will be presented as 16-and-9/16-inch-by-12-and-7/8-inch prints.



Passage II 2015 (Candida Höfer, Köln / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn Courtesy Sean Kelly, New York)

While this is the first time Höfer's *Mexico* series will be shown in New York, the show was previously on display in Mexico and the North Carolina Museum of Art.