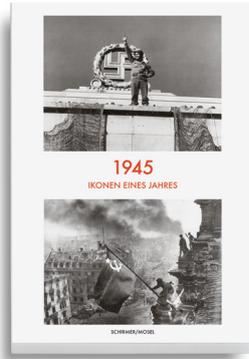


Munich, April 2015



## PRESS RELEASE

### 1945 – A year's icons

*70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the collapse and new beginning of a world*

The year 1945 is without comparison in the history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Not only was it the year that saw the end of World War II and with it the end of the “Third Reich”, but as Germany and Europe were liberated from the murderous grip of the Nazi regime and Fascism, the course for a new world order was also set.

On the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this memorable year, Schirmer/Mosel Verlag is publishing the large-format photo book *1945 – Ikonen eines Jahres*. The book brings together iconic photographs from the fateful year of 1945. The images assembled here should not and cannot be forgotten. They also stand out due to their exceptional photographic quality.

The opening of the Nazi concentration camps, the bombing of German cities, Hitler's suicide and the unconditional surrender of the German armed forces on May 8, the huge floods of refugees from the East, the victorious Allies' conferences in Yalta and Potsdam, the Trinity test in Los Alamos and the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the end of the War in the Pacific and the start of the Nuremberg Trials – all these are historical milestones that were caught on camera by the world's most distinguished reporters and photographers, most notably Margaret Bourke-White, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Robert Capa, Yevgeny Khaldei, Alfred Eisenstaedt, Lee Miller, Georgi Petrusov, George Rodger and August Sander.

*1945 – Ikonen eines Jahres* is a collection of 108 famous and often shocking images of the events of these geopolitically poignant months in chronological order. Each chapter begins with an essay on the historical background to the photographs. Norbert Frei, Professor of Modern and Contemporary History in Jena, Germany, outlines the key events and correlations in his introductory text.

Norbert Frei (born 1955) is Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Head of the *Jena Center 20<sup>th</sup> Century History*, a full member of the Saxonian Academy of Sciences and author of numerous publications on 20<sup>th</sup>-century history.

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#### 1945 – Ikonen eines Jahres (1945 – Icons)

108 Photographs by 43  
Photographers

With an essay by Norbert Frei  
Edited by Lothar Schirmer  
216 pages, 108 illustrations  
in duotone and color  
ISBN 978-3-8296-0715-5  
€ 34.– / German Edition