



the blink of an eye

the photographer
annelise kretschner

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Simone
Klein

'in a good photograph
the idea is elevated
into reality and reality
into the idea'¹

on the photographic works
of annelise kretschmer

Thanks to exhibitions and publications as well as the activities of collectors and gallerists since the late 1970s, today the life and work of the Dortmund photographer Annelise Kretschmer (1903–1987) are well known and classified in a scholarly manner within the history of photography. Especially her portrait photographs from the 1920s and 1930s are fully established within the canon of the avant-garde photography of the prewar years in Europe. They were created during the golden age of the 'New Vision' in Germany and international photography and within the context of the new artistic and entrepreneurial development opportunities of the 'New Woman'.

The curator Ute Eskildsen, working as the head of the Photographic Collection at the Museum Folkwang in Essen, achieved pioneering work. So did the French collector of photographs and photo historian Christian Bouqueret, who died in 2013. Eskildsen rediscovered the avant-garde photographer during her reappraisal of the travelling exhibition *Film und Foto*, organised by the Deutscher Werkbund in 1929, which had been shown in Stuttgart, Zurich and Danzig and elsewhere, and integrated Kretschmer's works in 1979 into the reconstructed presentation of the show. In 1982 Eskildsen organised a first solo exhibition titled *Annelise Kretschmer. Fotografin*² in the Museum Folkwang in Essen. In 1985 Bouqueret acquired a stock of vintage prints directly from the photographer and placed her Paris photographs from 1928 to 1930 in context within his collection, which is specialised in French and German photography between the 1920s and the 1940s.³

Cat. 1 *Portrait of Sigmund Kretschmer Drawing, from Behind*, c. 1930, silver gelatin print, 30.2 x 29.5 cm, inv. no. C-30659 LM (detail)



Cat. 31 *Street in North Africa*, 1922,
silver gelatin print, 8.5 × 11.9 cm,
inv. no. C-32025 LM

Cat. 32 *Two Men Riding Camels in Front of a
Stepped Pyramid in North Africa*, 1922, silver
gelatin print, 6.3 × 11.3 cm, inv. no. C-32027 LM



Cat. 33 *Men in Front of a Gateway in Jerusalem*,
1924, bromoil print on paper, 13.5 × 10.5 cm,
inv. no. C-31869 LM



Cat. 79 *Portrait of a Little Girl with a Hair Clip*, n. d., silver gelatin print, 39.5 x 29.7 cm, inv. no. C-30273 LM



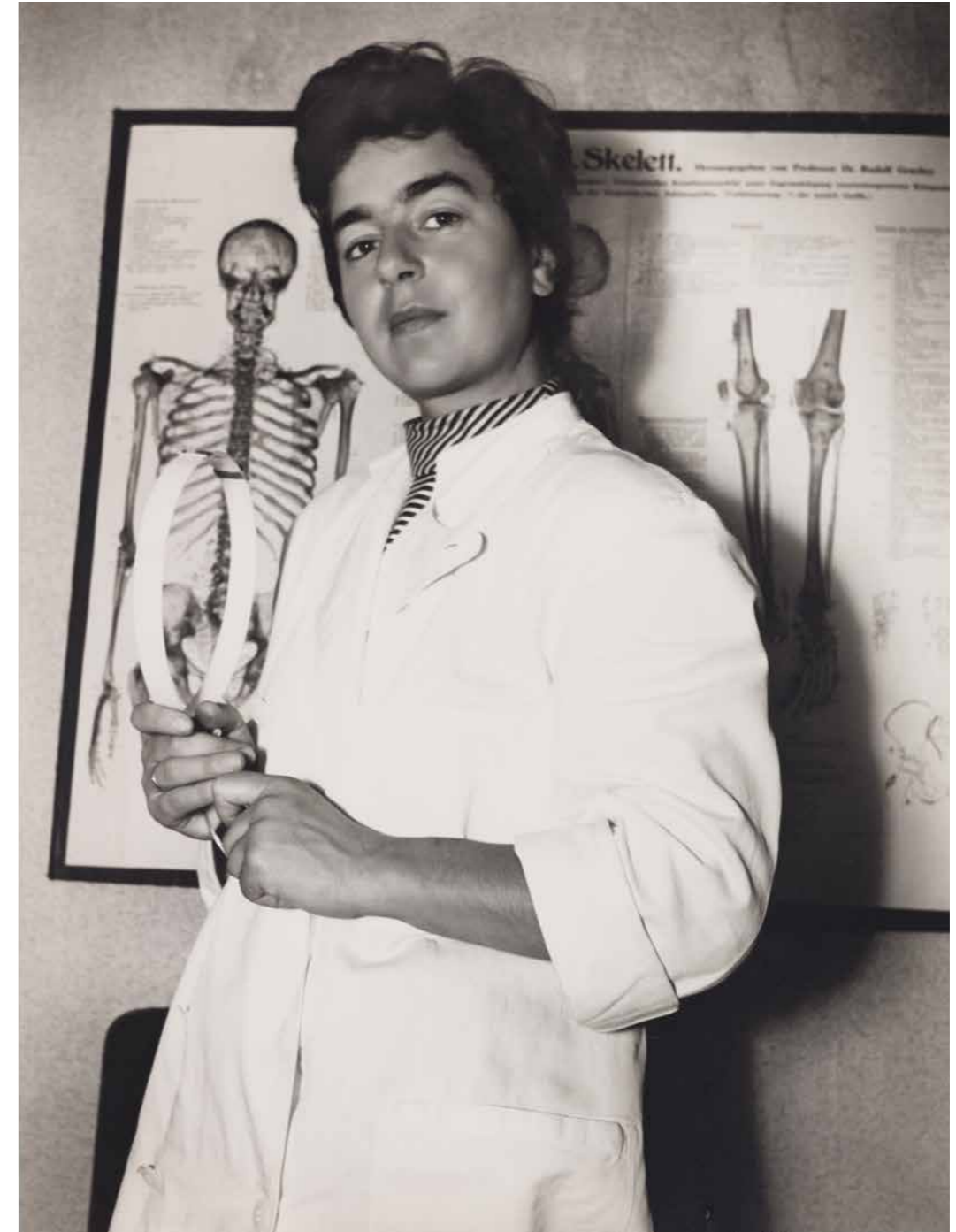
Cat. 80 *Portrait of a Little Ballet Student*, n. d., silver gelatin print, 38.5 x 29.2 cm, inv. no. C-30241 LM



Cat. 130 *Head and Shoulders Portrait of the Dortmund Architect Richard Riepe*, c. 1963, silver gelatin print, 39 x 29.6 cm, inv. no. C-30137 LM



Cat. 131 *Portrait of an Architect*, 1959, silver gelatin print, 39.8 x 29.9 cm, inv. no. C-30906 LM



Cat. 132 *Portrait of the ENT Physician Dr. Mentler from Dortmund*, 1950s, silver gelatin print, 39 x 29.6 cm, inv. no. C-30155 LM



Cat. 178 *Portrait of Florence Henri*, 1933, silver gelatin print, 38.7 × 29 cm, inv. no. C-30503 LM



Cat. 179 *Elisabeth Kadow and Anette Engelmann from the College of Arts in Dortmund*, 1930, silver gelatin print, 39.5 × 29.6 cm, inv. no. C-30497 LM