

NEW RELEASE 2024

Christine Turnauer Biblical Faces of Ethiopia

Texts by Asfa-Wossen Asserate, Christine Turnauer, Menachem Waldman, Dietmar W. Winkler Designed by Margarethe Hausstätter Half-cloth hardcover 26 × 32 cm 120 pages, 54 tritone ills.

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A magnificent photobook exploring the religious origins of Ethiopia

Ethiopia is characterized by a diversity of religions, ethnicities, and languages, with a history dating back to biblical times. Judaism and Christianity have left many traces in the African country. Christine Turnauer traveled to Ethiopia to explore its Jewish and Christian origins and to photograph deeply religious people. The impressive black-and-white images reveal the interest of the photographer and former assistant to Frank Horvat in the spiritual lives of those she portrays. Sensitivity and empathy as well as mutual trust and respect are important prerequisites for this. Christine Turnauer is a seeker of meaning who looks at the human condition without reservation.

From the text Judaism and Jews in Ethiopia by Rabbi Menachem

Compiling them as a book is intended to add connections between the various components of the Ethiopian people, and it inspires hope for a life of mutual respect and love between the descendants of our father Abraham.

From the text Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity by Prof. Dietmar W. Winkler:

This book, with its fascinating photographs, provides wonderful insights into the many faces and traditions of Ethiopia. It reflects the spiritual richness that has grown out of the confluence of the different religions and cultures of Ethiopia.

From the text The Ethiopian Empire in Interaction with the Ethiopian Orthodox Church by Prince Asfa-Wossen Asserate, PhD: The traditions of the Ethiopian imperial dynasty and the Ethiopian Church stretch back over three thousand years. Over the centuries, Ethiopia's imperial court, church, and people, aware of their

covenant with God, have constantly striven to come closer to the ideal of His kingdom on Earth. This awareness has shaped Ethiopia, and held the nation together, regardless of difficulties, for centuries.

Christine Turnauer moved to Paris in 1971 and apprenticed to various photographers. From 1974 to 1976, she was an assistant to Frank Horvat and then worked as a freelance photographer until 1979. That year, she emigrated to Alberta, Canada, where she focused on photographing traditional dancers among North America's indigenous peoples. Using a portable daylight studio, she traveled for two years from Alberta to Montana, attending different "powwows." Her book I Saw More Than I Can Tell (2020) features portraits from this project.

Since returning to Europe in 1995, she has traveled to Japan, Romania, Ethiopia, and more, creating a series of black-and-white portraits published as Presence (2014). In 2014, she began a new project on the dignity of Gypsies, leading to the book *The Dignity* of the Gypsies (2017).

In 2018, after meeting some Gitanos in Arles, she was inspired to create a tribute series, exhibited in 2022.

Forthcoming Exhibition

Chapelle Sainte-Anne, Arles. France 25.02.2025 - 23.03.2025

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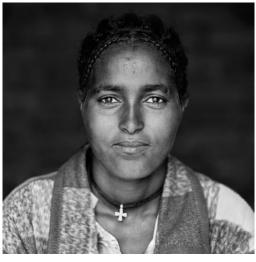
o1_Mitin Badege, grandmother, and Kalemwork, her grandson, community of Beta Israel, Gondar, Ethiopia, 2011 © Christine Turnauer



02_Mother and child, community of Beta Israel, Gondar, Ethiopia, 2011 © Christine Turnauer



o3_ Meri Geta, choirmaster, church of Yemrehana Krestos, north of Lalibela, Ethiopia, 2011 © Christine Turnauer



o4_ Medhin Aregawi, Ethiopian Orthodox Christian, Gheralta, Ethiopia, 2011 © Christine Turnauer



 $o_5_$ A young monk, holding his hand cross, Ethiopia, 2011 © Christine Turnauer



o6_Worlid or "Black Lady", as we named her, Gondar market, Ethiopia, 2011 © Christine Turnauer





07_ Ethiopian Orthodox Christian, church of Yemrehana Krestos, north of Lalibela, Ethiopia, 2011 © Christine Turnauer