



# All At War

## Photography by German soldiers 1939-45

Ian Jeffrey

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- A unique selection of German wartime photography drawn from personal photo albums of German soldiers
- A fascinating look at the daily lives of the soldiers during the War
- Lavishly illustrated with hundreds of images from the collection of the Archive of Modern Conflict, Canada, which this book shows for the very first time
- With compelling texts by celebrated author Ian Jeffrey

In September 1939, thousands of German soldiers were turned loose on Poland. In 1940, they descended on Holland, Belgium and France. In 1941 they went to the Balkans, and then to the USSR. Armed with Leica and Rolleiflex cameras, some of these soldiers were officially commissioned as photographers, while others were asked by their commanders to snap records of events. Among them were trainees who knew about the Bauhaus, and other, older, men who could remember Weimar. Some excelled at formal portraiture, others were storytellers, stylists or humanists who wept at what they saw. The style and content of their work changed along with the collective mood after 1942, a change that is discernible in the photographs themselves. Celebrated author and art historian Ian Jeffrey – author of *How to Read a Photograph* and *The Photography Book* – has trawled through these albums, picking out the most compelling of these works to create an intimate record of anonymous lives experiencing the unprecedented.

**Ian Jeffrey** taught in the art department of Goldsmiths College at the University of London during the 1970s and 1980s. In the early 1990s he lectured at the Central European University in Prague. In 1975 he organized and curated an exhibition of British photography, *The Real Thing: An Anthology of British Photographs, 1840-1950*, for the Arts Council of Great Britain. The same year Thames & Hudson published his *Photography: A Concise History*. In the 1980s he wrote for Alan Ross's *London Magazine*. In 1999 he assembled and introduced *Revisions: An Alternative History of Photography* for the National Museum of Photography, Film & Television. He wrote *The Photo Book* for Phaidon in 1997, and expanded it in 2014. In 2008 Abrams, Ludion, Schirmer/Mosel and Thames & Hudson published his *How to Read a Photograph*. 'Fatal Praise: John Ruskin and the Daguerreotype' appeared in *John Ruskin: Artist and Observer*, prepared in 2014 by the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa, which also published his article 'Bohemian Odyssey: Josef Sudek's Publishing Projects' in a Sudek catalog of 2016.