



**Christopher Taylor**  
**Steinholt**  
**A Story of the Origin of Names**

Texts by Christopher Taylor, Monica Dematté  
 Poem by Birgir Andrésón  
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**Series about the photographer's wife's family history set in the stunningly beautiful but also challenging environment of northeast Iceland**

Steinholt is a house built in 1929 by my wife's paternal grandparents in the fishing village of Þórshöfn, in the remote northeast corner of Iceland. My wife is named Álfheiður. As a child, she would travel from Reykjavík each summer to stay with her grandparents. Those months, spent in the company of the grandmother after whom she is named, are among her happiest childhood memories. The closeness of their relationship and the unexpected circumstances by which we came to acquire this small house, are where the photographic project begins. Informed by stories and written accounts of local history, I have retraced the movements of my wife's ancestors as they crisscrossed this austere yet beautiful region, in search of work or a place to live. The resulting images are an attempt to interpret the past and investigate the origin of names as a means to evoke a personalised view on the value of memory, and spirit of place. (Christopher Taylor)

In the digital era of fast, distracted communication, Christopher continues to use old, heavy analogue cameras and black-and-white roll film that he develops and prints himself. The months spent immersed in this landscape, exposed to the elements, are followed by long days in his darkroom in the South of France, where his time is consumed in sealing these memories on paper, sustained by endless cups of tea. The photographer's Icelandic summers, swathed in boundless light, are thus followed by long periods of self-imposed darkness. It is through this rigorous regime that his images are distilled, delivered as hymns to beauty

in which blacks and whites of endless hue lend an ethereal quality to these snapshots of life.  
 (From the text by Monica Dematté)

A trained zoologist and self taught photographer, **Christopher Taylor** (b. 1958) has traveled extensively in France, Iceland, India, and China. He has held critically acclaimed solo and group exhibitions in Paris, Madrid, London, Beijing, Delhi, Mumbai, and Calcutta, and is represented by Galerie Camera Obscura, Paris, Tasveer, India, and Ofoto & Moartspace, China.

**Selling and Marketing Points**

- Half-coth hardcover book with separate 24 page textleaflet for French and Chinese translations
- Includes 66 exquisitely printed duotone photographs
- Exhibitions:  
 National Museum of Iceland, Reykjavík  
 February 11 – May 28, 2017

Galerie Camera Obscura, Paris, Fall 2017

**Materials attached**

Sample pages from layout

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**Contact Kehrer Verlag**  
 Barbara Karpf  
 Wieblinger Weg 21  
 69123 Heidelberg, Germany  
 T: 0049 (0)6221 649 20-18  
 F: 0049 (0)6221 64920-20  
 barbara.karpf@kehrerverlag.com  
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*Christopher Taylor*

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KEHRER











































