



## Patrick Lambertz Chalets of Switzerland

24 × 32 cm

184 pages with 34 double page illustrations

Texts: Daniel Blochwitz, Erwin Huwyler,

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German/English

Design: –SYB–, The Hague

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The chalet, a luxurious and romantic remote mountain hut that exists in “splendid isolation” in a sunny winter landscape — this is one of the most popular cliché images of Switzerland. However, the actual meaning of the term “chalet”, derived from the Latin word *cala*: “protected place”, is simply that of an Alpine dairy hut oder shelter. On his many trips through his adopted home, Patrick Lambertz has run into many houses that do not conform to the cliché of the Swiss chalet. They are old houses that barely managed to escape the building and renovation boom that has plagued the country for decades. By photographing them in front of a wintery backdrop he abstracts these houses from their context, heightens their



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### Exhibition:

Hartmann Projects, Stuttgart, 19.3.–14.5.2022

Prolab, Stuttgart, 18.3.–28.4.2022

individual character, and provides them with an aura of poetry and irony. Following the tradition of Karl Blossfeldt and Bernd and Hilla Becher, Lambertz creates a typological canon of forgotten, yet memorable Swiss houses. Nature itself provides the photo studio: cloudy skies and dense fog provide soft light with little contrast. Snow covered mountains and hills deliver the neutral backdrop.

SYB, the legendary photobook designer from The Hague and master of the Dutch gatefold, developed a congenial concept for the book of Patrick Lambertz's photographs from the Swiss mountains. The houses are made to steadily appear and disappear from the wintery paper white.