

Renate Gruber was the partner and wife of Professor Dr. L. Fritz Gruber since 1958. She was a considerable influence in the important "photokina" Cologne exhibition founded by Prof. Gruber in 1950 and directed by him until 1980

Since the death of her husband in 2005, Renate Gruber maintains friendly connections with many of the best-known photographers of the 20th century. Their *jours-fixe* every Sunday at Gruber home in Cologne still act as a staging area of the world elite of photography. If her husband, L. Fritz Gruber, was rightly known as the "Doyen" of photography in Germany, then Renate Gruber would certainly be it's "Doyenne" - although her usual personal modesty would make her reject such a description.

Together with L. Fritz Gruber, she established the "Gruber Collection - Photography of the 20th century" in the Museum Ludwig in Cologne, containing a hundred years of photographic history. Today she promotes young artists and is a representative on numerous international committees as a jury member or a mentor. She is long-time advisor to the board of the German Photographic Society. Her special interests lie in the art of portrait, still life photography and photo-journalism.

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