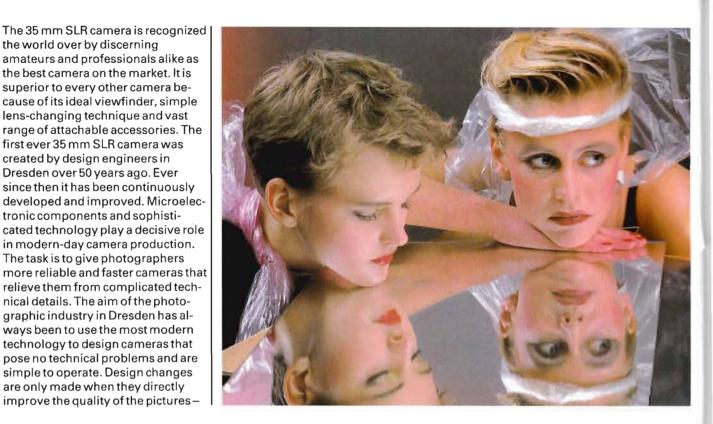
## PRAKTICA cameras



first ever 35 mm SLR camera was created by design engineers in Dresden over 50 years ago. Ever since then it has been continuously developed and improved. Microelectronic components and sophisticated technology play a decisive role in modern-day camera production. The task is to give photographers more reliable and faster cameras that relieve them from complicated technical details. The aim of the photographic industry in Dresden has always been to use the most modern technology to design cameras that pose no technical problems and are simple to operate. Design changes are only made when they directly improve the quality of the pictures -

the world over by discerning

lens-changing technique and vast



## PRAKTICA BC 1

### The SLR camera – for more pleasure in the photo and its taking

there's no room for anything superfluous. So on a PRAKTICA camera you won't be mystified by the monitor signals, nor will you have to play hunt-the-button. We only use sensible technology in order to give you quality and value for money. Millions of photo enthusiasts all over the world confirm again and again the soundness of this policy.

- 1 Frame counter
- 2 Cocking lever 3 Release button
- 4 Dial for "auto" and fixed shutter speeds
- 5 Hot shoe with centre contact and additional contact
- 6 Window for reflection of aperture value into viewfinder
- 7 Memory key
- 8 Rewind button with crank
- 9 Flash sync socket
- 10 Self-timer
- 11 Stop-down key
- 12 Aperture setting ring
- 13 Lens unlocking button
- 14 Focusing ring

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The PRAKTICA BC 1 represents the very best in electronic 35 mm SLR cameras from Dresden – technology that really is of some use:

- Automatic electronic shutter speed control, stepless from ⅓000 s to 40 s
- Shutter speed indicator in finder with speed scale and LED display
- Manual exposure compensation within ± 2 exposure steps
- Adjustable from automatic to semi-automatic. Semi-automatic mode: fixed shutter speed is manually set and aperture is adjusted, or aperture is preselected and shutter speed is adjusted. The fixed shutter speed set is indicated in the viewfinder by a flashing LFD.
- Measured value is "held" until shutterrelease when the memory key is pressed
- Centre-weighted TTL light measurement even if auto mode is switched off
- Manual (mechanical) shutter speed of 1/90 s, even when the batteries have failed
- Aperture set is reflected into the viewfinder and indicated at the lower edge of the finder image
- Electronic TTL light measurement at full aperture
- Stop-down key for checking depth of field
- Automatic flash synchronization when suitable computerized flash units are used.

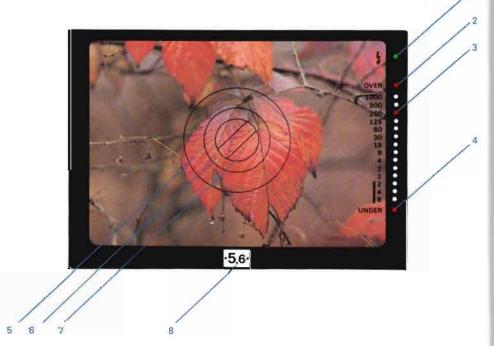


### PRAKTICA BC1

## The fun in photography really starts when you look in the viewfinder

- Focusing system: Fresnel lens with new triple wedge, microprism ring and ground glass ring.
- Viewfinder image shows some 90 % of frame.
- Metal-leaf instant-return shutter
- PRAKTICA bayonet for connecting interchangeable lenses and extension accessories.
- Connecting point for motor winder
- Viewfinder image of the PRAKTICA BC 1
- 1 Flash readiness signal
- 2 Overexposure signal
- 3 Shutter speed LEDs for exposure control
- 4 Underexposure signal
- 5 Ground glass ring
- 6 Microprism ring
- 7 Triple wedge
- 8 Aperture value reflected into viewfinder







With your PRAKTICA camera changing lenses is no problem. The vast range of subjects requires a range of lenses to match in order to achieve the most effective picture. You can only realize your ambitious photo ideas with a suitable lens. The range of PRAKTICA lenses stretches from the extraordinary perspectives of the super-wide-angle lens with a 20 mm focal length to the maximum of the 1000 mm telephoto lens which can bring extremely distant subjects in to fill the whole frame. Most of the highquality lenses have been coated several times, so their sharp contrast, neutral colour reproduction and excellent definition come as no surprise.



### PRAKTICA Objektive

## Sensitive and creative photography

Lenses with bayonet for the PRAKTICA BC 1, BCA and predecessors

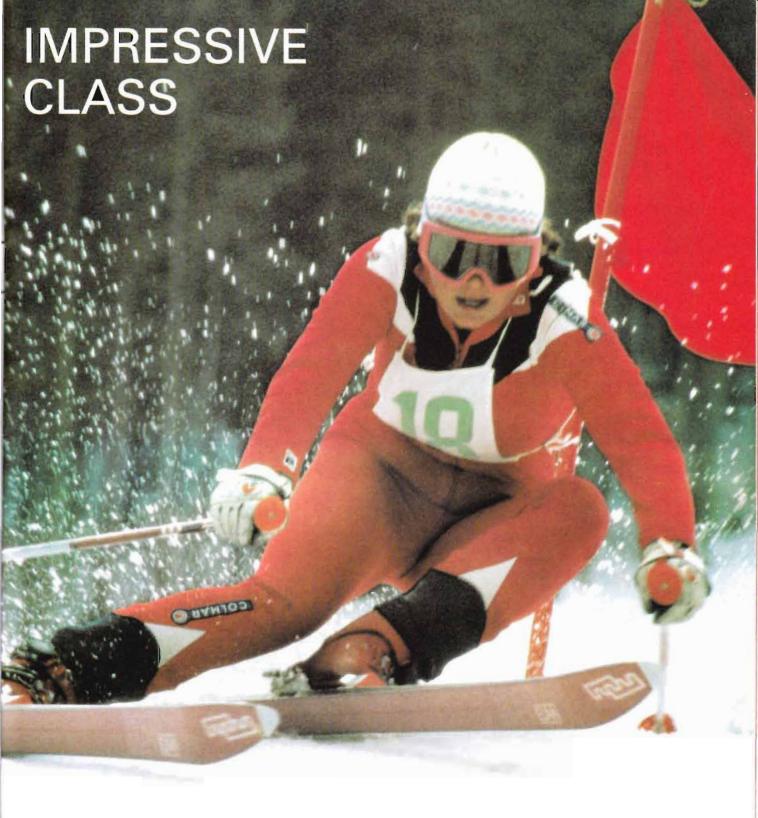
	Angle of view	Minimum focus (m)
PRAKTICAR 2.8/20	93°	0.20
PRAKTICAR 2.8/28	75°	0.25
PRAKTICAR 2.4/35	62°	0.22
PRAKTICAR 1.4/50	45°	0.36
PRAKTICAR 1.8/50	46°	0.45
MACRO-PRAKTICAR 2.8/55	43°	0.25
PRAKTICAR 1.8/80	30°	0.65
PRAKTICAR 2.8/135	19°	1.70
PRAKTICAR 3.5/135	18.5°	1.00
PRAKTICAR 4/300	8°	4.00
PRAKTICAR 5.6/500 with adapter	5°	6.00
PRAKTICAR 5.6/1000 with adapter	2.5°	16.00

Lenses with M 42  $\times$  1 screw thread for the PRAKTICA MTL 5B and other PRAKTICA L models

	Angle of view	Minimum focus (m)
FLEKTOGON auto 2.8/20 from JENA	93°	0.19
PENTACON auto 2.8/29	73°	0.25
FLEKTOGON auto 2.4/35 from JENA	62°	0.19
PENTACON auto 1.8/50	47°	0.33
PANCOLAR auto 1.8/50 from JENA	46°	0.35
T 2.8/50 from JENA	45°	0.35
PANCOLAR auto 1.8/80 from JENA	30.4°	0.80
PENTACON auto 2.8/135	18°	1.70
Sauto 3.5/135 from JENA	18°	1.00
S auto 2.8/180 with adap., from JENA	14°	1.70
Sauto 2.8/200 from JENA	12.5°	2.20
PENTACON auto 4/200	12.8°	2.70
S auto 4/300 with adap., from JENA	8°	4.00
PRAKTICAR 5.6/500 with adapter	5°	6.00
PRAKTICAR 5.6/1000 with adapter	2.5°	16.00

The lens programme can be supplemented by a number of lenses of other makes, especially zoom



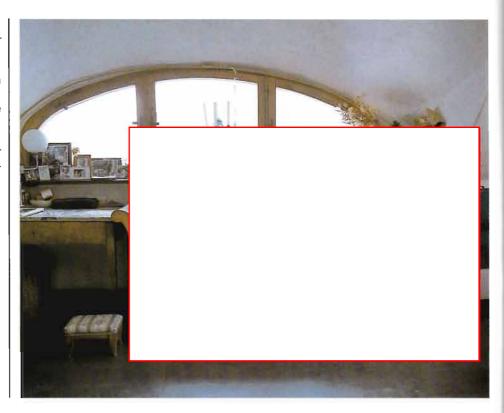


Faster, higher, longer – these are some of the criteria used in short. The chase after records, either personal bests or in the different classes, is the motivation. And it is speed and pace that impress. All the sweat of training, the sacrifices and the set-backs are forgotten when success finally comes. The committed sport photographer owes the sportsmen and women a similar degree of quality. Speed, sureness and quick reactions are also attributes of the PRAKTICA camera range. This teamed with an experienced photographer behind the camera provides the basis for taking top-class photos of top-class sporting achievements.

Automatic shutter speed control is an impressive feature of the PRAKTI-CA BCA. You select the aperture and the camera computer automatically sets the correct shutter speed, which can be anywhere in the range from  $\frac{1}{1000}$  s to 1 s. The electronics select the values steplessly. That means that speeds like  $\frac{1}{813}$  s or  $\frac{1}{96}$  s are possible. And that is exactly what you need for correct exposure whatever the situation. Now every photo can be a success. And because we've made the technical side of the PRAKTICA BCA uncomplicated you can devote your full attention to your subject. With this handy automatic SLR camera, you can use your photographic imagination to the full.

#### Technical features of the PRAKTICA BCA – for sure-fire photography:

 Computer-controlled shutter speeds from 1/1000 s to 1 s, taking aperture and film speed into consideration between 12 and 3200 ISO/ASA.



### PRAKTICA BCA

## The automatic route to quality SLR pictures

- Focusing system: Fresnel lens with diagonal triple wedge, microprism ring and ground glass ring.
- LEDs in different colours in the viewfinder inform on:
  - shutter speeds from 1/1000 s to 1/100 s; shutter speeds from 1/20 s to 1 s; overexposure or underexposure; flash readiness (suitable computerized flash units); battery condition. Aperture is reflected into the viewfinder.
- Manual override of exposure data by ± 2 steps.
- Electronic aperture setting transfer. Consequently TTL light measurement at full aperture, i.e. bright finder image even if close-up accessories and interchangeable lenses are used.
- Temperature-resistant metal-leaf instantreturn shutter (focal-plane shutter) that enables shutter speeds of any length.
- Electronic flash synchronization at 1/60 s; this speed can also be worked with when the battery has failed.
- Hot shoe with centre contact for synchronization of electronic flash units and contact for computerized flash units.
- Connection for motor winder.

- 1 Frame counter
- 2 Cocking lever
- 3 Release button
- 4 Mode selector for "auto", B, ½0 s and battery check
- 5 Hot shoe with centre contact and additional contact
- 6 Window for reflection of aperture value into viewfinder
- 7 Index for override value and film speed
- 8 Rewind button with crank
- 9 Film speed and override dial
- 10 Self-timer
- 11 Aperture setting ring
- 12 Lens unlocking button
- 13 Focusing ring

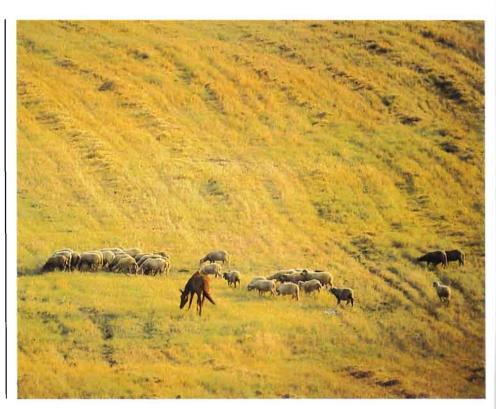


### IN WITH THE GIRLS

Our nearest and dearest form popular subjects for photos. But there are a wealth of reasons for including other people in our photos. Classical portrait pictures can reveal the true chracter of their subject, or you can show people in typical surroundings. Whether just as a personal reminder or for any other reason, deliberate picture composition increases the pleasure in photography. And the pleasure begins when taking the picture with the exciting feeling of catching something attractive, interesting and worth communicating in the viewfinder of your PRAKTICA.



Before pressing the release button of your PRAKTICA BCA carefully select your subject and focus accurately. And that's all you need to do. Because the camera is equipped with a fully automatic electronic shutter speed control system which shows the appropriate value at the righthand side of the viewfinder. To make life even easier only two sets of information are given: a green LED lights up for shutter speeds between 1/1000 s and 1/60 s, indicating that the picture can be taken. A yellow LED lights up for speeds between 1/30 s and 1 s - this indicates that you should use a tripod or some other sort of support if available. A red LED next to an arrow will come on in the case of underexposure or overexposure, prompting you to change the aperture to reach the correct exposure. If you don't succeed in this way to make the underexposure signal disappear you can either use a flash unit or an extra-slow shutter speed by switching the mode selector to



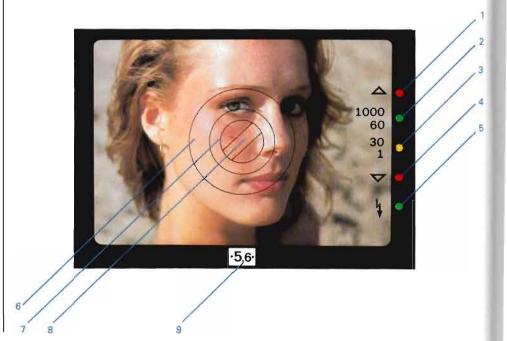
### PRAKTICA BCA

## Successful photos – thanks to the built-in LEDs

"B". You won't find that the automatic shutter speed control system restricts your creativity, either. If you want to achieve effects using over-or underexposure you can override the exposure manually by  $\pm 2$  steps. The camera is usually supplied with the standard PRAKTICAR 1.8/50 lens. A range of additional PRAKTICA lenses with focal lengths from 20 mm to 1000 mm is also available - all fitted with the PRAKTICA bayonet. Using the special adapter you can also fit lenses and attachments from the PRAKTICA M 42 × 1 screw-thread range.

Viewfinder image of PRAKTICA BCA

- 1 Overexposure signal
- 2 Signal for shutter speed range from 1/60 s to 1/1000 s
- 3 Signal for shutter speed range from 1 s to ⅓o s
- 4 Underexposure signal
- 5 Flash readiness signal
- 6 Ground glass ring
- 7 Microprism ring
- 8 Triple wedge
- 9 Aperture value reflected into viewfinder





Flash is always used whenever the light is not bright enough for photography. That's why PRAKTICA cameras are fitted with a hot shoe that accepts an electronic flash unit with a counterpart. These two parts guarantee sure mechanical and electronic co-ordination between camera and flash unit. With computerized flash units we can forget about the long and involved calculations that had to be done for each photo in the past, for the guide number of the flash unit, the distance of the subject and the aperture, for example. A computerized unit will automatically provide the necessary light dosage for each picture, according to the distance of the subject from the flash and the amount of light it reflects into the camera. And if you use a computerized flash unit specially designed for the PRAKTICA BC 1 or BCA the camera will automatically select the flash synctime. As soon as the flash is ready a green LED lights up in the viewfinder next to the flash sym-



### PRAKTICA

#### Increasing the pleasure in photography in a flash

bol. With every other electronic flash unit the fixed flash sync time of the camera has to be set.

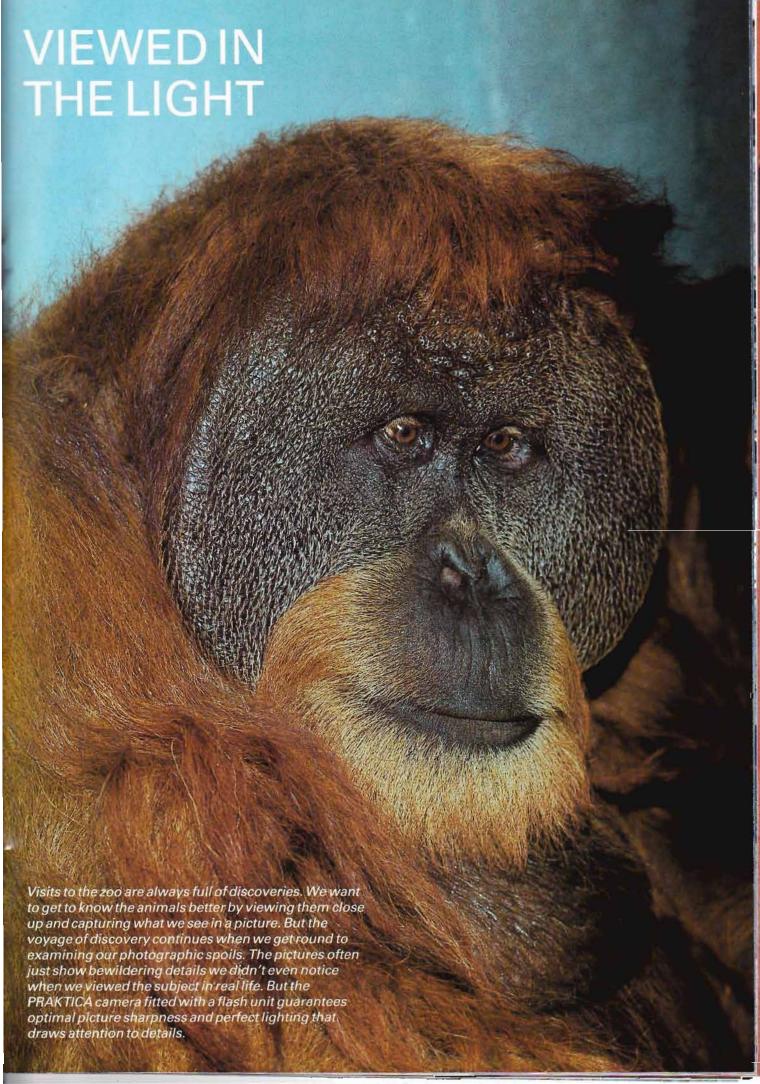
PRAKTICA BC1 with system-designed electronic flash unit PRAKTICA BC 3600

- 1 Mounting groove for accessories
- 2 Flash tube housing

- 5 Connection point for high-
- 6 Locking ring







The automatic exposure system of the PRAKTICA B cameras means you no longer have to worry working out the shutter speed. Once you've selected an aperture appropriate to the general lighting conditions all you've got to do is press the release button. Correct exposure is guaranteed, frame by frame. The camera computer takes every change in the lighting conditions into account. The light which will produce the picture is metered inside the camera. The intensity of the light striking the highlysensitive light receiver - it depends on the brightness of the subject to be photographed - determines the result of the measurement. The light is measured at full aperture and maximum viewfinder brightness, and the value is electronically transferred into the computer.

In PRAKTICA cameras, the centreweighting light metering method is applied. The light is measured in the centre of the viewfinder. In almost every case this will show the most



### PRAKTICA BC1

# An automatic memory that can cope with every type of light

important details of the subject. Extreme lighting conditions tend to arise in the case of against-the-light shots and pictures showing sharp contrast. If in such a case you want the main subject to be clearly depicted you have to operate the manual override. The exposure will then be based exclusively on the most important point of the picture. So with the PRAKTICA BC 1 you measure the light of this point and store the value by pressing the memory button. Then you step back and release; in this way the photo is taken with the stored shutter speed.

PRAKTICA BC 1 1 Memory key

2 Release button



# A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS WITH CONTRASTING LIGHT

Pictures showing sharp contrast attract the attention. We speak of the so-called low-key effect if the picture shows sharp contrast between shadow and light and dark areas dominate. Such photos give the impression of being well-rounded, and they often have a certain dramatic strength.

The viewfinder of the PRAKTICA gives you a large, clear and bright image with true colour reproduction for you to judge the picture and focus accurately. That's the principle behind SLR cameras that never fails to impress. The light passes through the lens to reach the mirror. From there it is reflected through the focusing system to the prism and on to the viewfinder eyepiece. A Fresnel lens forms the focusing system. The image-receiving surface of this lens is precision engineered so that this lens alone would guarantee accurate focusing.

But in order to achieve the highest possible degree of sharpness in focusing, additional indicators are positioned in its centre. And this is where the functioning of the triple wedge is so impressive enabling you to focus with pin-point accuracy.

The wedge system clearly indicates even the slightest degree of blur by staggering the contours of

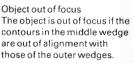
### PRAKTICA

# The sure and simple way to sharp SLR pictures

the image whether they are horizontal, vertical or diagonal. And you don't even need to turn the camera.

Function of the triple wedge Object in focus



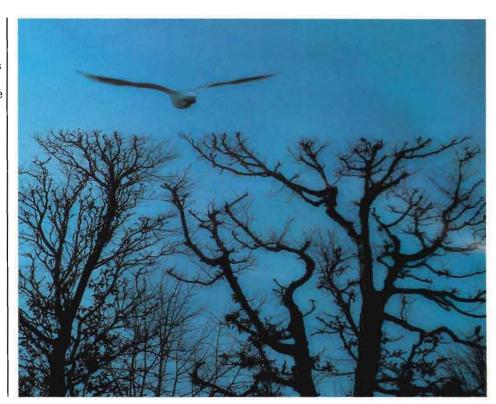






35 mm SLR cameras are associated with advanced technology, versatility, sureness and reliability. Sometimes the SLR camera is described as a camera that can almost perform miracles. Quite rightly too. And in the 50 years or so since the birth of the SLR 24 × 36, PRAKTICA cameras have done a great deal to contribute to their popularity. The route to success of the PRAKTICA L model has been particularly sensational. And even though in almost a decade millions of these cameras have been bought all over the world the extraordinary demand remains the same as it ever was.

The latest model in this popular series is the PRAKTICA MTL 5 B. It is the ideal camera for an uncomplicated introduction into SLR photography, having all the usual features of the SLR camera, like the viewfinder, TTL light measurement, interchangeable lenses and a multitude of accessories. And just like its predecessors it pays special attention to



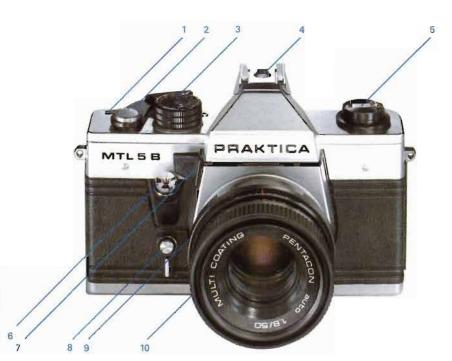
### PRAKTICA MTL5B

## Sound technology for SLR-quality photos

the focusing element. The overall construction makes this a basic camera everyone can afford.

- 1 Frame counter
- 2 Cocking lever
- 3 Film speed and override dial
- 4 Hot shoe with centre contact
- 5 Rewind button with crank
- 6 Oblique release button
- 7 Meterina kev
- 8 Self-timer
- 9 Aperture setting ring
- 10 Focusing ring





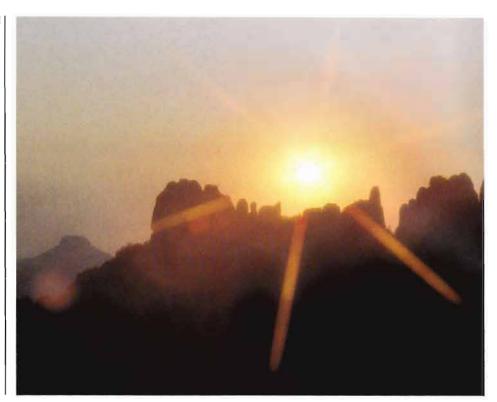




everywhere around us, giving the scenery its particular character. They also reflect the seasons. The multitude of form and colour gives off unmistakeable optical signals, which is probably the reason why they have been favourite subjects for paintings for centuries. And the same applies to photography. Trees make satisfying subjects for photos since they place almost no limit on your creativity. According to the idea and mood of the photographer they can form pictures that are sober and business-like or romantic and poetic. Their delicate graphic lines and large flat areas make appealing photographic subjects. Trees offer countless possibilites, whether you want a light, floating mood or to create an impression of heaviness. And effective use of colour can make the picture even more interesting, especially blue colours which seem to recede into the distance.

The large, bright image of the Fresnel lens with its threeway focusing system together with the internal light metering of the PRAKTICA MTL 5 B provide a sound basis for simple and effective photography. The internal metering system forms part of the automatic shutter speed control mechanism. You choose the aperture or shutter speed and the rest is easy - just match the other component by shifting the meter needle in the viewfinder. The exposure will be correct when the needle is horizontal. The needle rises to indicate overexposure and drops in the case of underexposure. That also leaves you room to try out different exposures, indeed the camera almost provokes creative experimentation. These are the special features that make this camera a best-seller:

- metal-leaf focal-plane shutter for <sup>1</sup>/<sub>1000</sub> s bis 1 s and B (any length of time).
- TTL light metering system with beam splitter, light concentrator and photoresistor as part of the automatic exposure system.



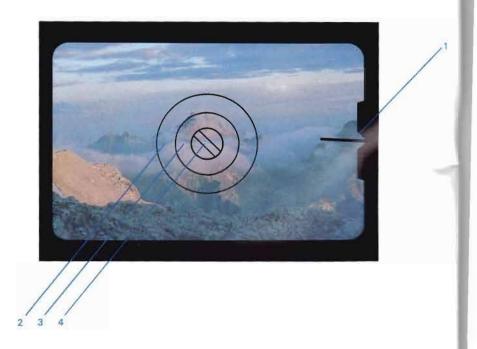
### PRAKTICA MTL5B

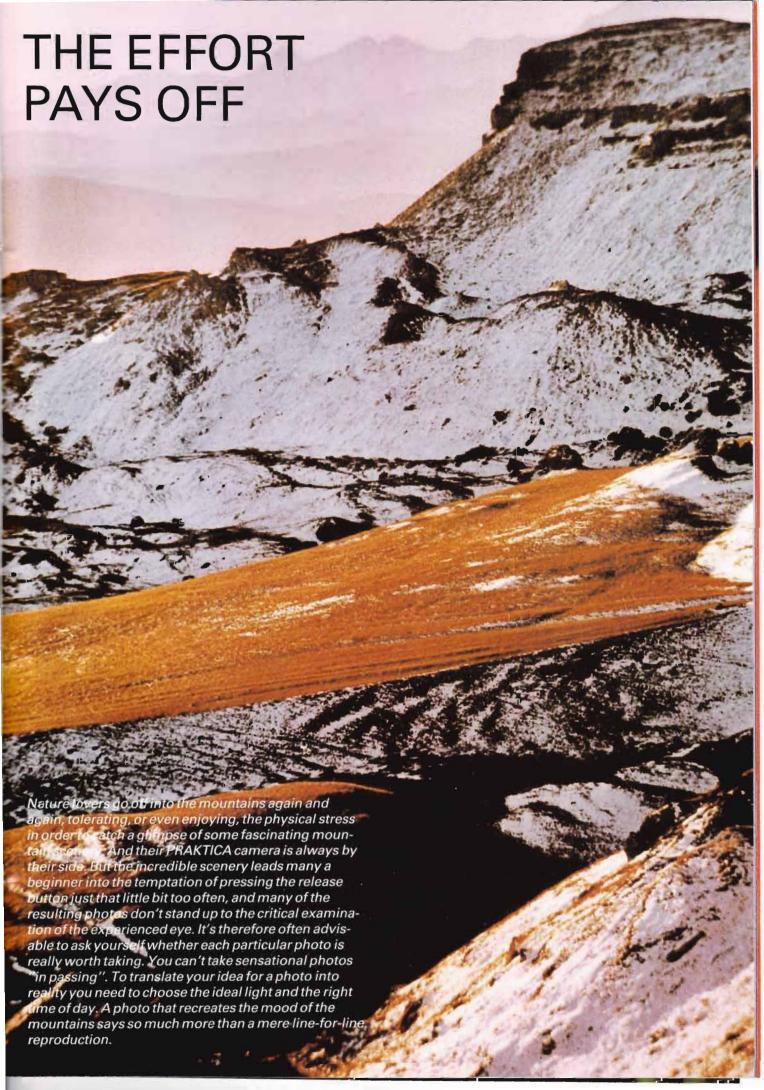
# Viewfinder for perfect exposure control – leaving room for creativity

- Favourable arrangement of the metering key: metering and release in one stroke.
- Shortest sync time for electronic flash: 1/125 s.
- Pentaprism finder with ready indicator.
- Focusing system: Fresnel lens with triple wedge, microprism ring and ground glass ring.
- Automatic PL film loading system.
- Oblique release button.
- Instant-return mirror.
- Rapid wind-up lever with narrow cocking angle.
- Self-timer.
- Automatic frame counter.
- Standard PENTACON auto 1.8/50 lens with shortest focusing distance of 33 cm – ideal for close-ups without any attachments being necessary.
- Lens connection: M 42 × 1 screw thread.

Viewfinder of the PRAKTICA MTL 5B

- 1 Meter needle
- 2 Ground glass ring
- Z Ground glass ring
- 3 Microprism ring
- 4 Triple wedge





The automatic shutter speed control system of the PRAKTICA BC 1 and the BCA can be manually overriden. This is usually only necessary for photos taken under extreme lighting conditions, such as against-the-light shots and where dark and light portions are not balanced. With the PRAKTICA BC 1 you just take a light measurement of the most important detail from close-up and store the value in the camera's memory. But such a closeup measurement is not always possible: even then it's no problem to manually override the automatically set shutter speed. The scale for the manual override values can be found on the camera cover and ranges from +2 to -2 exposure steps. And you can adjust by half a step. In this way you have complete control even over subjects with an extremely high degree of contrast. We recommend a 'minus'' override (shorter exposure time) for a small, bright object in front of a large, dark background (leaves shining in front of a dark



### **PRAKTICA**

# Adaptable exposures for individual compositions

wood, for example), and a "plus" override (longer exposure time) for a small dark object in front of a very bright background (black cat in front of a white wall). A "plus" override is also advisable in the case of scenery pictures where bright sky covers a large portion and pictures taken against a very strong light in order to better reproduce the details of the dark objects. High-key effects, i.e. soft colours and no contrast or tonein-tone (diffuse light, fog or a snow landscape, for example), the end effect of which is also a slight overexposure, also require manual override of the exposure according to the effect to be created. And those who enjoy experimenting can extend the override range by deliberately setting a wrong film speed.

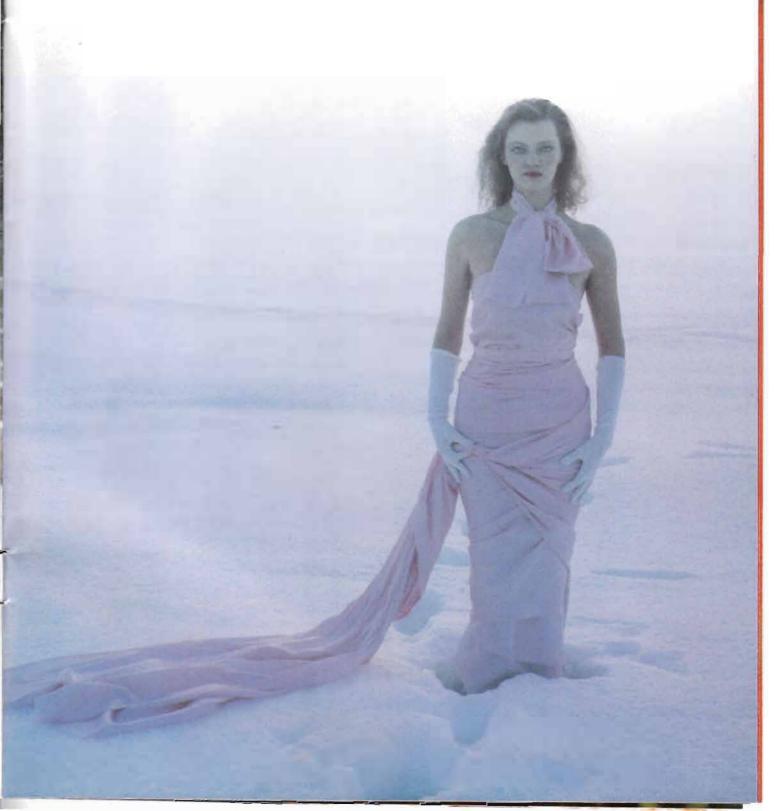
PRAKTICA BCA

- 1 Index for override value and film speed
- 2 Scale for override values

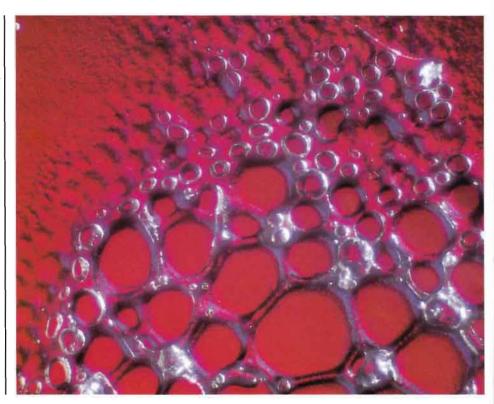


# SENSITIVE VIEWING

Pictures that are that little bit different catch the eye. Different in that they show something unreal, illogical or thought provoking, conveying an individual message. Considered use of a PRAKTICA trains the eye and the form and colour receptiveness, even for off-beat photos that aren't meant to be taken too seriously. The subtle language of colours and the discreet mood created by the light imply a well-developed photographic sense.



You'll never realize just how much your PRAKTICA can do until you explore our range of accessories. On top of additional lenses we have ranges especially designed for closeups, microphotography and astrophotography to help you broaden your repertoire. Not forgetting our equipment for reproducing and slide copying. And small equipment can have a big effect too. With the eye cup, lens hood for against-the-light shots, focusing magnifier, angle finder, focusing slide, tripod and cable release optimal focusing becomes even easier in all photographic situations and your pictures are free from blur even when you use excessively slow shutter speeds. Filters for colour and black and white photos enable you to increase colour brightness and bring out the contrast as well as to place emphasis on the most important parts of the picture. So you have practically a free hand as far as special effects and creating moods is concerned. And so that you



## **PRAKTICA**

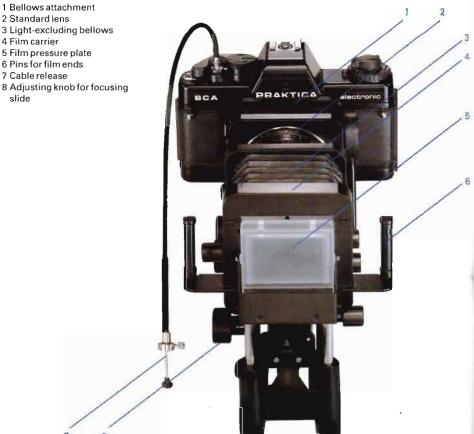
### Accessories that open the door to a whole new world of possibilities

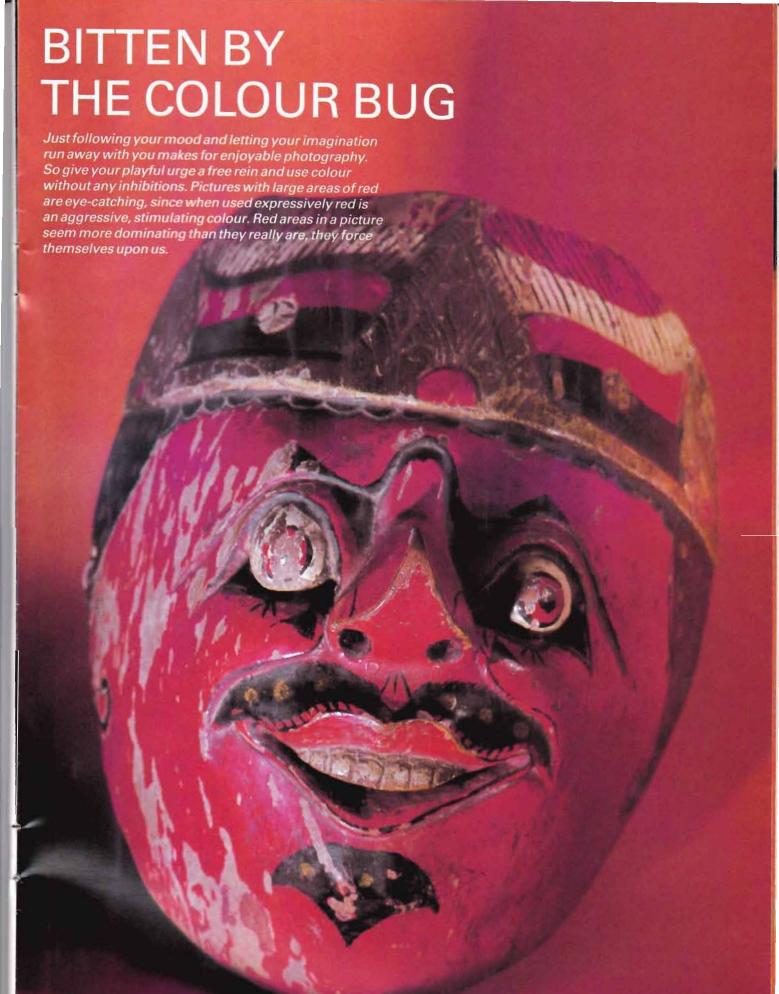
can get more from your colour slides we created our slide copying device, which when used in conjunction with the bellows attachment or extension rings enable you to reproduce individually filtered duplicates, picture details, solarizations, photomontages and much more, simply and with no fuss.

PRAKTICA BCA with bellows attachment, slide copying attachment and cable release

- 2 Standard lens
- 3 Light-excluding bellows
- 4 Film carrier
- 5 Film pressure plate
- 6 Pins for film ends
- 7 Cable release
- 8 Adjusting knob for focusing slide







Close-ups from a short or extremely short distance have traditionally been one of PRAKTICA's strong points. All the advantages of the sophisticated SLR technology come into their own and the resulting pictures can surprise and inspire. And you can fit the bellows attachment or extension rings and then forget about them - they allow you to take pictures absolutely as normal. The bright and clear viewfinder image enables you to choose the right section and then focus accurately. The automatic bellows of the PRAK-TICA B cameras and the automatic extension rings ensure the correct functioning of the automatic stopdown system of the lenses. The bayonet extension rings and bellows attachment transfer the aperture setting to the camera computer any leads being necessary. The TTL light metering system automatically takes any extension factors into account. Whatever the task the automatic shutter speed control system is



### PRAKTICA

### **Professional quality close-ups** with astonishing ease

always reliable. Just by using the extension rings and a standard lens you can take a negative or colour slide of a small object and bring it up to almost natural size. The bellows attachment can be continuously adjusted and, when used together with a standard lens, image scales of up to 2.8 can be achieved. That means that small objects measuring 9 mm × 13 mm will fill the whole frame without being trimmed.



PRAKTICA BC 1 with angle finder, bellows attachment and cable

- 1 Angle finder
- 2 Camera standard
- 3 Bellows
- 4 Lens standard
- 5 Lens unlocking button
- 6 Cable release
- slide

7 Adjusting knob for focusing Constant work on the cameras, lenses and accessories may lead to minor changes from the text.

Photos: H. Freymann, L. Ritter, G. Roth, Dr. H. Thomas





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