

Lavina by Yann Gross

Switzerland built his national identity through the iconography of its mountains. These are shown as a quiet paradise, where tourists can take advantage of the nature, without any specific knowledge required. But in reality, to make this dream come true and accessible, the environment has to be controlled and shaped as much as possible.

I have been working now for 5 years with guides and researchers who trigger avalanches with dynamite to avoid accidents in ski resorts or for other safety reasons. As it was impossible to get into a helicopter, i had to climb in front of the mountains where the avalanches came down.

The purpose of these pictures is to show how powerful and majestic an avalanche can be. It almost becomes an abstract scene, as if the snow of the avalanche was covering part of a blank canvas.

