



## Press Information

### Uniquely aesthetic photography:

### Leica Camera AG presents a modern renaissance of the classic lens – the Leica Thambar-M 1:2.2/90

**Wetzlar, 17 October 2017.** A legend reborn: following the Leica Summaron-M 1:5.6/28, Leica Camera AG has further expanded its lens portfolio with the Thambar-M 1:2.2/90, the modern renaissance of another classic lens. Just like its namesake from 1935, the contemporary incarnation of the lens is distinguished by its characteristic soft-focus effect and unmistakable bokeh. Its focal length of 90 mm is suitable for photography in a multitude of scenarios and is as good as predestined for capturing portraits with a uniquely aesthetic atmosphere that cannot be reproduced in digital postprocessing. The new Thambar-M is thus an exciting addition to the existing Leica M lens portfolio and brings photographers entirely new possibilities for creative composition.

The optical design of its ancestor remains almost unchanged in the new Thambar-M 1:2.2/90. It has therefore also inherited the characteristic properties of its predecessor. The only difference is that the four elements in three groups that make up the design have now been single-coated to protect the glass against environmental influences and surface corrosion. The 20 blades of its iris deliver a unique bokeh with perfectly round rendition of point light sources.

The soft look of the Thambar is the result of intentionally accepted under-correction of spherical aberration. This under-correction increases towards the edges of the optical system with the consequence that not only the depth of focus, but also the degree of softening can be precisely controlled by means of the stepless aperture setting. The effect is more pronounced as apertures increase, and is continually reduced as the lens is stopped down to smaller apertures.

The design of the original lens has been almost completely preserved in today's Thambar-M 1:2.2/90. The black paint finish, the proportions of the lens and its aperture engravings in red and white correspond to the appearance of the original. In addition to this, slight modifications have been made that bring the lens into line with the current, minimalist design of modern M-Lenses. These include the knurling, the lettering and scales and the specific use of sharp edges and bevelling that underline the precision of the lens design.

'The name Thambar has always been preceded by the adjective 'legendary' – rightly so. It portrays people with a wonderful aura, in a romantic way – but landscapes too are raised to a higher, incomparably aesthetic plane. The addition of a new incarnation of this classic lens to our selection of vintage lenses was one of our greatest wishes – to my great delight, this wish has now been fulfilled.' emphasises Dr. Andreas Kaufmann, majority shareholder and chairman of the supervisory board of Leica Camera AG.

As is the case with all Leica lenses, the Leica Thambar-M 1:2.2/90 is also manufactured in strict compliance with the most stringent quality criteria. The use of only the best materials in its construction guarantee the familiar long working life of all Leica lenses. As was the case with the original lens, the lens hood, the ring of the centre-spot filter and both front and rear lens caps are made of metal. Even smallest details, like the felt lining of the lens hood and the front cap, contribute to the exceptional perceived quality of this lens. The design of the rigid lens keeper in 'Vintage Brown' leather is identical to that of the original from 80 years ago in almost every respect and, as in the past, the centre-spot filter can be safely and conveniently stowed away in its lid.

The Leica Thambar-M 1:2.2/90 will be on sale from mid-November 2017.

## TECHNICAL DATA

### Special Soft Focus Portrait Telephoto Lens

<b>Angles of view</b> (diagonal, horizontal, vertical)	approx. 27°, 23°, 15° (for 35 mm: 24x36 mm) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Optical design</b> Number of lenses/groups Position of entrance pupil (at infinity)	4/3 49.6 mm (in the direction of light incidence behind the bayonet fitting contact area)
<b>Focusing</b> Focusing range Scale Smallest object field / Biggest scale	1 m to ∞ Meter divisions approx. 215x322 mm/1:9.0 (for 35 mm: 24x36 mm) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Aperture</b> Setting/Function Setting range	No detent positions 2.2 - 2.6 or 9 - 25 (values in white: for use with the associated center spot filter)/2.3 - 6.3 (values in red: for use without the associated center spot filter)
<b>Bayonet fitting</b>	Leica M quick-change bayonet with 6 bit lens identification bar code for digital M models <sup>2</sup>
<b>Filter mount / lens hood</b>	Internal thread for screw-on filter E49, center spot filter and push-on lens hood in the scope of delivery
<b>Viewfinder</b>	Camera viewfinder <sup>3</sup>
<b>Finish</b>	Black lacquered (Distance scale: silver)
<b>Dimensions and weight</b> Length to bayonet flange (without/with lens hood) Largest diameter (without lens hood) Weight	approx. 90/110 mm  approx. 57 mm  approx. 500 g
<b>Compatible cameras</b>	All Leica M cameras <sup>1, 3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Use with the Leica M8 models is not recommended since the optical properties do not suit for smaller formats than 35 mm (24x36 mm).

<sup>2</sup> The 6 bit lens identification bar code (8) situated on the bayonet flange enables the digital Leica M models to identify the attached type of lens. This information is utilized by the camera to optimize exposure and image data.

<sup>3</sup> The Leica M1 does not have a 90 mm bright-line frame.