











Screening: FFO-Filme | dec. 7th, 2007 | discussion



MOSCOW STREET

Moscow Street is about the neighborhood „North“ in Frankfurt/Oder, Germany. Built in the 1970s, in 2002 the local government decided to tear it down completely until 2007. The decision was made after a long period of loosing people to other cities with a better economic situation. For people who grew up there, a return to the roots is going to be impossible.

All pictures of this 50-picture-series were made on Polaroid 669 positive/negative-material. The camera used was an old Polaroid Land Camera Automatic 100. The 34 outside-pictures were taken 2003. The 16 interior shoots in 2004.

Technique: After the development I left the chemicals on the negative. I dried the negative and made prints. The chemicals are going to destroy the negative slowly over the next couple of years. So every print I make is a unique print of the deteriorating negative.

A first set of 24 30x40cm prints (12x16“) was made in 2003. From fall 2004 until summer 2005 I worked on a complete set of 50x60cm prints (20x24“). Now the changes in the negative were visible for the first time.

As tearing down of the neighborhood „North“ was going on, it was and is accompanied by the deterioration of the negatives. The buildings were replaced by the memory of their existence. The pictures are a part of this memory, but the also show the vanishing process of memory.

In 2007 the third and final set of prints was made. And a new aspect of the project emerged: Due to protests of the locals, only parts of the neighborhood were torn down. And the negatives somehow responded to this new situation: They showed different degrees of deterioration. On some of them there is almost nothing left to see, others still show a lot of details.

Some of the memories are (going to be) blacked out over time completely. Others remain vivid. Some of the buildings even remain physically. And all of this is in the pictures.

SCREENING: FFO-Filme

„HOME-COMING“ (2004/8min)

Short film by Mirko Tzotschew

Adaptation of the short story by Franz Kafka. This b/w-film deals with the attempt and failure to go back to ones own roots. The film was shot in early 2004 in Frankfurt/Oder.

„Half Town“ (2004/28min)

Documentary by Antje Materna and Samantha Staude

The documentary deals with the phenomenon of shrinking cities in eastern Germany. It shows how people cope with the disappearing of their past, how their life worked and works in a neighborhood full of concrete buildings. we see four people/three generations looking into the past and the future.

MIRKO TZOTSCHEW
MOSCOW STREET - 3rd SERIES
from Nov. 1st - Dec. 9th, 2007



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