



Gotz Diergarten

TrAIN Artist in Residence, July 2006 - March 2007

TrAIN and the Künstlerhaus Schloss Balmoral (Bad Ems, Germany) are collaborating on a dual-funded artist-in-residence exchange project (2006-2007). Photographer Götz Diergarten (b. Mannheim, 1972) is currently in the UK as TrAIN Artist in Residence, funded by Schloss Balmoral. The residency is supporting the research and development of a new European art project entitled METROpolis.

Biography

Diergarten studied in Düsseldorf with Bernd Becher, who with Hilla Becher was highly influential in the development of the new German photography exemplified by the work of Andreas Gursky, Candida Höfer, Thomas Struth and Thomas Ruff and often referred to as the Becher School.

Diergarten shares methodological parallels with the Bechers' conceptually-oriented black and white photographs, including his use of typology as a means to structure photographic series. His images of vernacular architecture emphasise colour and surface, building a relationship between photography and colour field and constructivist painting.

Since 2000, he has systematically researched beach huts and cabins along the European coast, producing sets of typologies and single images. The continuing extension of this series to the East coast of England has included images of empty shelters and benches, shuttered up beachside stalls and boarded up facades.



METROpolis (Budapest), work in progress, 2006

the METROpolis project

Researched and developed with the support of his TrAIN residency, Diergarten's current project systematically explores the underground railway stations of 22 European capital cities. His photographs of these public yet anonymous spaces extract the unique from the banal; concentrating on colour and form, they expose and identify difference from country to country. The completed series will be exhibited on city billboards across Europe, and published as a book.

Events

Diergarten will be discussing the development of the METROpolis project, and the relevance of the Becher school to his practice:

Tuesday 30th January, 5.15 - 7pm,
Lecture Theatre, Chelsea College of Art & Design
Part of the TrAIN Open Lecture Series

All welcome.

RSVP/Enquiries: www.transnational.org.uk/contact



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