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**Adrien Golinelli**

## **Ordos Stillborn City**

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**Insight into a Chinese ghost-town that is continuously growing despite of the lack of inhabitants**

The city of Ordos in China, only exists since a few years, but is already a ghost-town. One of countless new city projects in China, Ordos is the biggest, the most megalomaniac, and the worst situated one: in the middle of inner Mongolia's vast steppe, in a region lacking water and trees. Originally, Ordos was set to welcome at least a million inhabitants but repelled by its harsh climate and exorbitant prices, barely a few thousands ever settled. There is no activity in Ordos, except building Ordos. Relentlessly, high-rise condominiums reproduce in the hostile plain, while the wide avenues in the blank city center stay empty. The skyscrapers of the hypothetical Central Business District are not even connected to the power network. Ordos is a gigantic real estate bubble, of a breed that could ruin the economy of a whole country, but the Chinese government ploughs on with its chimera. In the meanwhile Ordos, the city, where everything is better and bigger, still awaits the essential: its inhabitants.

This is the first publication about the world's biggest ghost town: built for over a million people, the city of Ordos was designed to be the crowning glory of Inner Mongolia. Doomed to incompletion however, this futuristic metropolis now rises empty out of the deserts of northern China. Only 2% of its buildings were ever filled; the rest has largely been left to decay, abandoned mid-construction, earning Ordos the title of China's Ghost City.

Born in 1987 in Geneva, **Adrien Golinelli** still lives and works there. He studied literature at the University of Geneva, with a specialization in Linguistics. Passionate of international geopolitics, he has traveled to more than forty countries in conflict and dictatorships. He places people at the heart of his work, willingly intimate. Through the individual, he reflects on the economic models and its social implications. His series *Behind the Scenes* realized in North Korea, was awarded the Young Talents Paris Photo 2012.

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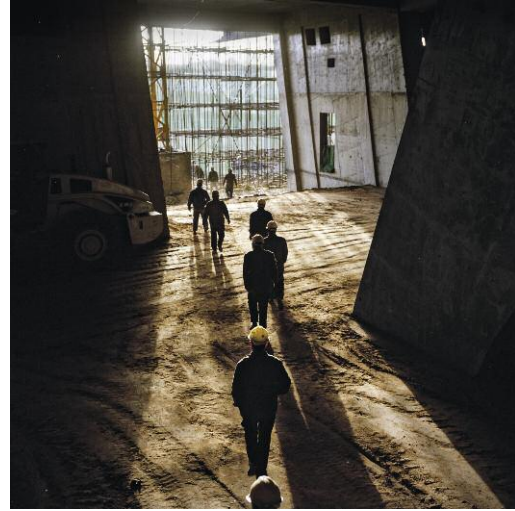
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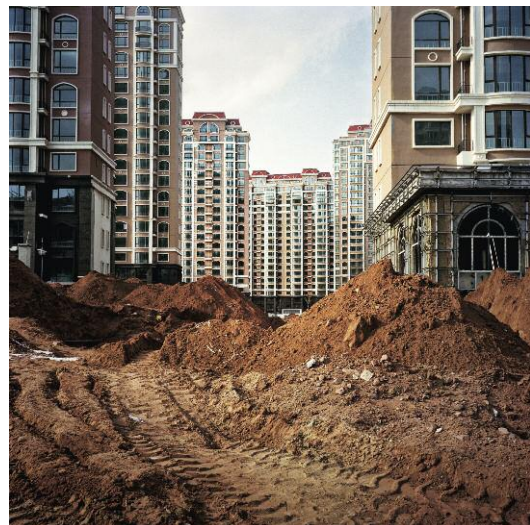
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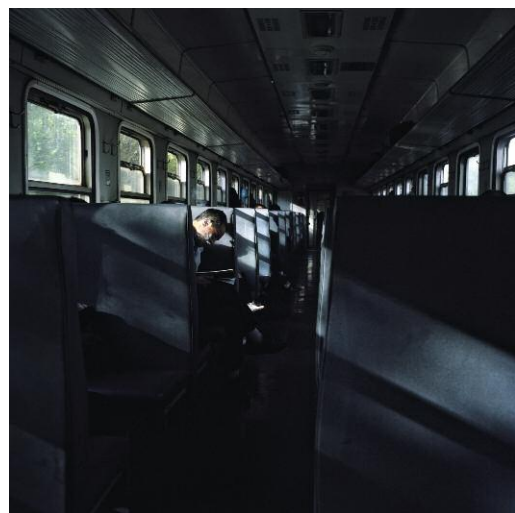
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