



NEW RELEASE

Anton Roland Laub

Mobile Churches

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A visual exploration of a dramatic and absurd chapter of Romania's recent history: the displacement of seven churches from Bucharest under Ceausescu's 'systematization' program, as well as the immurement of a synagogue.

Bucharest in the 1980s. Ceausescu's "systematisation" programme is in full swing in the Romanian capital: one-third of the historic centre has been wiped out to make way for imposing buildings and wide avenues intended to honour the regime. Despite Ceausescu's particularly dogged approach towards the churches, seven are spared and undergo a process as incredible as it is absurd: they are lifted and placed on rails then moved and hidden behind housing blocks. Withdrawn from the cityscape, they live secret lives interpolated in the disparate architecture that shapes Bucharest's urban landscape today.

Shortlisted for the Luma Rencontres Dummy Book Award, Les Rencontres de la Photographie, Arles 2017 and for the Unseen Dummy Award, Unseen, Amsterdam 2017.

Anton Roland Laub, born and grown in Bucharest, moved to Germany in 2000 where he studied at the New School for Photography and the Weissensee School of Art in Berlin. Bucharest's recent history - seen particularly through the prism of urbanism - as well as the stigmata of Ceausescu's dictatorship are one of his main focuses as a photographer.

www.antonlaub.de

Sonia Voss, curator and author. Latest projects: *George Shiras. L'Intérieur de la nuit*, Musée de la Chasse et la Nature, Paris 2015-2016, *Sharunas Bartas. Few of Them*, Passage de Retz, Paris & Lithuanian Photographers Association, Vilnius 2016-2017, *Josef*

Koudelka. Invasion/Exiles/Wall, C/O, Berlin 2017, *Sophie Calle*, Musée de la Chasse et la Nature, Paris 2017, *Anton Roland Laub. Mobile Churches*, Saint-Germain-des-Prés Church / Photo Saint-Germain Festival, Paris 2017. Lives in Paris and Berlin.

Lotte Laub obtained her PhD at Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School of Literary Studies, Freie Universität Berlin with the dissertation „Gestalten durch Verbergen. Ghassan Salhab's melancholischer Blick auf Beirut in Film, Video und Dichtung“ (Revealing by Concealing. Ghassan Salhab's Melancholic Glance at Beirut in Film, Video and Poetry), published 2016 at Reichert Verlag. In 2010, she received a research fellowship from the Orient-Institut Beirut and received an Honors Postdoc Fellowship at the Dahlem Research School, FU Berlin. Previously, she worked at the Martin-Gropius-Bau and is currently Program Manager at Zilberman Gallery-Berlin.

Exhibitions

Mobile Churches, Saint-Germain-des-Prés Church, Paris, France
03. – 19.11.2017

Mobile Churches, Chapel of Reconciliation / Berlin Wall Memorial, Berlin, Germany
05.06. – 19.08.2018

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Press Images



1_ Annunciation Church of the »Retreat of the Nuns«, Bucharest
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2_ New Saint John Church, Bucharest
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3_ Saint Nicholas Church of the Monastery »Mihai Vodă«, Bucharest
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4_ Piata Constituției in front of the Annunciation Church of the »Retreat of the Nuns«, Bucharest
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5_ Fresco (left: Marshal Antonescu) in the Saint Nicholas Church of the Monastery »Mihai Vodă«, Bucharest
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6_ New Saint John Church, Bucharest
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7_ New Saint John Church, Bucharest
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8_ Miniature church in the courtyard of New Saint John Church, Bucharest
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10 A_ Displacement of the Annunciation Church of the »Retreat of the Nuns«, Bucharest 1982
Courtesy Dr. Ing. Eugeniu Iordăchescu



9_ Great »Polish« Synagogue, Bucharest
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10 B_ Displacement of the Annunciation Church of the »Retreat of the Nuns«, Bucharest 1982
Courtesy Dr. Ing. Eugeniu Iordăchescu