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Carlos Cazalis

Occupy São Paulo

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Carlos Cazalis hält eindrucksvoll das Leben der Bewohner São Paulos fest, den urbanen Lebensraum, die Heimatlosigkeit und den Wohlstand, das Chaos und den Überlebenskampf in der Metropole.

Seit 2005 fotografiert Carlos Cazalis für sein *Urban Meta Project* einige der größten Städte der Welt, *Occupy São Paulo* ist das erste und persönlichste Kapitel davon. Als eine der fünf Megacities der Welt mit mehr als 20 Millionen Einwohnern setzt São Paulo seine Bewohner unter unablässigen, gewalt-samen Stress, besonders in Bezug auf ihren Lebensraum. Die nackte Notwendigkeit, eine Unterkunft zu finden, gehört zu den größten wirtschaftlichen Herausforderungen. Für diejenigen am unteren Ende der ökonomischen Skala ist ein Zuhause gleichbedeutend mit dem andauernden und langwierigen Prozess des Hinzufügens von Wänden, eines Zimmers, eines zweiten Stockwerks und schließlich eines Daches. Für diejenigen, die es sich leisten können, ihr Traumhaus zu bauen, sei es als luxuriöse Dachwohnung auf einem Wolkenkratzer oder als gut bewachte Villa, ist die Angst, dieses Zuhause zu verlassen, genauso groß wie das Bedürfnis, sicher dorthin zurückzukehren.

Cazalis Bilder zeigen eindrucksvoll das Chaos, das Verlorensein und den täglichen Überlebenskampf der Stadtbewohner.

"What these images represent are the ideals that have been created in the urban world. People on the street have become mainstream and in the process part of our city decor. We see them all the time, like the monuments we never bother to get close to and understand their history. They sleep the night away and often never wake to see the next sunrise. They are the city and they are its true inhabitants, surviving it on a daily basis, occupying it every night, paying for their space, often with their own blood."

Carlos Cazalis

Carlos Cazalis' (1969 in Mexico City) Arbeiten wurden vielfach in Lateinamerika und Europa ausgestellt, z.B. bei Visa Pour l'Image und Noorderlicht. Seine Bilder wurden unter anderem in Le Monde, L'Espresso, The New York Times, National Geographic, Stern und The Guardian veröffentlicht. Für seine Fotos von São Paulo wurde er mit einem Word Press Award ausgezeichnet.

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Pressebilder



1 Alphaville ©2013 Carlos Cazalis/Kehrer Verlag

A teenage girls during a poolside party in the wealthy Alphaville gated community in western São Paulo. The wealthy youth in the more than 33 communities composing Alphaville rarely get out of these gated areas to explore São Paulo on their own but travel long summers to European cities. They often resort to alcohol and drug abuse for entertainment due to their seclusion.



2 View of São Paulo ©2013 Carlos Cazalis/Kehrer Verlag

View of São Paulo through the wall on the main staircase of the 18th floor of the Prestes Maia 911 occupation by squatters in São Paulo, Brazil.



3 Downtown ©2013 Carlos Cazalis/Kehrer Verlag

The Molinho Slum in Bras, central São Paulo, became infamous for the many cadavers that were found inside the abandoned mill. The slum is flanked by a highway, a bridge and a railroad track and surrounded by some lower middle class buildings. Habitat in São Paulo is a constant struggle for its inhabitants. In 2010 São Paulo's Ministry of Habitat, estimates that over 12% of the city's population lives in slum dwellings while nearly 40% of homes in the city are illegal and informal.



4 Guarani ©2013 Carlos Cazalis/Kehrer Verlag

Guarani women prepare tobacco and teas to mark the end of a summer ritual in the Tenode Pora' village in the southern end of the city of São Paulo. Two Guarani villages remain inside the city limits as federal reserves. The urbanization of the village began in 2003 with plans from the city to attempt to stop the continuous subsidy of the adobe and wood houses, with the intent of giving the village a more urban aesthetic view in hopes of making it more attractive to tourism. The Guarani represent the poorest residents of São Paulo and yet have managed to become the most unified and ecologically balanced community in the city, having overcome severe issues like alcoholism by engaging with what they call their living culture.



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5 Prestes Maia ©2013 Carlos Cazalis/Kehrer Verlag

At the top floor of the 22-storey occupation by the MSTC -Movimento dos Sem Teto do Centro- (Movement for the Roofless Downtown) in downtown São Paulo, known as the Prestes Maia 911, the silhouette of human has been carved out by activists. The occupation by over 450 families lasted for over four years and became the inspiration for many more throughout the city where over 40,000 buildings lie abandoned, according to the UN Habitat.



6 Sleeper ©2013 Carlos Cazalis/Kehrer Verlag

A homeless person sleeps outside the prestigious Jockey Club in downtown São Paulo. Over 10,000 people sleep homeless on the streets of São Paulo. The great majority lay their carton beds downtown. Some gather in bundles for protection. In the winter months many of them never wake due to the thermal inversions caused by a dense air pollution.



7 Zona Leste ©2013 Carlos Cazalis/Kehrer Verlag

Youth continue to party into the early morning Sunday hours after a long night of drug and alcohol abuse. This couple forms part of a group of friends living in close quarters in the eastern periphery of São Paulo. Although the majority of them are unemployed, cocaine becomes easily available in these neighborhoods, where drug dealers often pay the youth with cocaine instead of cash in exchange to distribute and deal.