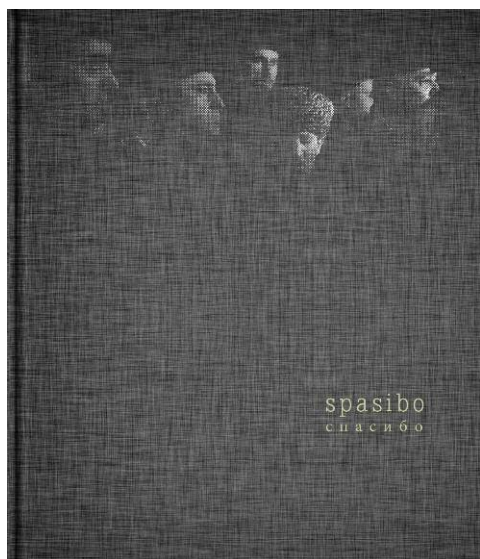




KEHRER



NEUERSCHEINUNG IM KEHRER VERLAG

Davide Monteleone **Spasibo**

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Eine Dokumentation über das heutige Tschetschenien, Gewinner des 4. Carmignac Gestion Preises für Fotojournalismus

»Davide Monteleone is well acquainted with the complex, tormented life of ordinary Chechens. He has crisscrossed the country, stopping in cities and villages, mountains and forests. This book contains neither majestic city- or country-scapes nor blood-spattered depictions of violence. Monteleone rather shows us the otherwise invisible: the stifling atmosphere, the regnant helplessness and fear, the young women resigned to their fate, and the elderly, whose traditional authority has diminished in the face of Kadyrov's brutes.

But Monteleone's photographs also depict hope. Chechens are a mountain people who have endured wars and other atrocities for centuries, including the collective deportation to the arid Kazakh steppes and to Siberia under Stalin in 1944. They know how to resist, and they know when to wait. Strong by nature, they are able to laugh even amidst adversity, and they sustain a birthrate that repopulates the land and replaces the dead. They know perfectly well that this dictatorial regime will fall sooner or later, as it has in other Muslim countries.« Galia Ackerman

Davide Monteleone (* 1974) begann seine Karriere als Fotograf im Jahr 2000 als Redaktionsfotograf für die Agentur Contrasto. Im Folgenden Jahr zog er als Korrespondent nach Moskau. Diese Entscheidung bestimmte seine darauffolgende Karriere, denn seit 2003 lebt Monteleone zwischen Italien und Russland, wo er persönlichen Langzeitprojekten nachgeht. 2007 veröffentlichte er sein erstes Buch *Dusha, Russian Soul*, gefolgt von *La Linea Inesistente* (2009) und *Rote Distel* (2012).

Seine Projekte brachten ihm eine Vielzahl von Preisen ein, beispielsweise mehrere World Press Photo Prämierungen und Stipendien wie „Aftermath“ und den European Publishers Award. Zuletzt war Monteleone an Projekten für international führende Zeitschriften, Stiftungen und Kulturinstitutionen, beteiligt. Weiterhin ist er damit beschäftigt seine Arbeiten auszustellen, als Lehrer tätig und dreht Kurzfilme. Seit 2006 ist Monteleone Mitglied bei VII Photo.

Der Carmignac Gestion Photojournalism Award

Unter der Führung von Nathalie Gallon finanziert die Carmignac Gestion-Stiftung jährlich eine Fotoreportage zu einem Thema im Bereich Zeitgeschehen. Die ersten Auszeichnungen gingen an Fotografen mit den Thematiken Gaza-Streifen, Paschtunistan, Simbabwe und Tschetschenien. Der Iran ist das Thema für 2013. www.fondation-carmignac.com

Nathalie Gallon, Leiterin des Carmignac Gestion Photojournalism Award und Kuratorin der Stiftungseigenen Fotosammlung **Galia Ackerman**, Historikerin und Übersetzerin mit Spezialisierung im Bereich russischsprachiger Länder
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Pressebilder



1. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. View of the Chechen Caucasus from a peak in Kharachoi, a village on the border with Dagestan, one of the region's most turbulent areas and a suspected hiding place for insurgents. Although visitors to the area are required to pass through three separate checkpoints, the Chechen government is planning to transform it into one of the region's main tourist destinations. Karachoi.
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2. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. Security forces attending the 10th Constitution Day celebration. In the background is Grozny City's five gleaming towers, the heart of the reconstructed Grozny and a symbol of the city's recovery following the destruction wrought over the turn of the millennium. Grozny, March 23, 2013.
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3. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. Wrestlers training. The portraits in the background depict (left to right) Akhmad Kadyrov, Vladimir Putin, and Ramzan Kadyrov. Akhmad Kadyrov was the Chief Mufti of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria in the 1990s during and after the First Chechen War. At the outbreak of the Second Chechen War he switched sides, offering his service to the Russian government. Russian president Vladimir Putin appointed Akhmad president of the Chechen republic on October 5, 2003. On May 9, 2004, an explosion ripped through the VIP section of Grozny's Dynamo football stadium during a mid-morning Soviet Victory Day parade, killing Kadyrov. Kadyrov's son, Ramzan, who led his militia, was later appointed Prime Minister of Chechnya and, in March 2007, named President of Chechnya. Grozny.
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4. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. Youths belonging to "Club Putin" and "Club Kadyrov" in the city's main square celebrate the 10th Constitution Day. These two clubs, inspired by the Soviet Union's Young Pioneers, are organized by the Ministry of Youth and directly sponsored by President Ramzan Kadyrov and the Chechen government. Grozny.
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5. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. A group of pro-Kadyrov activists in the city's main square celebrating the 10th Constitution Day. In the background are the Central Mosque and the Grozny City skyscrapers, the main symbol of the reconstruction of Grozny and Chechnya thanks to the efforts of President Kadyrov and the money provided by Moscow. Grozny.g to transform it into one of the region's main tourist destinations. Karachoi.
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6. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. A group of elderly Chechens praying in the mountains. Most Chechens practice Sunni Islam, and the majority of Chechen Sunnis belong to a Sufi order. Two recent trends have emerged in Chechnya in recent years. First, a radicalized remnant of the armed Chechen separatist movement has become dominated by Salafists who advocate abandoning nationalism in favor of pan-Islamism and merging with several other regional Islamic insurgencies to try to form a Caucasus emirate. Second, Ramzan Kadyrov's Moscow-backed regime has engaged in its own Islamization campaign. Under Kadyrov's leadership, local governments have actively promoted and enforced their own version of a so-called "traditional Islam," including the introduction of elements of Sharia that have replaced official Russian laws. Shatoy.
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7 Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. A group of men from two different families praying before they commence marriage arrangements. The majority of Chechens are Sufists and practice a form of Islam that has been practiced in Chechnya since the end of the 18th century. Brought by Imam Shamil, Sheikh Mansur, Imam Avko, and Imam Tashu-Hadji, the Sufism of the Naqshbandi tariqa ("brotherhood") was the first to arrive in Chechnya. In the 1850s, when Imam Shamil suffered numerous defeats at the hands of Russian forces, the Qadiri tariqa was introduced to Chechen society. This order, led by Sheikh Kunta-Hadji Kishiev, advocated spiritual resistance at the
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8. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. A group of men leaving the Akhmad Kadyrov Mosque, known as the "Heart of Chechnya," following Friday prayers. Islam, long suppressed in Chechnya, is now heavily promoted. In addition to commissioning the mosque that bears his father's name, Ramzan Kadyrov declared that under his rule, Chechnya would be "more Islamic than the Islamists." Grozny.
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9. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. Kupanie v prorubi (bathing in a hole in the ice), part of Orthodox Epiphany celebrations. One consequence of the gradual "normalization" of Chechnya is the flight of ethnic Russians. There is little left of the Orthodox faith in Chechnya; most of the region's Christian minority fled in the early 1990s in the wake of Dzhokhar Dudaev's declaration of an independent Chechen state. Others left as a result of Kadyrov's "Chechenization" efforts, fleeing to neighboring republics. The majority of Chechnya's former Orthodox community, largely of Cossack lineage, now lives in Naur district. The Chechen language, meanwhile, was once prohibited but is now spoken regularly. Recently, Kadyrov has made efforts to integrate young Russians into Chechnya's youth programs: Kadyrov pays Russian youth to learn the Chechen language and convert to Islam. He also sends them on vacation in Turkey to a club named for his father, Club Kadyrov. Naur.

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10. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. A girl praying in the only official women's madrasa in Russia. This is one of the oldest madrasas to permit girls to study Islam. In operation for the past 13 years, the school was previously burned down by Russian authorities with Ramzan Kadyrov's full consent. Thanks to Aiman Kadyrova, President of the Regional Public Foundation who was named for Akhmad Kadyrov, the madrasa now has its own fully equipped building. One village resident recounts, "I remember when President Dzhokhar Dudaev claimed that our girls needed not schools, but madrasas. That statement provoked a wave of indignation in the Republic. Dzhokhar Dudaev was criticized everywhere and by everyone. People said that he did not want our children to get a good education, that the rights of women were being violated, and so on. Today, for some reason, no one protests against women's madrasas, against the mandatory wearing of headscarves for young women, or against the introduction of some elements of Sharia. On the contrary, everyone thanks the government, and Ramzan Kadyrov personally, for that. That is, the outlook on life has dramatically changed in the past twenty years in our Republic." Chiri Yurt.

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11. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. Rada, 14, trying on a wedding dress designed by her sister inside a bus during a rehearsal for a movie on the Chechen deportation. As in many other Muslim countries, child brides were very common in Chechnya. Although President Kadyrov strongly promotes a merger of Chechen tradition and Islamic law, the Russian federal government recently forced him to publicly condemn the practice of child marriage, which is illegal throughout the Russian Federation. Shatoy.

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12. Republic of Chechnya, Russia, 03/2013. Portrait of Rustam Dokhtukaev inside his house. In 2008, Dokhtukaev participated in an antiterrorist operation in the village of Dargo, in the mountainous Vedensky region. He was taking part in mop-up operations when his platoon was attacked by an unseen group of rebels. He lost one leg and received a head wound. "I started doing this job in 2001 in Allah's name, for the sake of my people, with the hope that peace and freedom would come, that I would be able to have a family and children, and bring them up. I was fed up with these 'thievish laws' that allowed a man to be killed for a submachine gun or 200 rubles. It was very bad here at that time. And now, praise to Allah, everything is much better. We have a very good Head of the Region. Allah gave him to us." Kurchaloy.

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