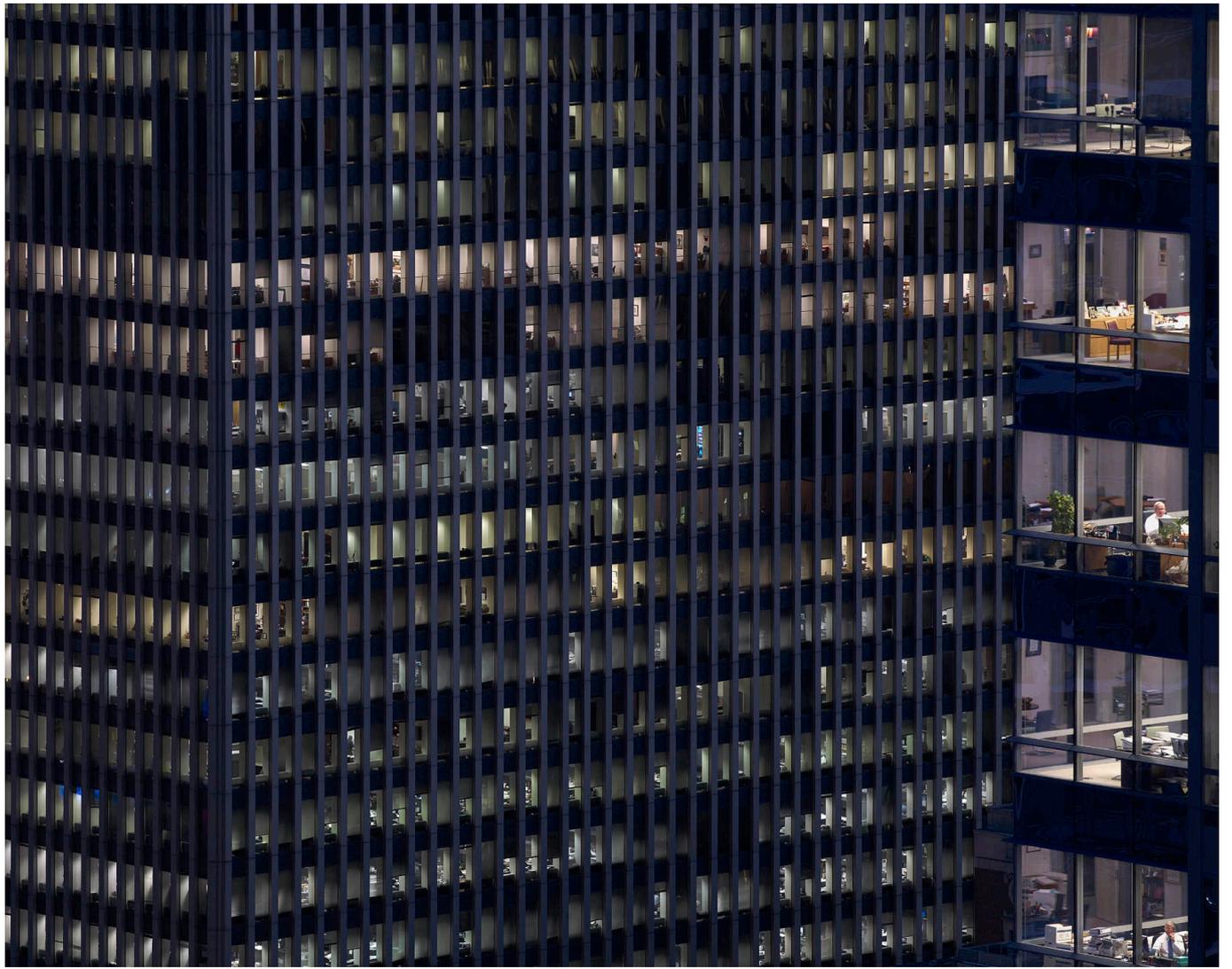


Exposition du 16 juin au 28 juillet 2018  
Vernissage samedi 16 juin à partir de 16h

# MICHAEL WOLF

« *Insidious* »





TC 75, C-PRINT, 102 X 135 CM / 122 X 160 CM

Depuis son premier projet personnel, Michael Wolf a développé une recherche unique à propos de la vie dans les villes, englobant la Chine, Hong-Kong, Chicago, Paris, et Tokyo. Bien que ses paysages photographiques de Hong-Kong et Chicago aient reçu la plus grande reconnaissance à ce jour, la portée de son travail va bien plus loin que l'architecture des villes actuelles. L'intérêt de Wolf à propos de l'étendue des villes est conduit par une fascination sous-jacente pour ceux qui vivent là. Au-delà de la structure formelle de l'environnement urbain, l'appareil photographique de Wolf révèle les manifestations des vies humaines, combinant plusieurs balances, des perspectives et des approches visuelles qui présentent une vision complexe de la dynamique de l'organisation urbaine.

...

A Hong Kong, il orientait son appareil photographique vers les bâtiments frappants d'austérité qui caractérisent cette mégapole. Le résultat – visible dans la série « Architecture of Density » – en était presque abstrait.

L'intérêt de Michael Wolf pour les habitants de ces espaces et leurs rapports à la cité s'accrut par accident lorsqu'il agrandit un détail des immeubles vitrés qu'il photographiait alors dans Chicago. La série « Transparent City », issue de ce travail, juxtapose des images d'immeubles et des focus sur des intérieurs, tirant des détails de la vie intime de leurs occupants.

...

Pendant le processus de l'édition de la série, Wolf est devenu fasciné par les aperçus de la vie des gens à travers les fenêtres des immeubles qu'il a photographiés. Il a péniblement parcouru chaque centimètre de ces paysages urbains pour trouver des détails de l'homme de paire avec ses images d'architecture, soufflant jusqu'à ces détails dans les tableaux de grande envergure très pixellisé. En juxtaposant l'équivalent photographique d'un microscope et d'un télescope, il fournit la série avec une tension sous-jacente : tourné pendant des jours entiers de la crise financière globale, la monumentalité et l'absence de surface lisse des bâtiments contrastent avec la peur et la fragilité qui est lisible sur les visages pixellisés de ses occupants. Dans un de ces grossissements, un homme donne à Wolf l'« oiseau » de sa fenêtre, sans doute après avoir vu le photographe perché sur un toit avec son appareil photo. En opposition à ce détachement formel de ses premières œuvres, des images comme celle-ci commencent à suggérer le rôle du photographe comme un voyeur, que Wolf reconnaît avec une image dramatique contenant un hommage à Rear Window d'Hitchcock.

Marc Feustel  
extraits

Michael Wolf est né en 1954 à Munich en Allemagne. Il a étudié à l'Université de Berkeley et à la Folkwang School d'Essen. Il vit entre Paris et Hong Kong.

Ses oeuvres sont conservées dans les plus grandes collections muséales: Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Brooklyn Museum, San Jose Museum of Art, California; Museum Folkwang, Essen, Museum for Architecture, Frankfurt, Monnaie de Paris...

Since his first personal project, Michael Wolf has developed a unique body of work on life in the city encompassing China, Hong Kong, Chicago, Paris and Tokyo. Although his landscape photographs of Hong Kong and Chicago have received the most recognition to date, the scope of his work goes far beyond the architecture of the contemporary city. Wolf's interest in the city's surface is driven by an underlying fascination with the lives beneath it. Beyond the formal structure of the urban environment, Wolf's camera reveals the manifestations of human life within it, combining different scales, perspectives and visual approaches to present a complex vision of the dynamics of the urban organism.

In his best-known series on Hong Kong's highly compressed, often brutal architecture, *Architecture of Density*, Wolf uses the city's sky-scraping tower blocks to great effect, eliminating the sky and horizon line to flatten each image and turn these facades into seemingly never-ending abstractions. In 2006, when arriving in Chicago, he took the elevated train into the city at dusk and was struck by the transparency of its architecture. After having worked in Asia for many years, Wolf saw Chicago as providing the opportunity to continue his study of city life in a radically different context. Shooting from public rooftops over the course of several months, Wolf adopted a similar visual approach to his Hong Kong architectural work. However, the transparency and monumentality of Chicago's buildings give a very different result: the city is far less dense than Hong Kong, thereby creating a greater sense of depth to the images, while the transparency of its glass skyscrapers causes the life within them to seep out.

...

During the editing process for the series, Wolf became fascinated by the glimpses of people's lives visible through the windows of the buildings that he had photographed. He painstakingly scoured every inch of these cityscapes to find human details to pair with his architectural images, blowing these details up into highly pixellated large-scale tableaux. By juxtaposing the photographic equivalents of a microscope and a telescope, he provides the series with an underlying tension: shot during the early days of the global financial crisis, the monumentality and sleekness of the buildings contrasts with the fear and fragility that is legible on the pixellated faces of its occupants. In one of these magnifications, a man gives Wolf the 'bird' from his window, presumably having seen the photographer perched on a rooftop with his camera. As opposed to the formal detachment of his early work, images like this one begin to suggest the role of the photographer as a voyeur, which Wolf acknowledges with a dramatic image containing a homage to Hitchcock's *Rear Window*.

Marc Feustel  
Excerpts

Michael Wolf was born in 1954 in Munich, Germany. He studied at Berkeley University and Folkwang School in Essen. He lives between Paris and Hong Kong.

His work is included in museum collections: Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Brooklyn Museum, San Jose Museum of Art, California; Museum Folkwang, Essen, Museum for Architecture, Frankfurt, Monnaie de Paris...



TC 54, C-PRINT, 135 X 102 CM / 160 X 122 CM



TCD 04, C-PRINT, 50 X 40 CM



TC 53, C-PRINT, 102 X 135 CM / 122 X 160 CM



TCD 06, C-PRINT, 50 X 40 CM



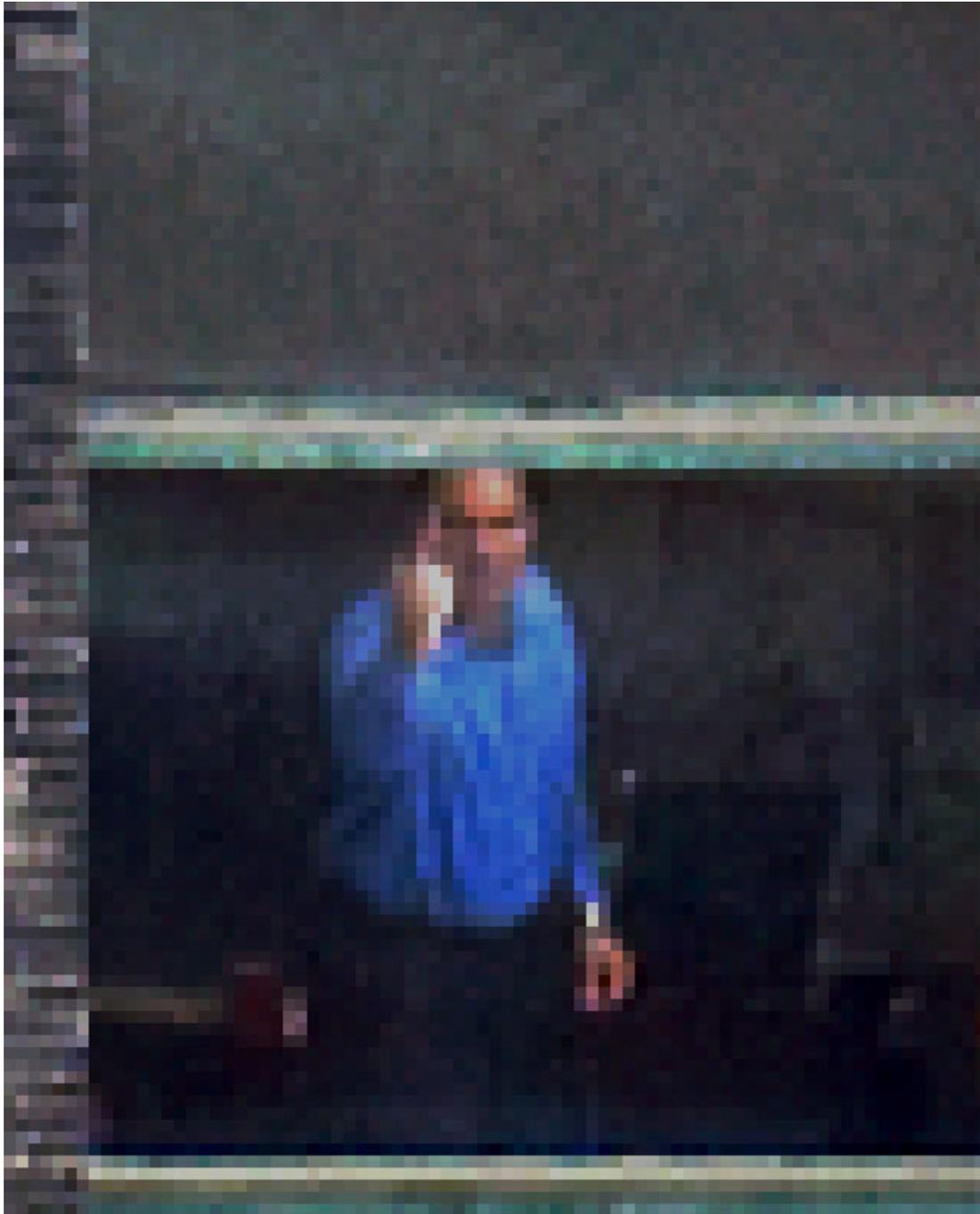
TC 22, C-PRINT, 102 X 135 CM / 122 X 160 CM



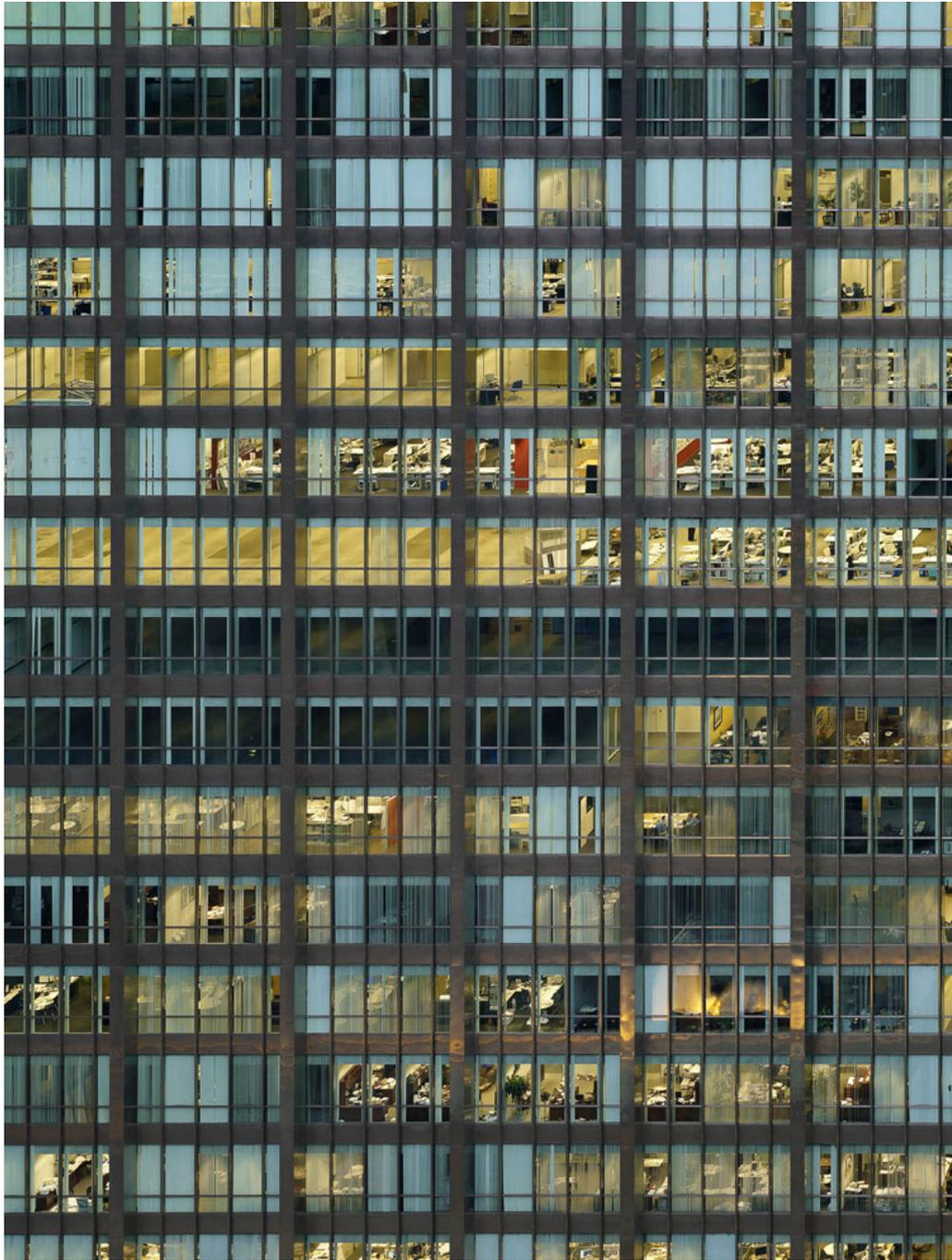
TCD 10, C-PRINT, 20 X 25 CM



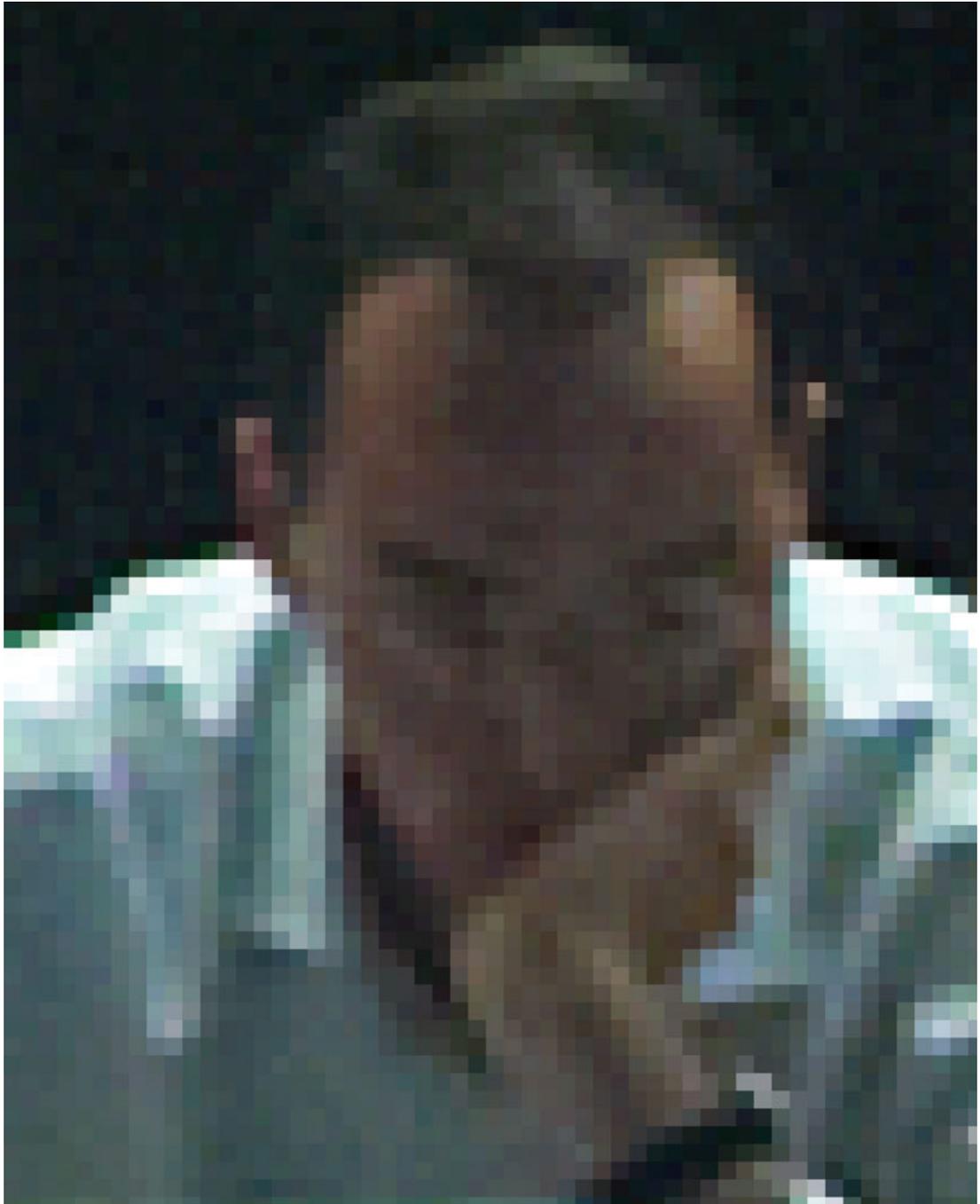
TC 41, C-PRINT, 102 X 135 CM / 122 X 160 CM



TCD 24, C-PRINT, 50 X 40 CM



TC 95, C-PRINT, 135 X 102 CM / 160 X 122 CM



TCD 09, C-PRINT, 25 X 20 CM



TC 106, C-PRINT, 135 X 102 CM / 160 X 122 CM

# MICHAEL WOLF

Né à Munich, Allemagne en 1954.  
Vit et travaille à Hong Kong et Paris.

## EXPOSITIONS (SELECTION)

2018

- Life in Cities, FotoMuseum Den Haag, Netherlands
- Insidious, La Galerie Particulière, Paris

2017

- Life in Cities, Les Rencontres d'Arles, Eglise des Frères Prêcheurs

2016

- informal solutions @ MOTi, Breda, Netherlands
- Photography and Contemporary Experience, Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR
- Hong Kong Back Alley, Peperoni Books Pop-up store, Milan, Italy
- Informal solutions, Michael Wolf's studio, c/o with Sarah Greene/Blue Lotus G
- In and/or Out, Seiichi Furuya und Michael Wolf – Grisebach, Berlin, Germany
- The soul of Money, DOX centre for contemporary art, Prague
- Paris Rooftops, Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto, Canada
- Informal Solutions, Book Launch c/o WE PRESS and Sarah Greene/Blue Lotus G

2015

- Paris Rooftops – m97 project space, Shanghai
- Digital Conditions, Kunstverein Hannover, Hannover
- Blind Walls and Night Trees, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam
- Hong Kong Narratives, Michael Wolf's studio, c/o with Sarah Greene/Blue Lotus G
- Back Alley Deconstructed, pop-up @ wontonMeen, curator: sarah greene, hong kong
- Words Matter, Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco
- Hong Kong Inside Outside, Tin Shed Gallery, university of Sydney, Sydney

2014

- BindWalls - Paris roofTops, La Galerie Particulière, Paris
- Eyes on the Street, Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, USA
- The rush Calm, Moments in the City, Fotomuseum den Haag, La Haye, Pays-bas
- Privat / Privacy, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt
- Web on the Wall, Robert Koch Gallery, New York

- The Photographers 2014, Beetles+Huxley Gallery, Londres
- About Portraits, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Pays-Bas
- Vichy Portait(s), Festival de Vichy, France
- The Real Toy Story, chi K11 art space, Shangai
- Hong Kong Trilogy, 25 Books, Berlin
- Architecture of Density, Flowers Central , Londres
- Small God, Big City, M97 Gallery, Shangai
- My Favourite Thing, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Pays-Bas
- Paris Abstract, Robert Koch Gallery, New York
- Perduti nel paesaggio, Mart Rovereto, Rovereto, Italie
- Urban Spirit, Christophe Guye Galerie, Zurich

## 2013

- Archicture of Density, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam
- Small God, Big City, 25 Books, Berlin
- Industrial Architecture, M97 Gallery, Shangai
- Von A bis Z, Ruhr Museum, Essen
- Parallax, M97 Gallery, Shangai

## 2012

- Bottrop Ebel 76, 25 Books, Berlin
- von sinnen: wahrnehmung in der zeitgenoessischen kunst», Kunsthalle zu Kiel, Kiel, Allemagne
- Street View Portraits, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam
- Total City, IVAM, Valence, Espagne
- Public: collective identity | occupied spaces, The Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto
- Making History, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Francfort
- Hong Kong and shenzhen biennial of urbanism/architecture, Hong Kong
- The Near and Elsewhere, PM Gallery, Londres
- Davos Art Exhibition, meeting of the world economic, Davos Switzerland
- Bamboo Theater Exhibition: Portraits of cantonese opera singers, Museum M+, Hong Kong
- Highrise: Idea and Reality, Museum of Design, Zurich
- Virtual Identities, Centro di Cultura Contemporanea Strozzi, Florence

## 2011

- Prix Pictet : Growth : Gallery of Photography, Dublin ; Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington
- Arteversum, Dusseldorf ; Galleria Carla Sozzani, Milan ; galerie Christophe Guye, Zurich ; Thessaloniki Museum of Photography, Thessaloniki, Grèce ; Passage de Retz, Paris
- Untitled, Flowers Central , Londres
- Fotodoks, Münchner Stadtmuseum, Munich
- Life in Cities, Galerie Christophe Guye, Zurich
- Infinite Balance: Artists and the Environment, Museum Photographic Arts, San Diego
- Real Fake Art / Tokyo Compression Revisited – 25 books, Berlin
- Cities: Visionary Places, Torrance Art Museum, Los Angeles
- Metropolis. city life in the urban age 2011, Noorderlicht Photo Festival, Groningen, Pays-Bas

- sifest #20, Savignano Immagini, Savignana Sul Rubicone, Italie
- sh contemporary, Shanghai
- Life in Cities, Gun Gallery, Stockholm
- Hail Traveler!, Rick Wester Fine Art, New York
- Summer in the City, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam
- NY Temporary: the City through Photography, Film and Video, Museum Center of Photography, New York
- Street Photography Now, Uno Art Space, Stuttgart
- 10 years, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam
- Metropolis, Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco
- I'm watching you, Elipsis Gallery, Istanbul
- Fear in the City, Monnaie de Paris, Paris
- Tokyo Compression, Forum für Fotografie, Cologne

## 2010

- We are watching You, La Galerie Particulière, Paris
- I see you, Bruce Silverstein Gallery, New York
- Paris Street View, Hong Kong, Goethe Institut
- 12 ème Biennale Internationale d'Architecture, Venise, Pavillon de Hong Kong
- Paris Street View/Tokyo Subway Dreams, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam
- Paris Street View/Tokyo Subway Dreams, Gallery 51 Fine Art, Anvers
- Life in cities, M97 Gallery, Shanghai

## 2009

- «Transparent City/Architecture of Density»
- La Galerie Particulière, Paris
  - Julie Saul Gallery, New York
  - Atelier Elipsis, Istanbul
  - Entropy Art, Naples
  - Aperture Gallery, New York
  - Gallery Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam
  - Gallery 51 Fine Art, Anvers
  - Stephen Daiter Gallery, Chicago
  - Landscape as Dream (Group show), Studio la Citta, Verone

## 2008

- Transparent City, Museum for Contemporary Photography, Chicago
- Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco
- Hong Kong Back Door, Lumervisum Gallery, Hong Kong
- The Real Toy Story/Architecture of Density, China Design Now, Londres
- Eastern Standard, Western Artists in China, Mass MoCA, North Adams, USA
- Heritage, Hong Kong Corner Houses, Goethe Institute, Hong Kong
- Real Fake Pictures/Architecture of Density, Galerie Wouter van Leeuwen, Amsterdam

2007

- Pieces of China - A Retrospective of Michael Wolf's China Projects (catalogue), Museum Center, Vapriikki, Tampere, Finlande
- Two Photographers in a Dialog : Architecture of Density, with Stephen Canham's, Traveling Gypsies' Homes, Hallische Gallerien, Dresdes
- Real Fake Art/100 x 100, Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco
- China Projects/100 x 100, Real Fake Art, The Real Toy Story, M97 Gallery, Shanghai
- Fake ? Portraits of Chinese Copy Art, Goethe Institute, Hong Kong,
- Hong Kong Industrial, Ursula Huber Gallery, Basel
- New Urban Vistas, Arthur Roger Gallery, New Orleans

2006

- Architecture of Density/Architecture of Work, Art Fair Kunst Zürich, Gallery Huber, Zürich
- Gallery 51 Fine Art, Paris Photo, Paris
- Artspace 1918 (exposition de groupe), Shanghai Biennale, Shanghai
- 798 Photo Gallery, Beijing
- Janet Oh Gallery, Séoul
- Hasted-Hunt Gallery, New York
- Artspace 1918, Shanghai
- Architecture of Density/China Copy Artists, Gallery 51 Fine Art, Antwerp
- 100 x 100, Gallery of the Goethe Institute, Hong Kong
- Daegu Photo Biennale, Daegu, Corée.
- Gallery Laif, Cologne, Allemagne.
- The Real Toy Story, Museum for Work, Hambourg, Allemagne.
- Hong Kong Architecture, Robert Koch Gallery, AIPAD, New York, Etats-Unis.
- Sitting in China», Kap Forum, Cologne, Allemagne.
- New Work from Hong Kong, Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco, Etats-Unis.

2005

«Architecture of Density»

- Robert Koch Gallery, San Francisco
- Robert Koch Gallery, Art Basel, Bâle
- Ping Yao Photography Festival, Ping Yao, Chine.
- Useful, Cute and Collected. The Photographed Animal, Museum Folkwang, Essen
- Hong Kong : Front Door/Back Door, Galerie Colette, Paris

2004

- Truth! - Photographyies Promise of Reality, Ruhland Museum, Essen, Allemagne.
- The Real Toy Story, John Batten Gallery, Hong Kong

2003

- Sitting in China, Kestner Museum, Hanovre

2000

- Peking Shanghai Shenzhen : Cities of the 21st century, Bauhaus Museum, Allemagne.

## CATALOGUES

2017

- Michael wolf Works, Peperoni books

2013

- Hong Kong trilogy, Peperoni books

2012

- Tokyo Compression - III, Peperoni Books
- Small Gods Big City, Peperoni Books
- Bottrop Eel 1976, Peperoni Books

2011

- Tokyo Compression - revisited, Peperoni Books
- Tokyo Compression, Peperoni Books
- Portraits, Superlabo
- Fy, Peperoni Books
- Real Fake Art, Peperoni Books
- Hong Kong Corner Houses, Hong Kong University Press

2010

- A series of Unfortunate Events, Peperoni Books
- Growth, Prix Pictet, Teneues Verlag

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