

Martin Frech: **Embankment Zones**

Series of 18 black and white photographs

M20

Tübingen, november/december 2013

Atelierausstellung

Tübingen, september/october 2013

schaelpic photokunstbar

Cologne, may/july 2013

Embankment Zones

(2011/2012)

Series of 18 black and white photographs

Sites beyond the officially defined urban space are vital for little escapes from the structured day by day. They are limited open spaces that can be found in any town or village. Children, youths and grown-ups alike use them during different periods of the day: to walk the dog, to be alone, to smoke the first cigarette, to light a little campfire etc.

I have been visiting such sites at the Teltowkanal in Berlin over two years minutely documenting these sites for my photographic series with a large format camera. These somewhat hidden embankment zones are appropriated spaces -- officially their access is forbidden, practically though it is tolerated.

Beaten paths at the bank of the canal form the recurring theme of this cycle. Formally alike -- taken at eye level, the pictures show segments of a path, accompanied by cut views of the canal and the overgrown embankment. Often the path is blocked by overgrowing vegetation or explicit closures. Architectural fragments that appear from time to time denote the urban context of the scene. There are no persons visible, omnipresent though the traces of regular use; details indicate a variety of users.

My pictures show aspects of a cultural landscape: While these at first sight unspectacular embankment zones are places of retreat in an urban parallel universe, the canal, built a hundred years ago, still serves its purpose as a federal water-way.

silver gelatine prints

hand printed by the artist himself on fiberbase paper to archival standard

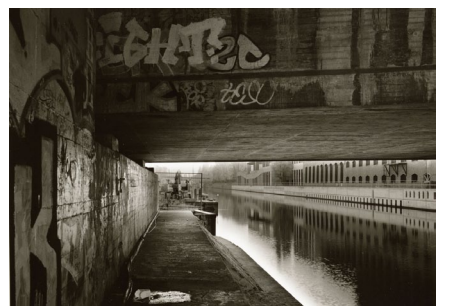
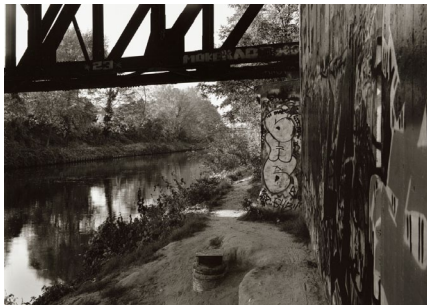
1st edition 2013: three copies for each

format: 36,4 × 26,4 cm (40,5 × 30,4 cm)

verso stamped, dated, titled, numbered and signed

Infos zu meiner Editionspraxis: www.medienfrech.de/foto/info/editionen/





Martin Frech: Beobachter und Dokumentar, Fotograf

My thematic interests are focused on urban space in the big city: exploring social dynamics and patterns of communication are defining links my work. My motives I find mostly in Berlin.

I am a documentary film-maker by training and this has influenced my photographic method: I proceed in series often over longer periods of time. My findings find their position in portfolios and books or as single objects.

The characteristic sign for my independent work is black and white photography. I am developing my negatives myself and do the enlargements in my own laboratory. The „object“ quality of my originals is important for me.

My special knowledge and long standing experience are qualifications that I am willing to share as personal coach for ambitious amateurs.

I am also working in colour and do commissions:

I specialise in portraits, childrens photography and the documentation of events – f.ex. Talks, receptions or conferences. Clients appreciate my discrete manner and book me for important, high-level assemblies.

Portfolio: medienfrech.de/foto

Martin Frech (born 1966) studies film and video at Hochschule der Medien, Stuttgart.

He works for several years as assistant for the documentary film maker Peter Krieg in Cologne. For his graduation he develops the software ELVIS (electronic video interactive system) for interactive cinema presentations (Approval „Prix Ars Electronica 1991“, Presentation at „Input 1992“, Baltimore).

The nineties for Martin Frech meant extensive involvement in interactive digital media. He worked as technical director of the international Media Art Festival inter Activa (1992, 1993 in Cologne and 1994, 1995 in Potsdam-Babelsberg), as webmaster (Hochschule der Künste, Berlin), lecturer at the Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie Berlin (digital film editing) and at the Freie Universität Berlin (electronic publishing).

At the same time he studies informatics, paedagogics and history at Freie Universität Berlin. After an unfinished doctorate on stereo- and panoramic photography (Prof. Wersig, FU and Prof. Völz, TU) he concentrates fully on practical photography.

Since 2010 he lives and works with his family in Tübingen.

Martin Frech is founder of randgebiete.de, a project dealing with peripheral aspects of photography, he publishes photographic subjects and since 2006 is curator at schaelpicphotokunstbar in Cologne.

NzF Notizen
zur Fotografie
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Buchgestaltung und Buchherstellung
Mathematische Zeichnungen und Fotografie

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