

An aerial photograph of a city, possibly New York City, showing a grid of streets and buildings. A large, semi-transparent red 'X' is overlaid on the image, extending from the top right towards the bottom left. The text 'AMERICAN EXPRESS' is overlaid on the right side of the image.

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Jane Štravs

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Photography by Jane Štravs
Text by Marina Gržinić



Serija črno-belih fotografij o New Yorku je danes svojevrsten anahronizem. Ali pač? Immanuel Wallerstein, ameriški teoretik o svetovnih sistemih, pravi, da ZDA prenavljajo svoj ekonomsko-finančni kapitalistični sistem s tem, ko so proizvedle njegovo krizo. • Kakšen je New York videti v črno belem? Pred Obamo in krizo? Krizno! Jane Štravs nam podaja prav to stanje fotografije v času, ko nam novi digitalni mediji omogočajo, da je vsak svoj fotograf, snemalec, arhivar. Ali se tudi medij fotografije lahko prenovi? • Večina Štravsovih fotografij je le posnetek posnetka, vsebina je že na ulici predstavljena v okvirju. Je že spomin tam, kjer naj bi bila Realnost. Štravsova fotografija je tukaj že "izven polja", je "off". Fotografija se tukaj pravzaprav obnaša kot

Enigmatic moving- picture icons

Marina Gržinić

The series of black and white photographs on New York is today an anachronism of its own kind. Or else? Immanuel Wallerstein, the American theorist on world systems, states that the USA is renewing its economic- financial capitalist system by having pushed the system into crisis. • What does New York look like in black and white? What did it look like before Obama and the crisis? Already in crisis! Jane Štravs points to the state of photography at a time when the new digital media allow everyone to be their own photographer, cameraman, and archivist. Can photography renovate itself as well? • Most of Štravs' photographs are but shots of shots, as the content within his photographs seems to be already framed on the street. Packed for memory instead of presenting Reality. These photographs are already "off the field," functioning similarly as new wave films. The repetitive alteration of

novovalovski film. Repetitivni ritem črno-belih površin je ritem tik pred krizo. • Na monokromatičnem ozadju Štravsovih fotografij so predmeti predstavljeni preprosto, včasih s ponavljajočim gibanjem, tako da tvorijo enigmatične ikone iz gibajočih se podob. Podobe na fotografijah so az fascinacije nad filmi iz petdesetih let in nad estetiko fotografskih snapshotov. Iz njih presevajo ameriška mitologija, rasna segregacija in militaristični obrat ZDA. • Kdo je na ulici? Kje je Javnost? Kaj je Javnost? Ob tej fotografski seriji se nam vnovič zastavljajo ta pomembna vprašanja. Fotografija Janeta Štravs nikoli ne odneha z izzivanjem naše percepcije in s preizpraševanjem, kje je naše mesto v tem svetu.

black and white surfaces is reminiscent of the time on the eve of the crisis. • In Štravs' photography various objects are presented in simple way, sometimes with repetitive motions over monochrome backdrops, creating enigmatic moving-picture icons. We see images that recall fascination with 1950s movies and the aesthetics of snapshots. Štravs presents shots of USA's mythologies, racial segregation and its militaristic turn. • Who is on the street? Where is the Public? What is the Public? These questions are again important to be posed in relation to the present series. Štravs' photography never gives up, trying to challenge our perception and questioning where is our place in this world.

Dr. Marina Gržinić je raziskovalka na FI ZRC SAZU v Ljubljani in profesorica na Akademiji za likovno umetnost na Dunaju. / Dr. Marina Gržinić is researcher at the Institute of Philosophy ZRC SAZU in Ljubljana and Professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna.















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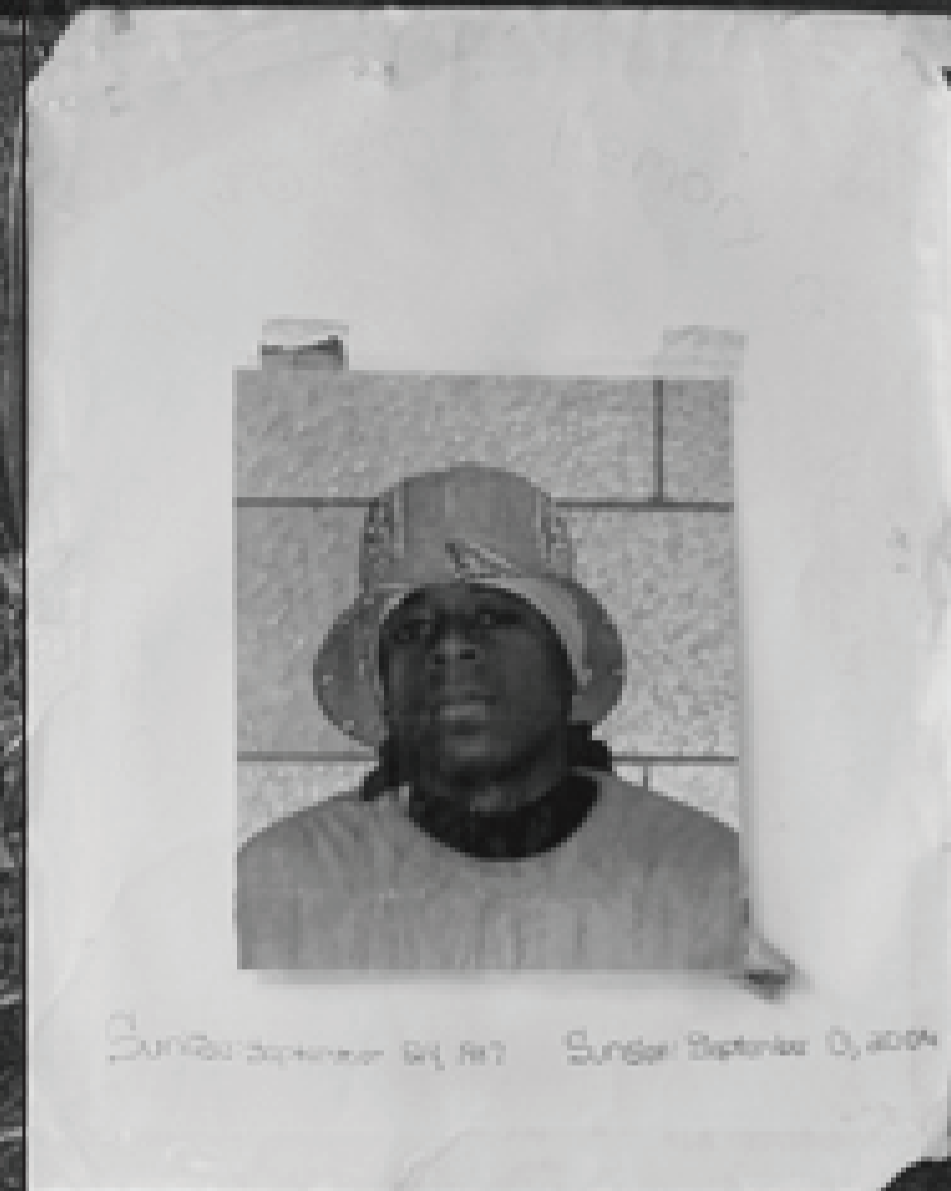
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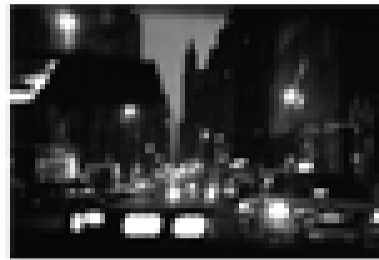




NYC #2, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #4, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #8, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #18, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #20, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #5, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



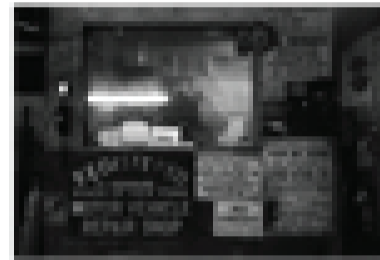
NYC #21, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



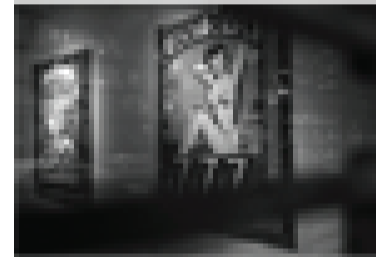
NYC #3, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #14, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



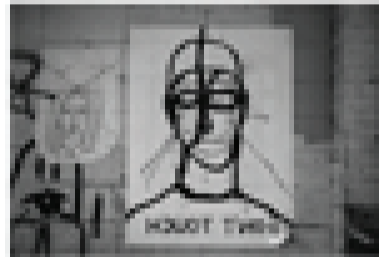
NYC #15, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



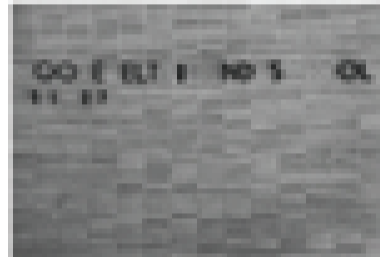
NYC #11, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #6, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #10, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #17, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm



NYC #1, 2006 / C -print, 100 x 146 cm

Jane Štravs / www.stravs.net

Rojen leta 1965 v Ljubljani. Leta 2003 založba ZRC Slovenske akademije znanosti in umetnosti izda fotografsko monografijo njegovih del; avtorja spremnih besedil sta Marina Gržinič in W.J.T. Mitchell. Njegova dela se nahajajo v številnih javnih in zasebnih zbirkah. Živi in dela kot svobodni fotograf v Ljubljani. / 1965 born in Ljubljana. In 2003 a monograph about his work was published by the Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Science and Arts; the essays were written by Marina Gržinič and W.J.T. Mitchell. His works are part of numerous public and private collections. Lives and works as a freelance photographer in Ljubljana.

Jane Štravs: American Express
25.9. – 25.10. 2009
Galerija G14, Bled, SI

Samostojne razstave (izbor) / Selected solo exhibitions

- 2009 - American Express, Galerija G14, Bled, SI
- 2007 - Jane Štravs, Galerija Equrna, Ljubljana, SI
- 2006 - Public Image, Triestefotografia / "Bruno Bianchi", Trieste, IT
- Fuel, Galerie SZI, Vienna, AT
- 2005 - Road Movie, Galerija Fotografija, Ljubljana, SI
- 2003 - Photographic Incarnations, Mermaid Gallery, Dublin, IE
- Oscar Wilde House, Dublin, IE
- Galerie Westlicht, Vienna, AT
- 2002 - Fotografije 8202, Mala galerija, Cankarjev dom, Ljubljana
- 1998 - Galerija Equrna, Ljubljana, SI
- 1996 - Galerija Krka, Novo mesto, SI
- 1993 - Jane Štravs, Moderna galerija (Museum of Modern Art), Ljubljana, SI
- 1992 - Galerija Avla LB, Ljubljana, SI
- 1990 - Likovni salon, Celje, SI
- 1985 - Srečna galerija, Studentski kulturni centar, Beograd, RS
- 1984 - Galerija Studentskog centra, Zagreb, HR
- 1982 - Galerija ŠKUC, Ljubljana, SI

Skupinske razstave (izbor) / Selected group exhibitions

- 2009 - Bijenale modne fotografije, Varaždin, HR
- Aktuelle Kunst In Graz, Galerie Remixx, Graz, AT
- 2008 - Behind Walls, 15th Noorderlicht International Photofestival, Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, NL
- Behind Walls, European Month of Photography, Bratislava, SK
- 2007 - Kolekcija suvremene umjetnosti Marino Cettina, Galerija Marin, Umag, HR
- Not-quite / Not-right: Histories, Bodies and Concepts in Contemporary Photography, Galerija Fotografija, Ljubljana, SI
- 2006 - Slovenian Contemporary Photography, European Month of Photography, Bratislava, SK
- Dresscode, Pxxelpoint, 7. mednarodni festival digitalne umetnosti, Mestna galerija, Nova Gorica, SI
- Not-quite / Not-right, Galerija Božidar Jakac, Kostanjevica na Krki, SI
- 2005 - Euro Press Photo Awards, Lisboa, PT
- 2004 - Road Movie, European Month of Photography, Galerie SZI, Vienna, AT
- Razširjeni prostori umetnosti, Slovenska umetnost 1985-95, Moderna galerija (Museum of Modern Art), Ljubljana, SI
- 2003 - Do roba in naprej, Slovenska umetnost 1975-1985, Moderna galerija (Museum of Modern Art), Ljubljana, SI
- In Passing - structures of perception and moving, Pavel House, Bad Redkersburg, AT
- 2001 - Oko in njegova resnica, Spektakel in resničnost v slovenski umetnosti 1984-2001, Moderna galerija (Museum of Modern Art), Ljubljana, SI
- 2000 - Slovenska fotografija - Tendence 1990-1999, Galerija sodobne umetnosti, Celje, SI

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