

Ruins & Archaeology photographs by FRANK PERRIN 19>28 september 2014 STATION

As part of the BEIRUT ART FAIR 2014
STATION
guest from 19 to 28 Septembre 2014 Frank Perrin
to present a preview of *Archeology*
and the integral version of *Ruins*



ns #03, From Teheran to Pyongyang

Through these two new chapters of work, started nearly 10 years ago, **Frank Perrin** explores the driving force of our condition, « *post capitalist* » : **a fantasy which becomes the iconic form of the facade.**

A unique feature of these two sections **Archeology** and **Ruins** is the absence of any human forms. As in the ideal cities of the Renaissance, the images propose architecture in a way that focuses less on their practicality for living, and more their ability to inspire thought.

This is the first time that **Frank Perrin** has exhibited his work in **Beirut**.

The **Ruins** section is about the understanding of the way in which money is accumulated and the symbols which circulate money. Using banknotes from multiple countries, Frank Perrin has isolated various reproductions of buildings to build long frescoes, which become imaginary landscapes. Each panorama proposes a symbolic journey from Beirut to Brasilia, from Bhutan to Washington, the buildings of Hong Kong to African power plants; A mosque in Afghanistan next to the Capitol, which sits beside the Moscow Stock Exchange... a large mixture where all contradictions feed their opposites; **a metaphor for our contemporary chaos.**

Using the technique of **scanning-collage** for the first time, Frank Perrin extends his approach to photography to emphasize **"the kitsch and ridiculous truth of**

Archeology reunites the points of views which invite a reflection on contemporary deterioration.

For this series, **Frank Perrin** worked in the celebrated **Cinecittà studios in Rome**, which have served as the filming location for many historical films like **Ben Hur** and **Cleopatra**. However, the location was never made legendary by **Federico Fellini** or by **Martin Scorsese**, resulting in these film locations to be left as ghost towns.

Through panoramic views **Frank Perrin** shows the debris, and the various set pieces and decor from the different eras: Roman columns and temples, Renaissance facades besides enormous scaffolding, along with a plastic chair from our current era. In this cinematographical archeology, reality and fiction overlap to form a sense of disconnection where you exist in the « **space-between** » the two worlds where the films were created, to where they come to life on our screens.

Archeology depicts the virtual architecture which exists only in the imagination and memory of films. The floating decorations give a ghost like facade, constructing a new "**species of spaces**", the metaphysical spaces that **Giorgio de Chirico** could cross.



Archeology #04 (2011), tirage photo contrecollé sur dibon

ABOUT FRANK PERRIN

Frank Perrin is a French photographer based in Paris. He has spent the last ten years working on his project **PostCapitalism** : «a visual and mental encyclopedia, a reasoned catalog of our constantly changing contemporary obsessions ».

Thus, beauty, solitude, and vanity intertwine in a strange reality that exceeds fiction, presented in an indefinite sense of 'in-between'.

Frank Perrin methodically draws his photographic eye to the structuring of several independent series, such as **Runway shows**, **Joggers** or **Streets**. These many chapters provide the opportunity to analyze the transformations of our flashy desires.

Postcapitalism is a tracking-shot on the founding ideas of our time.

Some of his works are in private collections in Paris, London, New York, Brussels, Milan, Athens, Miami, Palm Beach, Tokyo, and Seoul. Other pieces of his work can be found in public collections such as **FNAC** in Paris, or the **ING Insurance** collection in Amsterdam.

They are exhibited in international galleries and museums such as the **Centre Pompidou Metz** and the **musée Galliera** in Paris.

Frank Perrin is also represented by the Swiss gallery **Analix Forever**, with which he participates in international events such as the **FIAC**, **Paris Photo** or **ArtParis** at the Grand Palais.

He is also the director of the publication **Crash magazine**.

ABOUT STATION

STATION is a hybrid cultural space dedicated to presenting bold, contemporary and progressive art. Launched in September 2013 in a renovated wood factory, the venue seeks to contribute to the regional creative scene by offering a platform for artists and curators in the visual, performing and digital arts.

STATION aims to facilitate the exchange between artists, audience and cultural stakeholders by maintaining contextualized interdisciplinary programming and a collaborative approach to the creation, experimentation and presentation of cultural programs.

The current moment of possibility in the region's cultural history informs STATION's programming and artistic direction. Activities include exhibitions, workshops, live performances, artist residencies and community events. Having organized a series of high-profile exhibitions including *Maripolarama: NY 1980s*, *PhotoMed-Lebanon* (in association with La Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris – la MEP) and *In Medias Res*, STATION is today among the premier venues on Beirut's cultural map.

ABOUT BEIRUT ART FAIR



Organized by Cedralys SARL since 2010, BEIRUT ART FAIR, with a focus on the ME.NA.SA ART, has established itself on the regional and international art scene with its unique positioning and in synergy with the collectors' interests.

BEIRUT ART FAIR enables to discover new artists, inspired by their heritage and their history turmoil, creating their art work away from the globalization buzz and fashion and *star system* trends.

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