

Michael Danner Projects



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Critical Mass/Kritische Masse

Nuclear Power in Germany
2008-2011

To this day, the use of nuclear energy has been met with high hopes and profound skepticism. In Germany, both these stances have been, and still are, under intense discussion. By now, a medium-term nuclear power phase-out seems a done deal. However, the problem of the terminal storage of nuclear waste continues to be unsolved. Completed over the past four years, my photography project Critical Mass/Kritische Masse shows and documents all 17 German nuclear power plants as well as the Asse II terminal repository, and the exploration mine at Gorleben.

The images from Critical Mass/Kritische Masse presented are intended to invite observers to ask questions – questions regarding our notions of security and risk. Where are the limitations of technical control systems? What are the consequences of the energy transition? Or are we facing new chances for products and alternative lifestyles?

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About

Born in Reutlingen (Germany) in 1967, I now live in Berlin. I studied photography at the Fachhochschule Bielefeld (D) and the University of Brighton (UK) and subsequently lived in London from 1997 to 2000.

My artistic and photographic work focuses on the life-world. Here, I develop visual strategies that serve as a means of stepping back from the scene at hand, thus allowing for observation, interpretation and staging.

The distance thus achieved creates space for various levels of meaning, such as social and historical references or medial reflections. My aim is to facilitate a dialogue between image and recipient that reaches beyond the subject itself and links with the observer's life-world.

In addition to numerous publications and exhibitions, my photographic works have been entered into renowned collections and have been awarded many prizes.

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