



Yves Marchand & Romain Meffre, *Adam Osser Textile Factory, Lodz, Poland*, 2012. Chromogenic print, 95 x 120 cm or Ultrachrome print, 150 x 190 cm.

Yves Marchand (b. 1981) and Romain Meffre (b.1987) are two French photographers who met through a mutual interest in contemporary ruins. They began their collaboration in 2002 by exploring Parisian remains before their interest took them to Detroit where a thorough exploration of the city lasting five years resulted in their seminal work *The Ruins of Detroit* (Steidl, 2010). They currently live and work in Paris.

Since then they have completed several critically acclaimed series including *Theatres* (2005 - ongoing), which was born out of the time they spent in Detroit. Noticing the sorry state of many of the movie theatres they came across, Marchand and Meffre discovered and documented abandoned movie theatres across America. Many of the theatres date from the Golden Age of film and the stories told through these images act as fascinating documents of American history.

*Gunkanjima* (Steidl, 2012) is an investigation of Hashima, a small island located off the extreme southwest coast of Japan. The Mitsubishi corporation purchased the island in 1890 and opened a coal mine there, turning Hashima into one of the most densely populated places in the world with over 5,000 inhabitants during the 1950s. After the mine closed in January 1974, the last inhabitants departed from the island, the connection by boat to Nagasaki was suspended and Gunkanjima became a ghost town.

*Budapest Courtyards* (2014-16) records 400 of the more than 4,000 internal courtyards in Budapest, a form of collective housing which reflects the city's tumultuous history, its changing political regimes and its economy.

*Industry* is an ambitious and ongoing project documenting the rise and fall of the industrial landscapes of the West, while their last series, *Lebanon* (2017), documents the would-be site of the Tripoli International Fair, one of the largest exhibition centres in the world designed by Oscar Niemeyer in 1963, abandoned during the outbreak of the country's civil war in 1975.

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- Solo Exhibitions**
- 2023 *Exploration Urbaine, 20 years of exploring*, Maison des Arts, Antony, France
  - 2022 *Theaters*, Galerie Fontana, Amsterdam, Netherland  
*Theaters - Epilogue*, Polka Galerie, Paris, France  
*Movie Theaters*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
  - 2019 *A Fragment of Budapest*, Galerie Fontana, Amsterdam, Netherlands
  - 2018 *Budapest Courtyards*, Polka Galerie, Paris, France
  - 2017 *Industry*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
  - 2016 *Theaters*, Le Parvis, Pau, France
  - 2015 *Theaters*, Cultuurcentrum Caermersklooster, Ghent  
*Industry*, Polka Gallery, Paris, France  
*Industry*, Fontana Galerie, Amsterdam, Netherland  
*Theaters*, Deutsches Filmmuseum, Frankfurt, Germany
  - 2014 *Theaters*, Deutsches Filminstitut, Frankfurt, Germany
  - 2013 *Gunkanjima*, Polka Galerie, Paris, France  
*The Ruins of Detroit*, Edwynn Houk Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland
  - 2012 *The Ruins of Detroit*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK  
*Theaters*, Polka Galerie, Paris, France  
*The Ruins of Detroit*, Fontana Fortuna Gallery, Amsterdam
  - 2011 *The Ruins of Detroit*, Kühlhaus, Berlin, Germany  
*The Ruins of Detroit*, Galerie Wanted, Paris, France
  - 2010 *The Ruins of Detroit*, Le Maillon, Strasbourg  
*The Ruins of Detroit*, Gun Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden  
*Vestiges d'Hollywood*, Cinéma du Panthéon w/ Polka, Paris, France
  - 2008 *Contemporary Ruins*, Point of View Gallery, New York, USA  
*Movie Theaters, les palais oubliés du cinéma*, Naço Gallery, Paris, France
  - 2007 *Industria, ruines industrielles*, Galerie Kennory Kim, Paris, France
  - 2006 *Les fabuleuses ruines de Detroit*, Galerie Kennory Kim, Paris, France
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- Group Exhibitions**
- 2024 *Apocalypse Now*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK  
*Formes de la Ruin*, Musée des Beaux Arts, Lyon, France
- 2019 *In Ruins*, Witley Court, Worcestershire, UK  
*Paysages en vue(s)*, MUDO Musée de l'Oise, Beauvais, France  
*Le Temps de l'île*, MUCEM, Marseille, France  
*Theaters*, Nuit de la Photo, La Chaux-de-Fonds, France
- 2018 *Geometrica*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 *L'ombre de l'angle*, CAUE 92, Nanterre, France
- 2016 *Teamwork Makes Dreamwork*, Polka Galerie, Paris, France  
*La forza delle rovine*, Museo Nazionale Romano, Rome, Italy
- 2015 *Reimagining the Industrial Revolution*, Meadow Arts & Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, Coalbrookdale, UK  
*HIP-HOP, du Bronx aux rues arabes*, Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris, France
- 2013 *Aesthetic Departures: Trends in European Photography, 1850 to the present*, Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, USA
- 2012 *Parcours photographique de St. Gilles*, Bruxelles, Belgium  
*Le Silence*, Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, Monaco
- 2011 *2112: Imagining the Future*, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne, Australia  
*Apocalypses, la disparition des villes*, Pavillon Populaire, Montpellier, France  
*Metropolis*, Noorderlicht Photofestival, Groningen, Netherlands  
*La Ville Fertile*, Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine, Paris, France

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- Collections**
- Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, USA
- Deutsches Filminstitut, Frankfurt, Germany
- Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, France
- Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, Monaco
- JPMorgan Chase Art Collection, global
- Fondation Carmignac, Paris, France
- The Ford Foundation, NY, USA
- Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, Paris, France
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- Commissions**
- 2016 Comité Vendôme, Place Vendôme, Paris, France
  - 2015 La Samaritaine, Paris, France
  - 2014 LVMH, Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France
  - 2013 BETC, Magasins Généraux, Pantin, France
  - 2011 Ville de Deauville, Les lieux du cheval, Deauville, France
  - 2011 Eiffage, Hôtel-Dieu, Lyon, France

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- Publications**
- 2022 *Budapest Courtyards*, Steidl Verlag
  - 2021 *Movie Theaters*, Prestel Publishing
  - 2014 *Graffiti Général*, Éditions Dominique Carré
  - 2013 Gunkanjima, Steidl, Verlag
  - 2010 *The Ruins of Detroit*, Steidl Verlag

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**Selected Press**

The New York Times, Time, British Journal of Photography, The Observer, The Outlook  
Intelligent Life, Courier International, Le Monde, Libération, L'Espresso, Polka  
Der Spiegel, Vokrug Sveta, El Pais, Clarín's Viva, Mark, La Vanguardia, GQ Italia, Geographical  
Cicero, Numéro

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