

PHOTOGRAPHIC
ESSAY

January – May 2016

Vienna, 1030/Erdbergstraße, 1150/Pfeiffergasse
1100/Kempelengasse

la Biennale di Venezia

15. Mostra
Internazionale
di Architettura
Partecipazioni Nazionali

PLACES FOR PEOPLE



A photographic essay about “Places for People”

“Film is fabrication, 25 times a second” said Rainer Werner Fassbinder, both referring to and distancing himself from Jean-Luc Godard’s famous dictum proclaiming the ability of the cinematic medium to portray truth. For the Austrian photographer Paul Kranzler (*1979), photography is a medium of perception – especially if it looks carefully and consistently. For this reason he has photographed many of his subjects repeatedly over longer periods, giving his photographic series both a narrative and a documentary dimension. For Kranzler, the truth of photography lies somewhere between and, at any rate, beyond that of speech.

His black and white and colour photographs primarily portray people and their milieus: youths from in and around Linz or Los Angeles posing with their cars, a retired couple in their substandard one-room apartment who spent many years as the photographer’s neighbours or drop-outs from civilization and other freaks who have withdrawn to the West Virginian countryside.

As a result of the duration and intensity of his work in addressing situations that he himself knows well without being directly part of them, he reveals not only changes but also the tenacity of certain relationships. Kranzler’s view is direct and clear without ever being cold. Rather than stylising people as either heroes or victims he places a special focus on their sovereignty and gives expression to their self assurance. The element of wildness and rebellion that is often communicated by these actors and scenarios is registered by Paul Kranzler with particular attention and recorded in his vigorous visual language.

Many of his photographic series have appeared as books and they feature continuously in solo and group exhibitions in Austria and abroad. His photo reportages appear regularly in such well-known print media as “Zeit Magazine”, “Süddeutsche Zeitung Magazine” and “FT weekend” magazine.

For “Places for People” the photographer undertook the task of accompanying the three teams of architects with his camera during several months, documenting their development and implementation work at the three different locations. Aside from the normal requirement to respect the personal rights of the people being photographed he was given no special instructions and left to develop his own approach. In the course of a total of 18 visits to the three locations he took over 5,000 photographs. In consultation with the entire “Places for People” team, the photographer then selected 20 images from these many photographs for the presentation in the pavilion and around 60 more for the newspaper in addition to the 52 photographs which are collected in this magazine.

In contrast with classical architectural photography this visual essay also focuses on people – both those who have fled to Vienna and the architects working with them.

Christian Muhr



Paul Kranzler

Index:

Cover: Haus Erdberg, the drying room

p.3: Emirzaeva Zalina at the entrance door to Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.4 top: Identity cards on a bed in Haus Erdberg
bottom: A map of the world at the check-in in Haus Erdberg

p.5 top: The internal courtyard in Erdbergstraße
bottom: Olfat Abdolmunnan and Masoomi Hameed in their two-bed room

p.6 / 7: Two beds in Haus Pfeiffergasse prior to the intervention by Caramel

p.8 top: Wahdat Samir’s first contact with his new home in Haus Pfeiffergasse
bottom: Sunset in Rudolfshheim-Fünfhaus – a view of Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.9: Amini Sarajodin in Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.10: An urban view in Erdbergstraße

p.11 top: A detail from a bedroom in Haus Erdberg
bottom: Hannouf Tamman and Mannsour Mohammed Subhi

p.12 top: Saddam al Daraje uses the street in front of Haus Pfeiffergasse as a football pitch
bottom: Alhilal Firas, Atobaid Khaled, Bujalan Aswa, Alnaji Kasar and Abdule Mohamed in an apartment for men on the 4th floor of Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.13: Khawari Marzia at the entrance to her new home in Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.14 / 15: Faizi Diisina in a shared room in Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.16: A bathroom with a shower and washbasin in Haus Erdberg

p.17: Itulah Sunday (18) from Nigeria

p.18: Aloskan Adel and Maie Amina with their son in Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.19 top: From left: Martin Haller, Harold Naajjer, Ulrich Aspetsberger, Alex Minichshoter, Clemens Foschi, Hannes Schwed, Kolja Janiszewski, Dominik Sellitsch during a meeting in a still empty office floor in Haus Pfeiffergasse
bottom: A finished apartment in Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.20 top: Mahafi Amin
bottom: A view of Kempelenpark on the former Siemens site

p.21 top: A view across the city from the 5th floor of the office complex at Kempelengasse 1
bottom: An office floor in use at Kempelengasse 1

p.22 top: One of the main entrances to the office complex at Kempelengasse 1
bottom: A historical wood model and plan of the former Siemens site and the surrounding area

p.23: A client with an unauthorised, improvised cooker in his room in Haus Erdberg

p.24 top: Pupils from Rahlgasse Gymnasium in the internal courtyard in Erdbergstraße
bottom: Assembled elements from the “Social Furniture” catalogue for Erdberg

p.25: Olfat Abdolmannan in his room in Haus Erdberg

p.26 top: Ernst J. Fuchs on the roof at Kempelengasse 1
bottom: Ulf Seebächer of the company Deko Trend during the assembly of the prototype “private module” on site on the 4th floor of the office complex at Kempelengasse 1

p.27 top: Gardening work in Kempelenpark
bottom: Sketch for the frame of the prototype “private module” during the assembly on site on the 4th floor of the office complex at Kempelengasse 1

p.28 / 29: Mohammed Amer from Syria

p.30: A client at the entrance to a living space in Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.31 top: Dasamin Parisa’s son in Haus Pfeiffergasse
bottom: Khawari Marzia in Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.32 top: Nazanin Sunethic from Iran in Haus Pfeiffergasse
bottom: The mother and two of the five children of the Sarajodin Family on an improvised bed in Haus Pfeiffergasse

p.33: Hannouf Tammah during the assembly of the fridge units in Haus Erdberg

p.34 top: Lights on on the 4th and 5th floors of the office complex at Kempelengasse 1
bottom left: The surroundings to Kempelenpark looking towards the motorway
bottom right: The suburban surroundings of Am Kempelenpark with a view towards the motorway and the allotments

p.35: Klaus Koholzer of the company Deko Trend during the assembly of the prototype “private module” on site on the 4th floor of the office complex at Kempelengasse 1

p.36: A clock on the 4th floor of the office complex at Kempelengasse 1

p.37: Miagan Sabirgult in a corridor in Haus Erdberg

p.38 top: A view from Haus Erdberg over the rooftops towards Simmering
bottom: The first cooking event in Haus Erdberg; from left, Mohammed Sutohi Manssour, Shamikhani Hadi and Maradi Parhem

p.39: The internal courtyard at Erdbergstraße at night

Imprint:

This magazine appears as a supplement to the newspaper “Places for People” as part of Austria’s contribution to the 2016 Architecture Biennale in Venice and is edited by the curators Elke Delugan-Meissl, Sabine Dreher and Christian Muhr.

Photos: Paul Kranzler

Art direction: grafisches Büro

Text: Christian Muhr

Captions: Sabine Dreher

Translation: Rupert Hebblethwaite

Litho works: Martin Märzinger

All photographs appear with the gracious agreement of the people pictured.

ISBN: 978-3-200-04594-1







































