

Martin Roemers

Relics of the Cold War

July 16 - September 10, 2014



Martin Roemers, An old bunker lies in the Baltic Sea at a former Soviet naval base Liepaja, Latvia, 2002

This autumn marks twenty-five years since the fall of the Berlin Wall. In honor of this anniversary, *Anastasia Photo* is pleased to present *Relics of the Cold War*, Martin Roemers' second solo exhibition in North America. Between 1998 and 2009, Martin Roemers catalogued landscapes and deserted buildings across Europe from the era of the Cold War. *Relics of the Cold War* (Hatje Cantz, 2009) is a visual illustration of how the past remains vividly present.

For forty years the Iron Curtain divided the countries of Europe into East and West. The arms race was unleashed, nuclear fallout shelters were constructed, and everyone braced for the worst. Photographer Martin Roemers spent ten years searching for traces of this period in countries on both sides of the conflict. He explored and documented underground tunnels, abandoned system control centers, former barracks, rotting tanks, and destroyed monuments. His photographs are a stark and moving document of this era of hostility, deterrence politics, and the arms race. They also serve as an appeal for future peace.

Martin Roemers (b. 1962) studied photography at the *AKI Academy of Arts* in Enschede, the Netherlands. His long term projects include *Relics of the Cold War*, *The Eyes of War* and most recently, *Metropolis*, an exploration of the world's megacities. Roemers' photographs are held in public, private and corporate collections including the *Museum of Fine Arts* in Houston, the *Rijksmuseum* in Amsterdam, *Stadtmuseum* in Berlin and The Ford Foundation in New York. His photos have appeared in numerous publications including *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker* and *National Geographic*, among others. He has received many awards and recognitions including two *World Press Photo* Awards.

Anastasia Photo specializes in documentary photography and photojournalism. The gallery space also serves as a center for discussion and portfolio review. *Anastasia Photo* is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11am to 7pm and Sunday 11am - 6pm. For further information or questions please contact Jennifer Samuel at 212-677-9725 or jennifer@anastasia-photo.com.