Papakura Post Office

a spazmodical



London is a World Class City

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FIV

Photographs by Max Reeves



Hyde Park



Tower of London



Borough



Hackney



Borough





Westminster



Spittlefields



Islington





Westminster



Hackney



Hoxton



Tower Hamlets



















Spittlefields



The City



Kings Cross





Bankside



Spitalfields



Whitechapel



New Scotland Yard



Shoreditch



Charing Cross



City of London



Bethnal Green



Coram's Fields



Bankside



Tower Bridge





South Bank



Shoreditch



















ChinaTown



Holborn







Victoria



Brick Lane



















Deptford





Camberwell



Shoreditch



Whitechapel



BlackHeath



London Wall



Shoreditch



Shoreditch



Hyde Park



Whitechapel



Whitechapel



Smithfields





St Giles



Trafalgar Square



Holborn





















Borough





Black Heath





Temple



South Bank



Bishopsgate



Victoria



London Bridge



Shoreditch



City of London



Shoreditch



Haggerston



Paternoster



London is a World Class City - Photographs by Max Reeves

Max Reeves' photographs use London as a setting to investigate the intersections and interstitials between life and myth, revealing the complexity of London's psychological terrain. The actuality of the city morphs into a documentation of personal mythology populated with curious characters, palimpsests, crows, protestors, children and aporisms. Blood, authority versus the freedom of the individual and transcendence emerge as themes through layered and often ambiguous images. 'London is a World Class City' embraces a poetic vision of London superseding its geographic locality. Lois Olmstead

The photographs of Max Reeves catch London off guard as it unwittingly reveals its underlying tensions. Uncanny alignments, temporary geometries, and conjunctions of the grotesque and the transcendent frame a sort of automatic, photographic writing. London, that 'World Class City', is a den of hypocrites, a place of 'convulsive beauty', a space of mental anguish, blocked lines of flight, faltering codes. Our eyeline to the sky is repeatedly barred by the advertising images, spires and spikes of security fences – but, conversely, through the lattice of CCTV cameras and concrete, Buddleia bursts forth affirming life. Josie Berry Slater

Crows are at once an often unbearable portent of madness, a malign underclass, producing a crying babbling sound haunting man's management of nature – even in an urban landscape crows remain inhabitants of a wilderness annexed to the city and troubling of enlightenment values of reason and order. As Antonin Artaud emphasises, the crows point to a kind of beyond, the unarticulated and always outside. In Max Reeves' photographs this sense of foreboding carries over. Here, crows, these usually marginal witnesses to the metropolis, draw the eye away from built space – becoming a kind of punctum through which the city is pictured and reoriented. Anthony lles

The symbol of transcendence is no longer the phoenix or the unicorn...Whether we live among the cornfields or skyscrapers, a far more resonant symbol is the crow. Boria Sax. Crow.

Cover Photo: The Hand of Glory Photography/making: Max Reeves Production: Lois Olmstead Art/PsychoGeosophy: Marlowe Chan-Reeves

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