

# PUBLICATION »STADT DER BÜCHER [CITY OF BOOKS]«



»Kolkata is rich. Though Europeans associate Kolkata with pictures of worst poverty, it is also a place of abundance. Around College Street there are ten thousand book stalls, a labyrinth of millions of books; the small and colourful stalls of the street vendors next to giant vaults with printing offices and publishing houses. While Ilija Trojanow is strolling amazedly through the book alleys, Anja Bohnhof blocked the vivid streets out of hand and artfully took photographs of the flamboyant shops.«

Langen Müller Verlag, München, 2012

## IN THE PRESS

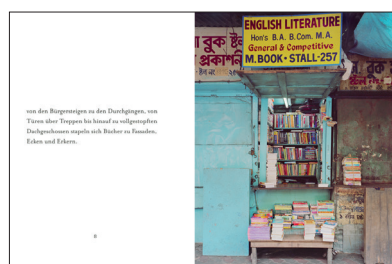
*What makes this photo book so absolutely remarkable beyond its information and imagination of a borough as a universe is breaking away from the eternal Kolkata stereotype. [...] A look at »Stadt der Bücher« [City of Books] makes it clear how one-sided our news reporting is. [...] Trojanow and Bohnhof's subtle documentation shows that there is and must always be another view of things – beyond the day-to-day coverage of catastrophe, which today shapes our way of seeing and our consciousness of distant worlds, a view that holds up a mirror to our Western arrogance.* DIE PRESSE, Barbara Bongartz

*Trojanow augurs the spell of the thousand times tacked, bound and stuck sheets in just a few words on almost empty pages. In contrast to this Bohnhof's pictures, exuberant with colours and objects.* SÜDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, Eva Mackensen

*»Stadt der Bücher« is a genius project which has joined two very impressive artists. Trojanow, the magician with words, who is able to capture and literarically very sensitively describe any mood in life anywhere in the world. And Anja Bohnhof, a photographer who takes her object in focus very determinedly and pushes the trigger in the absolutely perfect moment. She works in large format and mixes crowded scenes with unpeopled sights very skillfully. But not only Trojanow's atmospheric reports, but in particular Anja Bohnhof's colourful and intensive pictures make us feel the significance of books in this city.* DURCHLESER

*[...] Not a usual book I hold in my hands, rather a precious complete artwork with its own dynamics. [...] Bohnhof's unique pictures captivate my view more page to page, they let me turn back and enjoy, create reflection and happiness, make me smile and muse. They correspond with the text as if to carry T's message into the world with their own harmony. They show what us readers dream of, what T. describes but what is still incredible.* LITERATWO, Mr. Rail

*Due to the detailed and flamboyant Photographs by Anja Bohnhof, who vividly illustrates the universally presented respect of the printed book, one dives into a labyrinth of printed paper page by page.* TABULARASA, Heike Gelen



STADT DER BÜCHER [CITY OF BOOKS]  
photographs: Anja Bohnhof, 68 Bildtafeln,  
text: Ilija Trojanow  
Publishing House: Langen Müller Verlag,  
Munich, 2012