

# INHERITED STONES – NAZI PARTY RALLY GROUNDS

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Part I: The first part of my photographic Work about the Nazi Party Rally Grounds deals with the fascist building aesthetics of the Third Reich/Realm. I have depicted the buildings in such a way that the perceptions of monumentality and fascination through shabbiness, replace transcendence and unsightliness. Contentwise, this is achieved through the choice of cut-outs as well as through the formal quality of graphic design. Intrinsic components of this concept include normal focal length, parallel photographic viewpoints, central segmentation, shallowness and a squared picture format. The Work can be understood as the counterdraft to the fascist aesthetics of propagating beauty. In these photographs the intended impression by the ruling national socialistic architecture, experiences a reversion which opens a level of reflection for the recipient.

Nürnberg, Germany, 2001/02

18 photographs  
c-prints, 60 x 60 cm

Part II: Even today, we Germans are confronted with “What to do with the buildings of the Third Reich/Realm?” They are partly too big, even for the elimination solution of simply blowing them up. The Nazi Party Rally Grounds are also a problem. One is more or less clueless when encountering the many hectares of unused ground. The anxiety of causing an historical faux pas is too great to even permanently convert the grounds. So, in our time of democracy, just as in times of national socialism, the grounds remain a place for mass functions. The grounds are filled with people attending rock festivals, folk festivals and car races held there. You can go for a boat ride on the Dutzendteich (Dozenpond) have a barbecue at the Silbersee (Silverlake) and Hitler’s Big Street has become a parking area. From an historical point of view, one might easily be disgusted but the present mass events on the Grounds have other positive signs. It is important in the present, to reflect on the past. My Work provides room for this. The uncrowded pictures make place for an historical analysis on the potential of the availability of the masses, but also for the necessary contentwise and political requirements.