



(sad) Istiklal



Istanbul

Atatürk Airport



Carpet



Kasimpaşa Carrots



7 Books

Library



Demolition



Kasimpaşa Carrots

Residence 6

Residence 6 by Graw Böckler

1 mini-series, 1 video loop, 2 music clips, 7 photo books and a flicker film.

The political and cultural repression after a prevented coup d'état was all over the media when we received a six month travelling fellowship to Istanbul. Also being for the first time in a country with a muslim population majority, we were a bit hesitant if we could film and photograph everyone and everything – which is our way of working.

After a period of familiarisation we realized that our worries were idle. People are friendly and generally do not mind to be photographed. Police forces are visible but not interested in us as long as we don't film them. A vibrant street life makes the culture very approachable. The architecture and the urban planning are literally mirroring the political structure and changes in society. The speed and dimension of gentrification processes are insane. The public transport is partly happening by boat and allows incredible views on the city landscape. The hilly structure opens overall views to other neighbourhoods all the time. During our tours to far away outskirts we noticed how endless and culturally diverse Istanbul is. It feels like a whole country condensed in a city space. We were amazed how safe and freely we could move around. Another sensation were the cats who are all over the place. People build little houses in the streets and feed them. They are not afraid and like to be caressed.

We started to make friends and realized that our enthusiasm was very different to what people from Istanbul felt. The art scene was struggling with repression and a lack of financial support. The government shut down bars and outside restaurants. Licences to sell alcoholic beverages were retracted. The music and nightlife scene was suffering. Many artists were actually leaving Istanbul, many of them towards Berlin. People who had a connection to the Gülen movement lost their jobs or worse, they went to prison. The same could happen if one was associated to the Gezi-Park-Protests – an incident that many remembered as the last time they had hope for a change to the better.

During the six month stay we were caught between an atmosphere of declining social freedom and the exhilarating pulse of a dynamic metropolis in constant transformation. Photos for seven books were taken, video material was shot for two music videos, a mini-series, a video loop and a flicker film, all reflecting upon our dialectic experiences during a remarkable time in Istanbul.

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Graw Böckler are Ursula Böckler & Georg Graw

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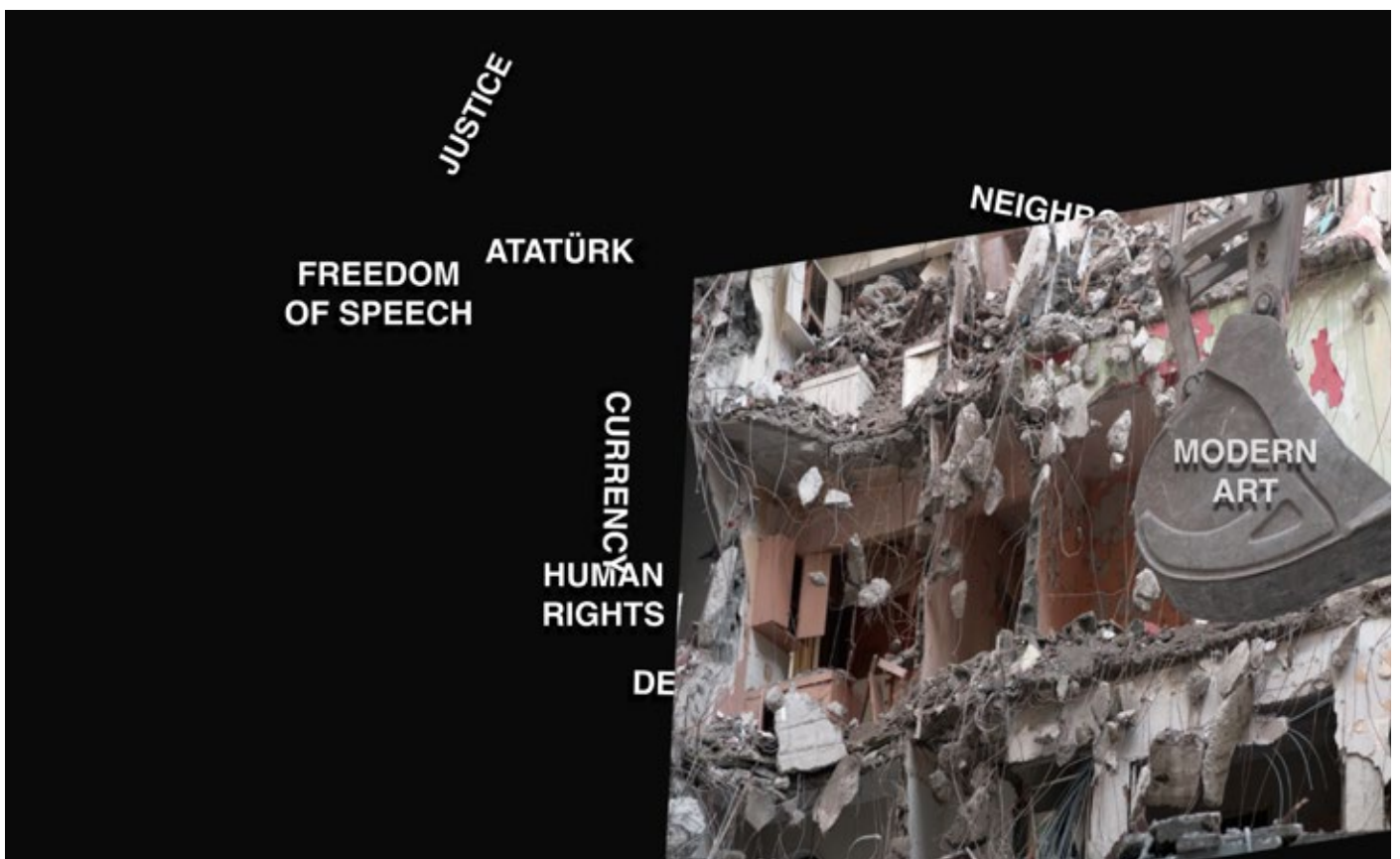
www.grawboeckler.de

Kasimpaşa Carrots – carrots from Kasimpaşa discuss their adventures in Istanbul.

4 Episodes Mini-Series. Produced with Katharina Cromme. Links to Episode [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#)



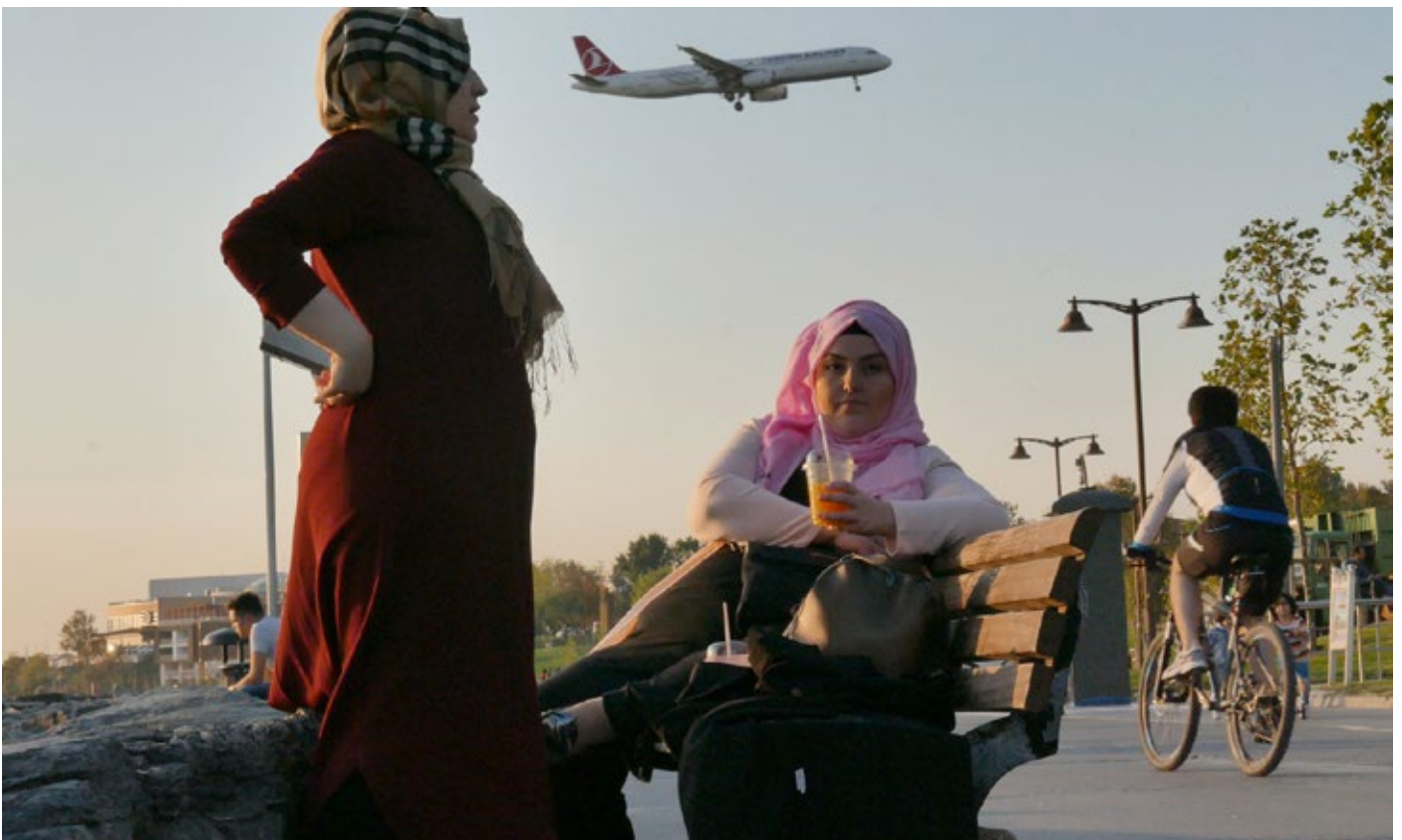
Demolition – an excavator is demolishing culture, society, constitution and human rights in Turkey. Video Loop. [Link to video loop](#)



Sad Istiklal – passers-by on the main shopping promenade of Istanbul. Subliminal Special Effects intensify the emotion. Music: Donna Regina. [Link to video](#)



Approach Corridor Concert / Video - the noise of landing airplanes at Atatürk Airport is interrupting a live performance by Paul Arambula. During the exhibition there is a video version on display. [Link to video](#)



September - October - November - December - January - February & one Analog.

Diaries from a six month stay in Istanbul, split in seven photo books 2017 - 2018.

Please click the link and then „vorschau“ to see the book.

February:

<https://www.blurb.de/bookstore/invited/7871245/9d98a8d13ffbe85ac17b2a6a25dc208721bf30c3>

January:

<https://www.blurb.de/b/8659673>

December:

<https://www.blurb.de/bookstore/invited/7870689/a90d80e7ee1740bd190005f860117925d8fec6ab>

November:

<https://www.blurb.de/bookstore/invited/8539263/340237f8a04d1df8e2f04df08166e7d79b6cd499>

October:

<https://www.blurb.de/bookstore/invited/7970539/09d44741b6fbb1478c799939f54235af9510c6d4>

September:

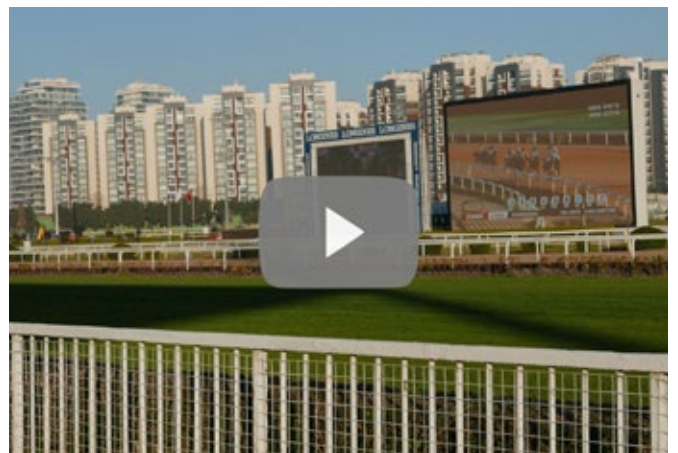
<https://www.blurb.de/bookstore/invited/8323130/c91eabe7840abc3f01ecfd3bfdfd0037923f3074>

Analog:

<https://www.blurb.de/bookstore/invited/8539262/ad96cadbd617f1eea5e3391d75c34ec5d2bcf8c3>



Residence 6 – feature-film-length flicker film, produced with images from Istanbul and some detours. Sound selection by Anadol. Samples:



Residence 6 – more samples.

