

Press release

Paradise Srtockholm

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## Press Release

"I started working on my Paradise essay in 2006, when I moved back to Stockholm after living in different European cities. Though born and raised in Milan, as a half-Swede I have always felt connected to this city. The approach of my photography is direct, intuitive and fast. I'm trying to be faster than my second thoughts. I see it as an exercise in listening to my instinct without thinking too much. Confronted with an atmosphere quite different to the stereotypical image of Stockholm, I started documenting this darker mood, the grittier side of daily life up here in the north. The essay reflects my instant reactions to the ambiguity of a place I am so deeply related to through my family history. Paradise stands for the illusion of this system. It's the dream we are following through billboards, TV and the Internet. Analogue photography enables me to feel, think and reflect; it's a specific process both in time and in mind. The darkroom is a place in which to think, a sort of workshop. The act of printing in monochrome is of the same importance as taking pictures."