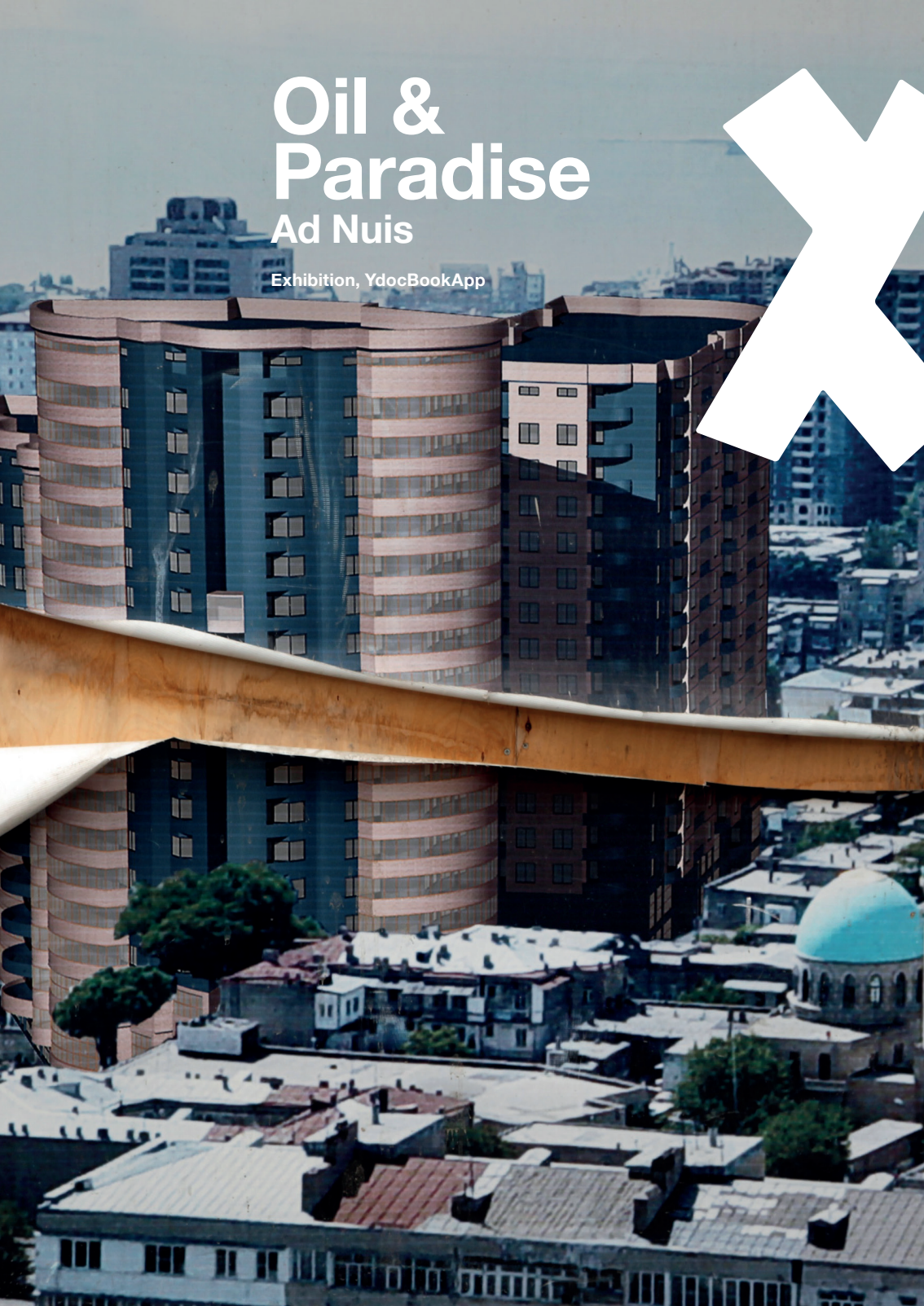
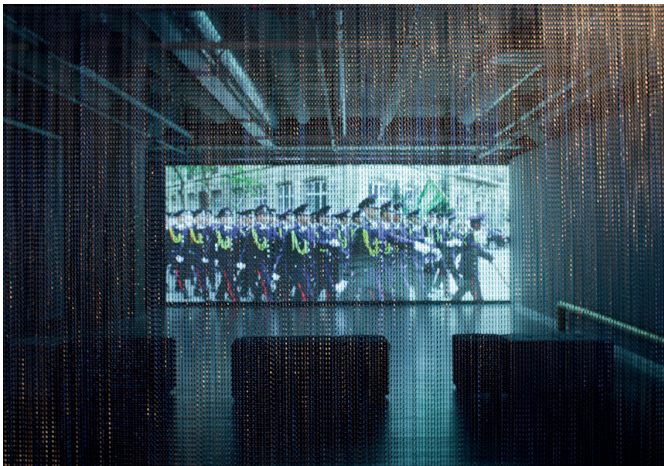


Oil & Paradise

Ad Nuis

Exhibition, YdocBookApp





Oil & Paradise

"I have taken numerous photos of people peeling potatoes, doing their laundry, mowing their lawn and other daily chores. Wasn't it time for me to enter the big bad world?" Thus, photographer and geographer Ad Nuis decided to travel to Baku, Azerbaijan: since 2005 home of the world's largest oil pipeline, running through Georgia and Turkey. Nuis' *Oil & Paradise* ironically examines the newly acquired wealth of the former Soviet state.

In 2012 Azerbaijan, a country under strict dictatorship, organised the Eurovision Songfestival. It turned out to be an unabashed display of new wealth in the country that also competed to get the football World Cup and the Olympics. Human rights are not on its agenda and only a fortunate group of people profits from the country's exuberant wealth. However few people in the western world seem concerned about this. There is too much at stake to do so. As Nuis calls it: "It's geopolitics on a Champions League level."

Between 2008 and 2013 Nuis visited Baku ten times, each time for a period of about 25 days. With *Oil & Paradise* Nuis portrays the absurd contradictions between the lives of the *nouveaux riches* in Baku and the ordinary citizens of Azerbaijan.

Ad Nuis (1958)

graduated from the School for Photography in The Hague in 1985. He has been working as an independent photographer ever since. His photos regularly appear in newspapers and magazines, e.g. *De Volkskrant*, *Parool*, *Vrij Nederland* and *VPRO*. In addition Nuis works on long-term projects that usually result in a publication or artist book, for instance *Alweer een Dag*, *De Dam*, *De Bovenste Verdieping* and *Nieuwe Amsterdammers*. Currently working on *The Greek Connection*.

YdocBookApp and Book

Available for iPad from the iTunes App Store. Includes print-on-demand option for book.

Exhibition

35", two-screen audiovisual installation (edited by Thomas Vroege) / photos / artifacts / supporting video material on 5 monitors / texts and information material.

Launch

Nederlands Fotomuseum
Rotterdam, June 2014.
Available for travel.

Info

www.paradox.nl/oilparadise

Paradox

documentary projects

PO Box 113, 1135 ZK Edam

The Netherlands

t +31 299 31 50 83

info@paradox.nl

www.paradox.nl

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