

Jordi Barreras ★ ALREADY BUT NOT YET ★ punctum



Jordi Barreras (Barcelona, 1977) is a photographer who focuses his work on documentary photography.

He studied in the Grisart International School of Photography in Barcelona and has a postgraduate degree in Documentary Photography from Barcelona University. He has recently finished his master's degree in History of Art with Photography at Birbeck University, London, which researches the documentary contributions from the '70s. After working in different newspapers such as 'La Vanguardia', 'El Pais' and 'El Periodico', Barreras left photojournalism and moved to London. In this city he continues to develop his career as a documentary photographer and to study more in depth the history of documentary photography through analysing the work of Martha Rosler, Jorge Ribalta, Allan Sekula and Jo Spence. Barreras sees similarities in his own approach documentary in the way that these authors argue for a more social and political form of documentary. Barreras builds on the legacy of this form of documentary from the '70s and the questioning of conceptual photography as a form to reflect the socio-political concerns of the author. These documentary approaches are now materialised in his first photo-book *'Already But Not Yet'* published by Punctum (2020).

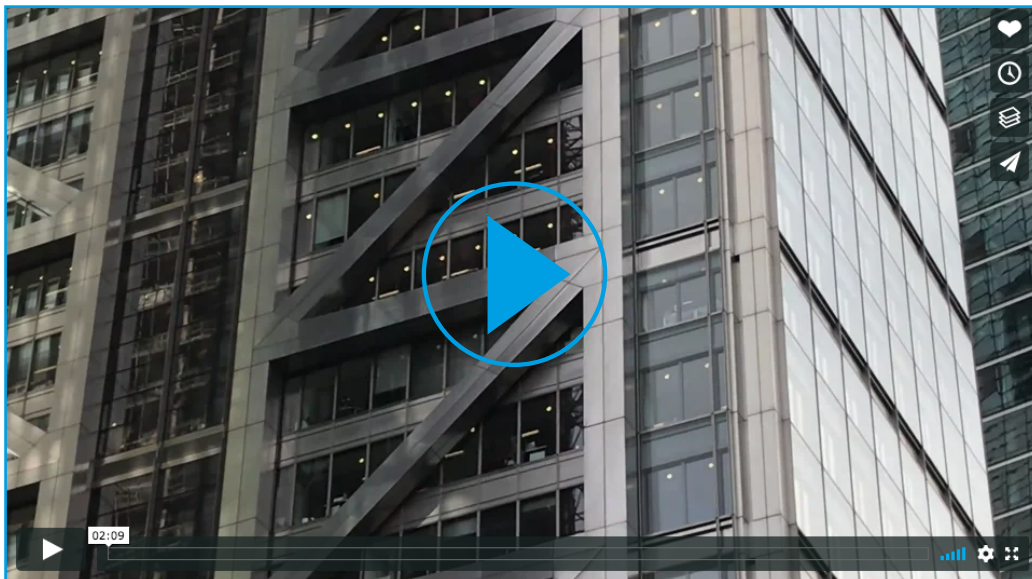


The project

The City of London Corporation is one of the most important financial districts of the world and its architecture makes its economical dominion over the territory and the whole society itself particularly visible. In the contemporary metropolis, the highest building of the city is no longer the church, as it used to be in old cities.

The series *'Already But Not Yet'* by Jordi Barreras, visualises the individual vulnerability and subordination to economical powers, which tend to reduce our existence to work achievements and material accumulation. With the aim of exploring the hidden ways of surveillance and labour conditions in the neoliberal society, this series challenges official and conventional representations of the metropolis, transforming it from mundane life into something uncanny.

video: <https://vimeo.com/460310437>



The photo-book

64 pages

Hardcover, cm. 28×18,8

Language: ENG

Printed in 2020

ISBN: 978-88-95410-63-0

Pictures: Jordi Barreras

Design : Eva Barreras

Publisher: Punctum

Texts contributors: Sthepanie Schwartz, Flavia Loscialpo
and Víctor Pérez Ballester









Brief summary of the texts

STEPHANIE SCHWARTZ

‘Shot in the City of London between 2015 and 2019, the twenty-two photographs making up *Already But Not Yet* offer a timely meditation on the conditions shaping labour today. In Jordi Barreras’s frames, men and women sit and walk and wait. They are absorbed in their moments in the sun. What does it mean to take a break from the daily routines of work? How must that action be represented? How can it made to be seen as both necessary and impossible? These are the questions that Barreras poses in *Already But Not Yet*. In turn, the book also offers a timely engagement with photography. The medium, after all, has always been a site for recording and framing labour’.

Stephanie Schwartz is a Lecturer in History of Art at University College London. Her writing on photography and film has appeared in *October*, *Oxford Art Journal* and *ARTMargins*. Stephanie is the author of *Walker Evans: No Politics* (University of Texas Press, 2020). She is the editor of *Modernism After Paul Strand*, a special issue of the *Oxford Art Journal* (2015) and the Tate Modern In Focus project on Allan Sekula's *Waiting for Tear Gas* (2016). In 2018, she awarded a Creative Capital/Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant to research and write about the work of Martha Rosler. Her study of Rosler's work in the street and on the screen frames her ongoing research on American documentary and its histories.

FLAVIA LOSCIALPO

'Photo by photo, *'Already but Not Yet'* (2015-2019) enigmatically unravels a commentary on the modern subject and the imposing – not only architecturally – surrounding urban environment. A challenging project composed of twenty-two photos taken over four years of work, waiting for the scene to unfold in front of the camera. In the series, the City is a cinematographic stage, immersed in pictorial light, where a spectacle is about to take place'.

Dr Flavia Loscialpo is a researcher and cultural theorist, with an academic background in philosophy and curation. Through her research and curatorial practice, she has collaborated with several institutions, such as the Barbican Centre, Victoria and Albert Museum, London College of Fashion, the Thayaht Archive (Florence, Italy), and the Arts & Humanities Research Council. She has published on deconstruction, experimental exhibition making, utopian projects, historical and contemporary avant-gardes, borders and the figure of the immigrant. She is currently senior lecturer and doctoral coordinator at Southampton Solent University.

VÍCTOR PÉREZ BALLESTERO

'Jordi Barreras is a photographer who does not take photographs to chase certainty, but rather relentlessly raises questions that lead to a deeper exploration, not only of the world around him but also of himself. In his photographs there are always plenty of empty spaces for us viewers to find our own spot; his photographs always offer us a chance to connect with our inner selves'.

Víctor Pérez Ballesteró is a BA and MA in Cinematography at ESCAC (UB) and a master degree in Cultural Management (UOC and UG). He has published writings in Carlos Pazos catalogues (*Sindetikon and Chispazos*), and in *La Línea sin Fin*. He is the assistant of the Spanish artists Carlos Pazos and Vicens Vacca and one of the members of the Board of the PazosCuchillo de Pazos Foundation. At the Foundation his tasks are related with the archive and the temporary exhibitions.

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