



Sascha Lipka

Sascha Lipka was born and raised in Rheine, Germany. He was always interested in art and design, finally settling on photography as his medium of expression. Having decided on a career in photography he studied theory at the Technical University in Bielefeld while honing his craft in the practicalities of photography at Vogelsaenger Studios, under the tutelage of some of the best commercial photographers in Europe.

A working holiday brought Sascha to South Africa in 1997 when he made the decision to return and make Pretoria his home. He now lives in Pretoria with his wife and family.

Sascha has been seduced by our inner city. Encouraged by urban renewal projects, like the Newtown Precinct in Johannesburg, his dream is to have an apartment overlooking Church Square. He is optimistic that fellow Pretorians will see the value of reviving our own beautiful city centre. In reaction to the middle-upper class mall culture, he says "It is so sad that we try to avoid going downtown these days, preferring the security of the malls. We have such a beautiful city, such a

wonderful climate, yet we prefer the chaotic artificial environments of malls that have no soul"

This collection of architectural pieces displays his love of this city which he calls home. When driving through town, we pause for a moment at the intersection, scanning the periphery for imagined threats, annoyed that the traffic light is red. We hurriedly drive on, blind to the intriguing shapes and patterns being played out by these quiet monoliths. This is downtown Pretoria, the extraordinary, right there, hidden within the ordinary.

Overleaf images: (from left to right) No.1, No.2, No.3, No.5, No.6, No.7, No.8, No.9, No.10, No.11
Medium: Pigment print on watercolour paper
Dimensions: 60cm x 20cm each
2004

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