



Grid Cities- Les Bastides

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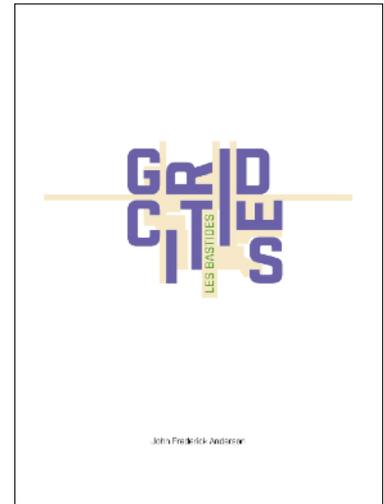
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From the introduction: *"Many of you reading this will be in, or near, a grid city or town somewhere in the world. Half of the world's population live in cities, yet cities occupy only two per cent of the earth's surface. We follow ourselves with a bird's eye view making a myriad of connections in structured spaces. Our life journey reveals a map of traces and glances. We are always coordinated, we record, forget, but we are always looking. We gaze outside and observe the movement in the grid. We go outside to join the relentless energy. What we notice defines who we are."*

GRID CITIES is an ongoing photographic series that reveals abstract connections in structured spaces. The theory and history of the architecture in each region is examined and photographed, and the concepts encountered are collocated to propose a specific visual treatment for each location. Individual layers of observation blend together and collapse centuries of linear time into one second exposures on one sheet of large format film. The images concentrate on façades, the screen of urban life that shows its public surface to the outside, yet also conceals an inner world and contrasting visual vocabulary of private space. With the façade as the screen, and the grid as the structure, the meeting point between private existence and public exhibition can be explored.

GRID CITIES- Les Bastides makes a visual study of the architectural designs of market towns of the Middle Ages, called Bastides, which were constructed in the south of France during the 13th and 14th centuries. Bastides are designed in a grid, around a market square, with a church in one corner, and were built of local materials with a wide variety of construction techniques that varied from region to region.



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