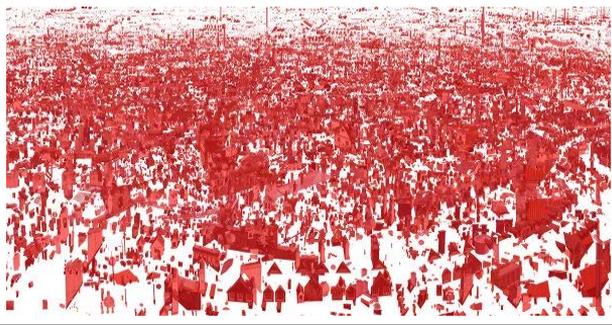


# DUCHAMP IS INNOCENT.

Exhibitions and discussions regarding contemporary art photography.

11/26/12

## Miguel Angel Garcia.

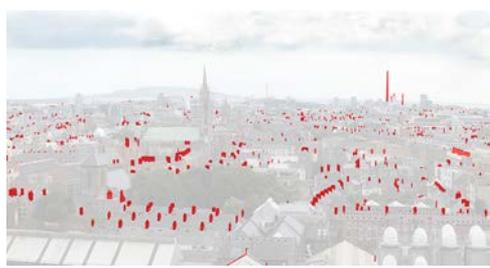
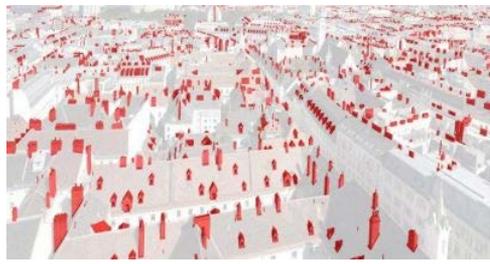


Upon hearing the term "emerging artist" one tends to imagine talented young people fresh out of their MFA 's and looking for gallery representation. This is not the case of Miguel Angel Garcia. At the age of 60 Garcia is becoming one of the most sought

after "new talents" in the photo art world after only 6 years of work.

In 2010 Garcia unveiled his first solid body of work entitled *In-dependencias*. I had become aware of this project earlier this year, but it wasn't until a few weeks ago in Paris Photo 2012 were I had the chance to see it at the Laurence Miller Gallery stand that I realized the magnitude and power of this work. This project, that took several years to accomplish, consists of 29 "main" photographs and several dozen "support" pieces included in the book. -Which I strongly regret not buying. - In-Dependencias is about the dichotomy of the concepts of dependence and independence in the XXI century. "*People today perceive great amount of freedom in their individual lives, but a few meters above them one can notice the amount of common, dependencies of today's European citizen.*"<sup>1</sup> at first glance the images are simply stunning, digitally intervened urban landscapes from Europe's 27 capitals, but upon further reading one can see that the engaging aesthetic quality does not come by its self. Parallel to the "main" pieces the project also contains a rigorous documental aspect, in which the artist searched each city for written examples of the word "independence". Therefore documenting the specific idiosyncratic vestiges of the concept of independence inherent to each country's unique culture and history.

<sup>1</sup>Paraphrased and translated from the artist statement.



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Intro

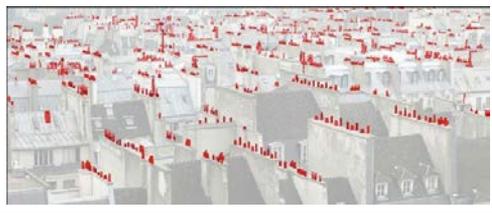
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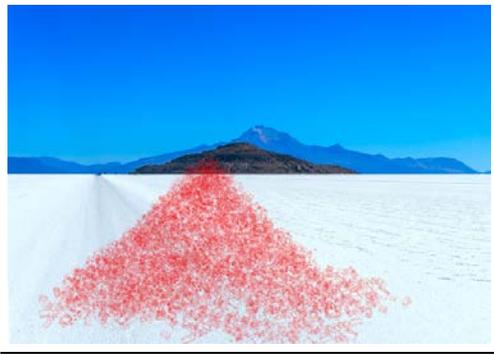
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Last Thursday night Miguel Angel Garcia inaugurated his new exhibition High Energy at [Galeria Cero](#) in Madrid. Much in the same way of his previous work Garcia relies on both great aesthetic quality and deep conceptualization. The photographs were taken in the Uyuni desert in Bolivia several years ago but only recently he decided to re work on them after an extensive period of research. Garcia came to know that this beautiful salt desert contains the world's biggest lithium deposit and is therefore condemned to brutal environmental exploitation within the next few decades as the world's need for energy evolves. The artist who comes from a graphic design background decided to digitally paint huge battery deposits and other visual references of lithium power over these idyllic landscapes. The project proposes a deep reflection on the unethical and arbitrary ways we relate to nature and space.





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