

# attraversiamo

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photography  
dorothee hauser

paris  
budapest  
sarajevo  
barcelona  
berlin  
new york

english texts

sarajevo 28 july 2011

## Paris

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### *The lull before the storm*

the peace in the photograph gives no indication of the commotion that is about to follow in order to catch the train at the Gare de l'Est.

a moment suspended in time in the heights of the Père Lachaise cemetery

A bit of luck

A ray of sun

I felt a reassuring sense of familiarity as the lens came closer like a hand on my shoulder.

Mélanie

# Budapest

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## *Lánchíd – The Chain Bridge*

The postcard in your hand is the first image of the city. Many never get any further than that: Budapest = The Chain Bridge.

Of course, that which has become a cliché was once important. The Chain Bridge was the first bridge that connected the venerable, aristocratic, sedate and historical, hilly and green Buda with Pest. A new city built on flat grounds that was loud and boasted exciting artistic and bohemian influences.

On this bridge Dorothee has found a corner that makes all this disappear, and only the architectural miracle appears, the myriad daubs, and below the ice floes on the Danube. And somewhere the morose morcos Katinka, who doesn't like being photographed...

I was curious  
to see which colour would dominate in the image,  
almost praying  
that it wouldn't be the cold blue  
of the Mettmensstetter kitchen.

Katinka

## Berlin

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“Bonjour tristesse“ – the gentle melancholic welcome to a new day would appear to have been made with the Berlin district Kreuzberg in mind which, though urban, retains a village-like charm. Time passes slower here than elsewhere. Here poverty is not hidden away, instead it sets its stamp on everyday life in the narrow streets and sidewalks. Despite its harshness and the dirt the district and its denizens elicit tender affection.

The Oberbaum Bridge used to connect West Germany with East Germany. It could not be crossed for decades. Now it forms a passageway within the district Kreuzberg-Friedrichshain.

Mira was born in Kreuzberg. Her parents were born and raised respectively in East Germany and in the Federal German Republic. The Oberbaum Bridge is one of the most beautiful bridges in the city.

Christiane

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That's me standing at the station or rather the "željeznička stanica" in Sarajevo one afternoon in the year 2006. Dorothee is trying to take a number of pictures while two-year-old Dimitrij is hanging onto her right leg. We're standing on an empty track one gray day which is quite cold considering that it is summer, with the occasional old train passing by.

The present train station was built after World War II in the monumental style of socialist realism. During the siege of the city between 1992 and 1995 the station's infrastructure suffered substantial damage. For a long time no trains travelled over the rusty tracks.

The station building was continually under fire and stood there like a specter. All connections with the rest of former Yugoslavia, and therefore the rest of Europe were severed for years. Even today, more than ten years after the war, hours can pass before a train stops or passes.

## Sarajevo

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Yet many of my friends that visit me from other countries insist on taking the train to Bosnia even though it's much slower, even though, sometimes you may suddenly be asked to get off and get on a bus because the tracks are being replaced.

It's a good feeling to see that there are more and more travelers at the "željeznička stanica" in Sarajevo.

Jasmina

## Barcelona

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„Un manto de nubes chispeando electricidad cabalgaba desde el mar. Hubiera echado a correr para guarecerme del aguacero que se avecinaba, pero las palabras de aquel individuo empezaban a hacer su efecto. Me temblaban las manos y las ideas.

Alcé la vista y vi el temporal derramarse como manchas de sangre negra entre las nubes, cegando la luna y tendiendo un manto de tinieblas sobre los tejados y fachadas de la ciudad. Intenté apretar el paso, pero la inquietud me carcomía por dentro y caminaba perseguido por el aguacero con pies y piernas de plomo. ....“

(La Sombra del Viento, Carlos Ruiz Zafón)

Esmeralda

New York

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Date: Thu, 18 Sep 2008 17:48:21 -0400  
From: noa@gmail.com  
To: do@hotmail.com  
Subject: Re: ...still no film...

Dear Do

I talked to the post office today and they said that they attempted delivery on September 13 and you should contact your local post office. The tracking number on the receipt is EH 428402950 US, I don't know if this will help but I hope so!

Let me know what happens!

I guess the last minute suspense is part of the project- flights, thunderstorms, postal mishaps. Ironic considering the portraits are so serene, a figure standing still in the frame...

On Thu, Sep 18, 2008 at 8:47 AM, Do <do@hotmail.com> wrote:

Liebe Noa,

How are you? It didn't arrive today neither....I start getting a little bit worried, where could the film be.....?

bis bald

Dorothee

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> Date: Fri, 12 Sep 2008 17:42:10 -0400

> From: noa@gmail.com

> To: do@hotmail.com

> Subject: Re: einladung 3.oktober 08

>

> Great! I am also looking forward to seeing them. We did have fun with it, ending with a walk along the waterfront. The area I always called „Wasteland Park“, down at the waterfront in Williamsburg, I'm sure we walked there. It has been cleaned up so much and turned into a real park. Gone are the days of crazy overgrown weeds, burned out cars stripped down to rusted skeletons, a swamp formed by a fire hydrant that had been leaking for years. Next to huge 40 story luxury condominiums being built...it's pretty different. But looks nice. Anyways, wish I could be there for the opening. Have a nice weekend!

> xoNoa

>

> On Fri, Sep 12, 2008 at 12:53 PM, Do wrote:

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> Liebe Noa,

>

> this sounds perfect and fits into the way I made my pictures.... in Sarajevo with Dimi hanging on my leg and only 20 minutes time before going to the Airport....I hope you had still some fun doing it? and Im very excited to see the pics. the film didnt arrive yet. I guess on monday. thank you very much...

> I write to you when it arrives.

>

> love

> do

## New York

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>> Date: Tue, 9 Sep 2008 20:15:32 -0400  
>> From: noa@gmail.com  
>> To: do@hotmail.com  
>> Subject: Re: FW: einladung 3.oktober 08  
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>> Dear Dorothee,

>>

>> HI! Sounds like crazy week..the postcard looks great! I hope the film reaches you soon- I sent it today express 2-4 day mail. Sorry it was a bit rushed, we had some mishaps with photoshoot- not finding slide film, pouring rain, and a race against the sunset;) We shot at the corner by the diner ( called Relish) and at the walkway to the waterfront, across from the residence where you stayed in Williamsburg.

>> The trip to the beach was very nice, passing our days on the beach reading and swimming, very relaxing. Returned to DJ marathon and the beginning of school! Wow I miss the beach...

>> Hope your week goes well! Please let me know when you get the package, and if the pictures came out well. I lost my phone but should have a new one in a few days.

>>Hugs and Kisses to Dimi & Vanja

>>

xoNoa