

Arpoador: Sunday Evenings in Rio de Janeiro
Photographs by Peter Lucas

The Skybridge Art and Sound Space
65 West 11th Street, 3rd floor passageway

September 10-October 2, 2008

Opening reception: Wednesday, September 10th, at 4pm



The Skybridge Art and Sound Space is proud to present **Arpoador**, a series of new photographs by New School faculty Peter Lucas. These photographs are the result of several journeys the author took in Brazil.

Between the long curves of sand that define the beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema is an outcropping of rocks called Arpoador. At the top, there is a panoramic view of the most popular beaches of Rio de Janeiro. Everything swirls around Arpoador. The weather from the rocks is always an event in itself. And the colors constantly shift towards that violet hour of twilight. Everyday, people from all parts of the city are drawn to Arpoador: to surf, to play on the beach, to fish off the rocks, to meditate and stare at the sea, and to photograph the setting sun.

Most of these photographs were taken on Sundays. The transition from afternoon to evening on Sundays is different from other days at Arpoador. The passage of time seems suspended. There's a special lingering on the rocks, a not-wanting-to-go-home kind of pause. This Sunday kind of feeling seems to bring out the melancholy and mortality inherent in all personal photography. With the Arpoador project, Peter Lucas wanted to trace this nostalgic shimmer of summer light, the ephemeral nature of beauty on the rocks, and the impulse to hold onto memories that compels people to photograph each other.

With this exhibition The Skybridge Art Space launches a series of shows focusing on the concept of Ephemeral Places.

Ephemeral Places

All places are ephemeral. Some more than others. Time flows through all places but ephemeral places exhibit certain qualities such as the fleeting, the passing, the evanescence. Places which are ephemeral resist stasis and permanence. These are places where the past, present, and the future coexist. Places that are suffused with continuous movement can be rooted in organic change or transformed by a restless market economy which lays waste to the social landscape. The complex stories behind ephemeral places can evoke feelings of wonderment, melancholy, even indignation. With so much of the world in flux, there is a need to study the meaning in these places and to remember what is about to disappear. This series of exhibitions are meant to represent encounters with ephemeral events, the marginal fringe spaces, the abandoned and the neglected, the edges and the shorelines, meeting places and the aftermath, the encampments and the rubble pile, the disaster site and the recovery, the festival and the procession, the light and the darkness of night.

For more information on the Skybridge Art and Sound Space, the photographer Peter Lucas, or to submit proposals for the series on Ephemeral Places, please contact us:

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Exhibition support: The Observatory on Latin America at the New School, the Department of Photography and Imaging at the Tisch School of the Arts, and the Advanced Media Studio at NYU.