



## PRESS RELEASE

**Thomas Jorion | „Vestiges d'Empire“  
March 4th until 22nd April 2017 | Opening 3rd March, 7 p.m.**

Podbielski Contemporary is pleased to announce the second solo show in Berlin of the French artist Thomas Jorion on March 4<sup>th</sup> 2017. June 24, 2017.

Thomas Jorion's photographs remind us a forgotten chapter of France's long lasting colonial history. When along with other powerful countries, it ruled the world.

In times when we were easily fascinated and seduced by the pastel colours of decrepit walls, the elapsed architectural elegance and the old fashion atmosphere which evoked exotic speeches and adventurous and epic expeditions.

To "Vestiges d'Empire", the photographer spent several years travelling around the world, from Algeria and Morocco to in Louisiana, the Caribbean Islands, India, Vietnam and Cambodia intending to truthfully portray the remaining traces and ruins of the ancient French colonial empire.

The jail Saint Joseph in Guyana, the interiors of a villa in Indo-China or the facade of the cinema Rex D'Oran, are only some of so many remaining evocative landmarks. Along with the law courts, the churches, the palaces, the inner secret courtyard, the lavish vegetation, which took over the buildings in time, memorial sites converted into spaces with new functions and loaded with new narratives, mostly written by others.

Thomas Jorion's photographs are here to be seen to keep the tales they evoke alive. So that future generations are made aware of and better perceive history's glorious and at time distressful past.

Thomas Jorion (1976 Paris) captures his images with natural light using a big large format camera and Argentinian films. After having successfully published several iconic series in his book, "Silencio" (2013 / Éditions de La Martinière), Thomas Jorion has now published "Vestiges d' Empires" with the same editor. The book will be available for sale in our gallery during the entire exhibition's period.

The present show is arranged in collaboration with Galerie Esther Woerdehoff in Paris.