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Communist Guide to New York City
Yevgeniy Fiks

jan 20–mar 7, 2008
sunday mar 2: guided tour with Yevgeniy Fiks

Communist Guide to New York City by Yevgeniy Fiks guide book, published by common room, forthcoming.

Communist Guide to New York City is a collection of 79 photographs of buildings, public places, and sites in New York City, that are connected to the history of the Communist Party USA, including photos of buildings which housed at different times the headquarters of the CPUSA, residences of important American Communists, sites where Communist-organized strikes and demonstrations took place, and court houses where American Communist leaders were tried. The photographs are accompanied by captions explaining the significance of each site. Additionally, different neighborhood maps locate the buildings and sites within New York City.

The 79 photographed sites came from an initial list of 100 sites that Yevgeniy Fiks compiled as part of his research. Some addresses from the list, however, were impossible to locate due to factual errors, renamed streets, or zoning changes. The original numbering system is nonetheless preserved in this project and the photos are numbered from 1 to 100, maintaining the gaps.

This project continues Yevgeniy Fiks' exploration of the post-Soviet condition. Other projects on the subject include "Lenin for Your Library?" in which Fiks mailed V.I. Lenin's text "Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism" to one hundred global corporations as a donation for their corporate library, and "Communist Party USA," a series of portraits of current members of Communist Party USA, which Fiks painted from life in the Party's national headquarters in New York City.

Yevgeniy Fiks' work has been shown in solo exhibitions at Marat Guelman Gallery, Moscow, Russia (2007); Lenin-Museo, Tampere, Finland (2007); State Museum of Russian Political History, St. Petersburg, Russia (2006); ARTStrelka Projects, Moscow, Russia (2005). Selected group exhibitions include Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art (2007) and Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art (2007 and 2005). Yevgeniy's writing appeared in Moscow Art Magazine, Flash Art, Art Journal, Tema Celeste, Artforum.com, Cabinet, ARTmargins, and pH Magazine.

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