

BERLIN STORIES

FROM EXCESS TO ADVENTURE – THIS IS BERLIN

The new Hatje Cantz series *Berlin Stories* presents visual essays about and from Berlin, the city of art, fashion, parties, and many nations. From classic street photography, to personal sketches, to staged portrait series, all genres of photography are included. In April, Hatje Cantz launches a handy, pocket-sized library of prospects of the German capital, taken by the city's foremost photographers.

Berlin, February 6, 2018 – The new series of *Berlin Stories* will be launched in April with the first two volumes, *Hundekopf* and *Vagabondage Diaries*, whose snapshots shed light on the German capital's interiors and exteriors.

Ama Split and Riki Kiwy wanted to depict the German capital differently when they began to photograph the individual stations of the *Hundekopf*, or “dog's head,” as Berliners like to call the Ringbahn—the train line that circles their city, outlining the shape of a dog's head. “Our intention was to say something about Berlin, but we didn't want to show the usual tourist attractions. So we decided to explore the Ringbahn. A train line that runs east to west seemed to us to be the perfect theme that would allow us to show all sides of the capital,” says the French-Italian pair of artists.

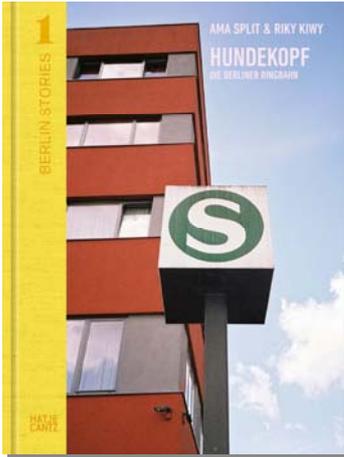
They created portraits of various train stations, their people and surroundings. Here, a train stop becomes a neighborhood; a snack bar, a meeting point; a plaza, a transit station. Over a period of six weeks the duo traveled the Ringbahn in a clockwise direction. One station, one roll of film per photographer, thirty-six shots per roll.

The aesthetic of the analogue photos is spontaneous and unsanitized, honest, human, and charming, just like the capital itself. At the same time *Hundekopf* reads like a devotional prayer to a united Berlin and to the achievement of being able to move freely from east to west, south to north, without borders.

Ama Split, born in 1983, and Riki Kiwy, born in 1982, live in Besançon, France, and sporadically in Berlin.

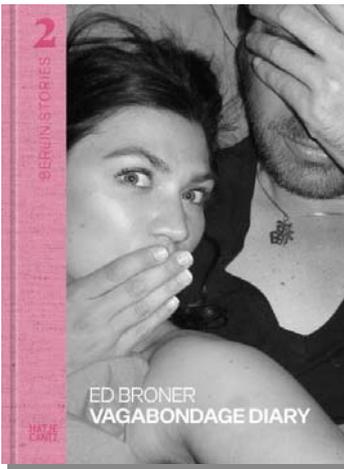
In *Vagabondage Diaries* the photographer and artist Ed Broner leads the reader deep into the city's nightlife. Orbiting within his circle are the beautiful and the creative: models, artists, actors, musicians. His black-and-white photographs are set in the clubs, dark corners, hotel rooms, and streets of Berlin. While each picture trenchantly stands on its own, together they comprise an homage to hedonism and its ephemerality.

“Vagabondage Diary is a very personal depiction of sex, drugs, and art—of violence and hidden beauty, a journey through all the walks of life that evade straightforward categorization, a life full of opposing contrasts and contradictions that happen to make up our post-modern existence,” writes the philosopher Philipp Hübl in the book's afterword. Born in Paris in 1971, Ed Broner now splits his time between Paris and Berlin. He is a painter, photographer, curator, and culture manager, and was once the bouncer for the legendary Berlin Club 90 Grad.



**BERLIN STORIES 1: AMA SPLIT & RIKY KIWY:
HUNDEKOPF. DIE BERLINER RINGBAHN**

Ed. Nadine Barth, graphic design by Julia Wagner,
grafikanstalt
Series: Berlin Stories
German, English
2018. 128 pp., 80 ills.
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ABOUT HATJE CANTZ

Hatje Cantz is a groundbreaking international publishing company specializing in art, architecture, and photography. Since 1945 Hatje Cantz has been using its profound expertise and enthusiasm for craftsmanship to produce and publish books of the highest quality. We currently release around two hundred new titles annually.

Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries, collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION GERD HATJE as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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