

touristic intents
a film by **MAT RAPPAPORT**

film prospectus

*A 3 mile long Nazi resort,
taking cues from American
industrial titan Henry Ford, is
redeveloped as a contemporary
vacation destination; how do
we reconcile its history against
modern commercial forces?*

STATUS in post production.

82 minute fine cut available for review
upon request.

AUDIENCE festivals, streaming, education
Estimated completion Sept. 2020.

CONTACT

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touristic intents is a film that explores the connection between mass tourism and ideology. Centered on a case study, the never completed Nazi Resort in Prora, Germany, *touristic intents* seeks to complicate our relationship to history and architecture.

The mammoth site was designed to house 20,000 vacationing working class Germans while providing each room with a view of the water. The building was used in propaganda to forward a promise of leisure time and strengthen sympathies between the workers and the Nazi party. While the site was never completed by the Nazis, the Socialist East German government completed the construction and used it as a military training site that also included a small officers' resort. During this time, the site housed the largest group of East German Conscientious Objectors. Currently, the building is being redeveloped as a youth hostel, apartments, condominiums and hotels.



**DO WE NEED TO REMEMBER
A BUILDING'S MULTIPLE PASTS?**

Grappling with notions of place and identity in an era when the role of national monuments has become a defining issue for the selective maintenance of cultural memory,

the resort buildings of Prora stand as a lasting reminder of how buildings become vehicles for political ideology and myth-making throughout their lives. Is there an obligation to remember a buildings' dark past? In the case of Prora, connections are drawn to Nazi, GDR and contemporary political moments while acknowledging the influence of American industrialization and globalism.



**A RESORT DESIGNED FOR
20,000 VACATIONING WORKERS**

“We are wishing for a development in Prora. We hope that a historical site will emerge, a memorial of old National Socialist and GDR times.

I think it is very important to point that out, because now is the only time we could reach this goal, that a memorial can be created here in Prora, because, if the building is sold to a private investor without

any obligations for the construction and further support of the educational institution, our time will run out and Prora will not have any appropriate place to tell its story.

It must be told within Block 5. There is no other block left. That is why I think our time right now is tremendously important.

We are trying everything to set course for this to progress, to move forward.”



Sussanna Misgajski
Director, Prora Zentrum (Prora Center)



THE NAZI PROMISE OF
AN OCEAN VIEW FOR ALL

PRORA, GERMANY

“Oh it changed me a lot, because I started with this project in 2005. A lot of people were thinking this guy is completely nuts, what are you thinking about this project? [It] can't come into life, and

that's why you have a lot of enemies, so you have to fight. Everybody is thinking you are not the right one for it, you know?

The more the project was running, the more people coming here, were thinking okay, it's a good job.

And for this, I'm proud of doing what I did in the last years, because it is not only the revamping of one block or so, it is the beginning of a new development of a village.”



Uriel Busch
Developer

**BUILT INTO A MILITARY SITE
AND HIDDEN FOR DECADES**



“in a way the oppressive character of the whole thing comes into mind only if you imagine you were a part of it, of that choreography. Of well controlled leisure, with authority always around, but also beauty.”



Gabi Dolff-Bonekämper
Architectural Historian

“industrialization of travel makes travel cheaper, like Henry Ford had the idea, industrialization of the production of cars made cars cheaper. And the of industrialization of serial production, and they took over this model of serial produced vacation-making and used it as a tool of propaganda”



Hasso Spode
Leisure Studdies Historian

“Essentially, we were imprisoned here. We were not allowed to leave, once a week we had leave to either Binz or Bergen...
...and we enjoyed that tremendously ..., but all of this was always about freedom - to get away from base.”



Stephan Schact
former concientious objector



**HENRY FORD'S IDEAS APPLIED
TO GERMAN MASS TOURISM**

Mat Rappaport's artwork and videos have been exhibited in the United States and internationally in museums, galleries, film festivals and public spaces

including the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany and the former Yugoslavia. His current work utilizes mobile video, performance and photography to explore habitation, perception and power as related to built environments. Rappaport is a co-initiator of V1B3 [www.v1b3.com], which seeks to shape the experience of urban environments through media-based interventions.

Rappaport has published essays in the iDMAa Journal and a chapter in the book *Beyond Globalization: Making New Worlds in Media, Art and Social Practices* by Rutgers University Press the iDMAa Journal and the Media - N Journal.

Rappaport is an Associate Professor in the Cinema and Television Arts Department at Columbia College - Chicago and is the President of the New Media Caucus.



**PRIVATE INVESTMENT RENEWS
DREAMS OF OCEANFRONT VACATIONS**

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CREDITS

Director, **Mat Rappaport**

Director of Photography, **Ted Hardin**

Producer **Mat Rappaport**

Producer **Ted Hardin**

Assistant Producer **Annette Kätsch**

Editor **Andrew Henke**

Additional Editing **Mat Rappaport**

Camera **Ted Hardin**

Camera **Mat Rappaport**

Camera **Daniel Goede**

Audio **Shana Stein**

Audio **Regan Young**

Production Assistant **Marleen Hundt**

Production Assistant **Anastasia Mikolyuk**

Research **Marleen Hundt**

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**HOW DO WE RECONCILE
A BUILDING'S MULTIPLE PASTS?**



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