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SEHER SHAH

Perversions of Empire: The Concrete Oracles

The Perversions of Empire series looks at imagery of Empire-building with the construction of monuments, architecture, and the impermanence of collective symbols. It examines the multiple readings of spaces and symbols through a variety of lenses. The Concrete Oracles is one of the works from this series that focuses on the role of monument building, both as relics of colonial markers, and a means to enforce the idea of spectacle. Using archival photographs, manipulated and reconstructed from the British Library and the Birmingham Library Archives in England, the work offers studies into the following ideas: Architect as Empire builder, collective symbols of authority, spectacles and the symbols of power, and eurocentric geometries within the urban city fabric.

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