



# **TOBIAS ZIELONY THE CITIZEN, 2015**

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## THE CITIZEN, 2015

Tobias Zielony's series *The Citizen* is concerned with one of today's most important political questions – the presence of "the other", embodied by African refugees. Although the migration movements of our time are often reduced to the tragedies that occur at the external frontiers of the "fortress Europe", Zielony's view is directed towards the selfportrayal of these people, their personal stories, their entitlement to be taken seriously as political subjects in Germany. They protest against the restrictions placed on their freedom of movement, against the prohibition to work or to study.

Zielony highlights this new self-confidence in his photographs, which he presents in large wall pieces reminiscent of the layout of the pages in a newspaper – the only thing missing is the text columns between the photographs. The empty spaces point towards the ruptures in the biographies of the individuals, along with all the details that are left out of public media debates. In return, Zielony has asked African authors and journalists to comment on his photographs. The results, in the form of newspaper articles, are on display in large showcases at the centre of the room. The other pages of these newspapers highlight the political and social reality of Africa, in quite a different way to the perspective from which it is seen in Europe. Copies of newspapers containing information provided by the people portrayed in Zielony's photographs are available for visitors to take home.

Layout of 22 color photographs, various sizes, on 11 large-scale pigmented inkjet prints, mounted on Aludibond, framed, 222 x 160 cm each  
Installation of newspapers in 12 hanging displays, 130 x 205 cm each  
Newspaper, 16 pages, tabloid format, for visitors to take with them



Tobias Zielony

*The Citizen*, 2015

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Installation view La Biennale di Venezia, 2015

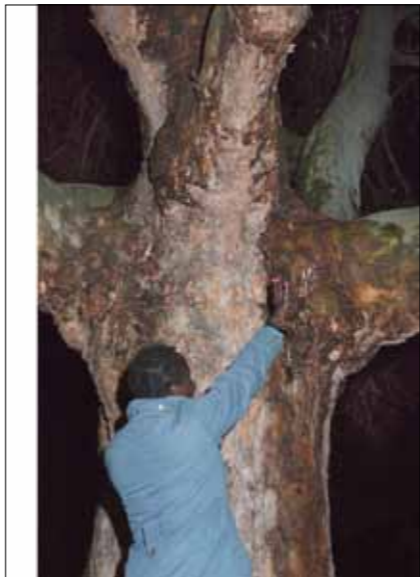


Tobias Zielony

The Citizen, 2015

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Installation views La Biennale di Venezia, 2015



Tobias Zielony

The Citizen, 2015

Napuli and the Tree, 2015  
Archival pigment print (3 parts)  
222 x 160 cm each



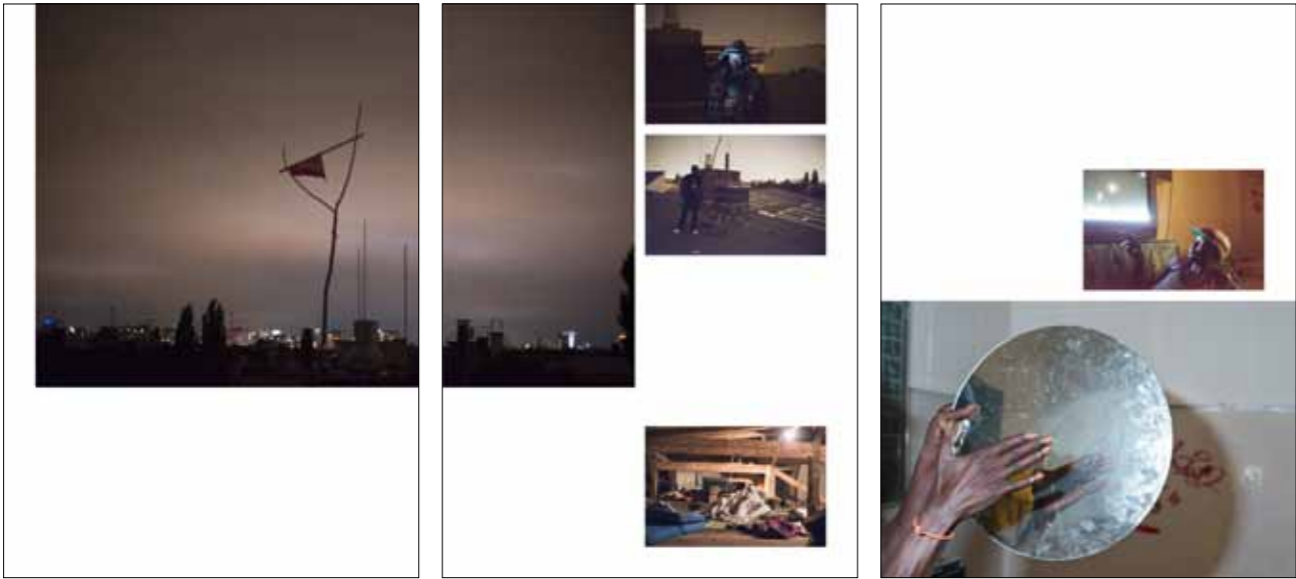
Tobias Zielony

The Citizen, 2015

Untitled, 2015  
Archival pigment print  
222 x 160 cm

Untitled, 2015  
Archival pigment print  
222 x 160 cm





Tobias Zielony

The Citizen, 2015

Al-Nour on the Roof, 2015  
 Archival pigment print (3 parts)  
 222 x 160 cm each



Tobias Zielony

The Citizen, 2015

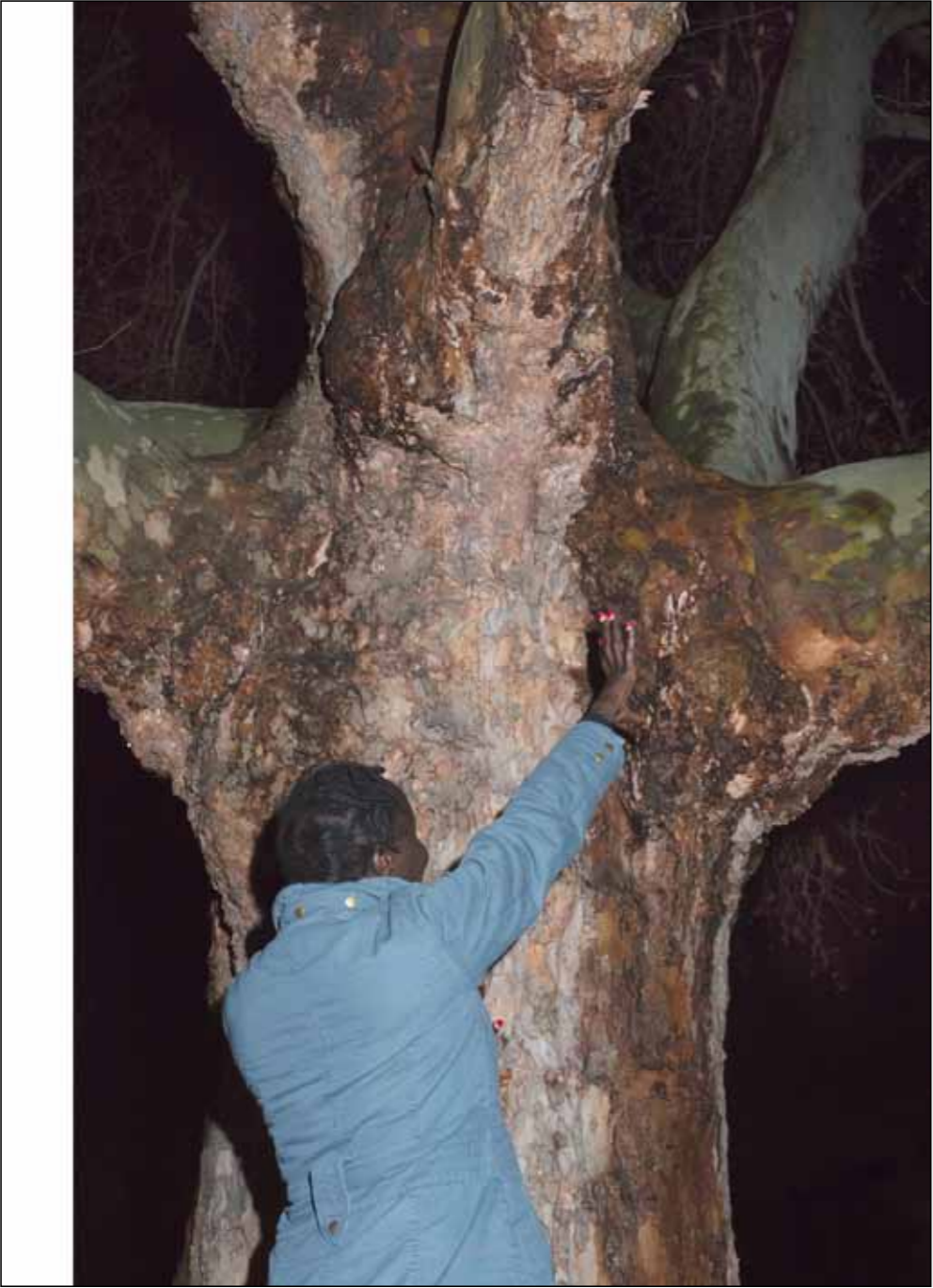
Lampedusa in Hamburg, 2015  
 Archival pigment print (3 parts)  
 222 x 160 cm each



Tobias Zielony

The Citizen, 2015

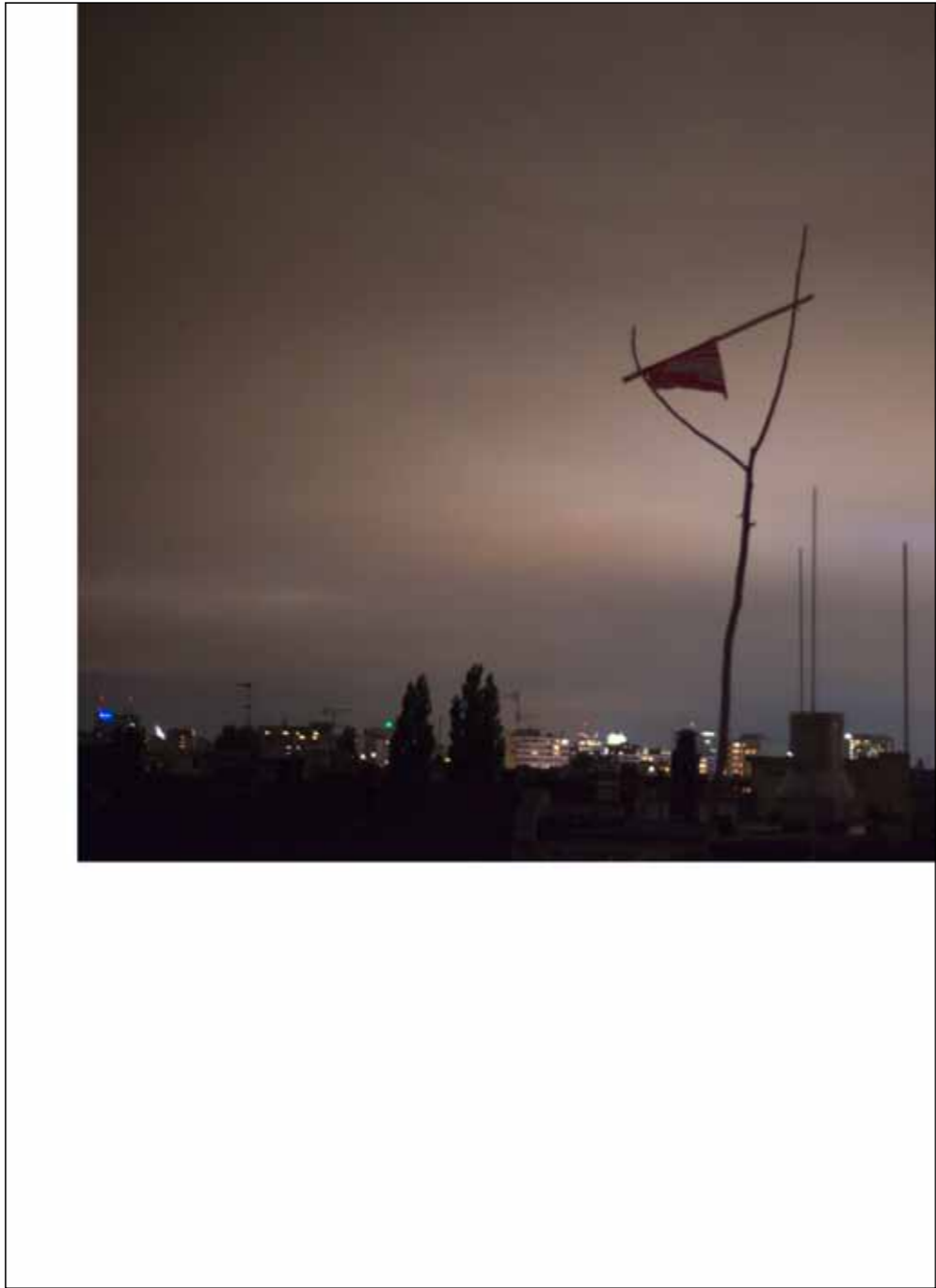




Tobias Zielony

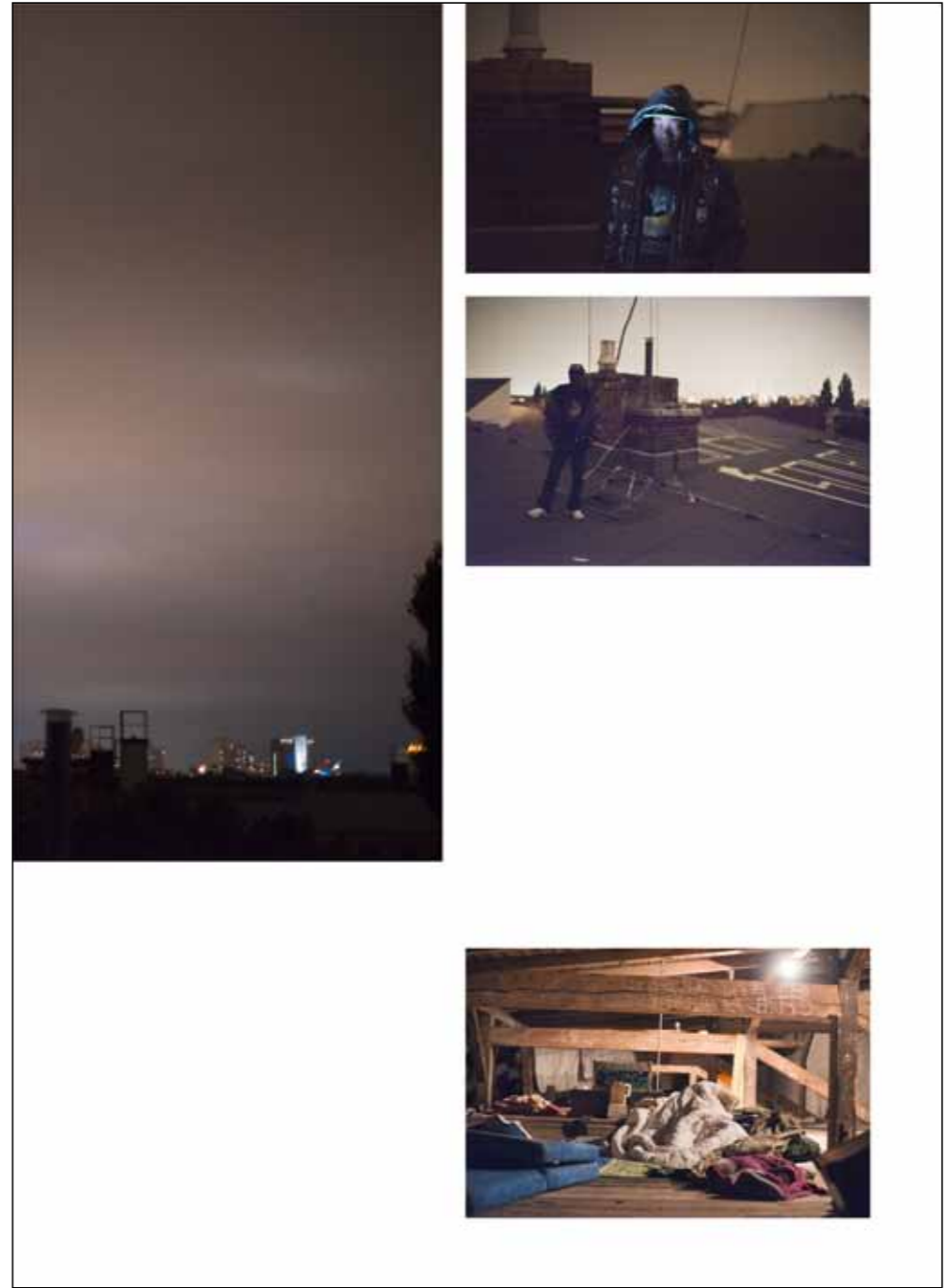
The Citizen, 2015



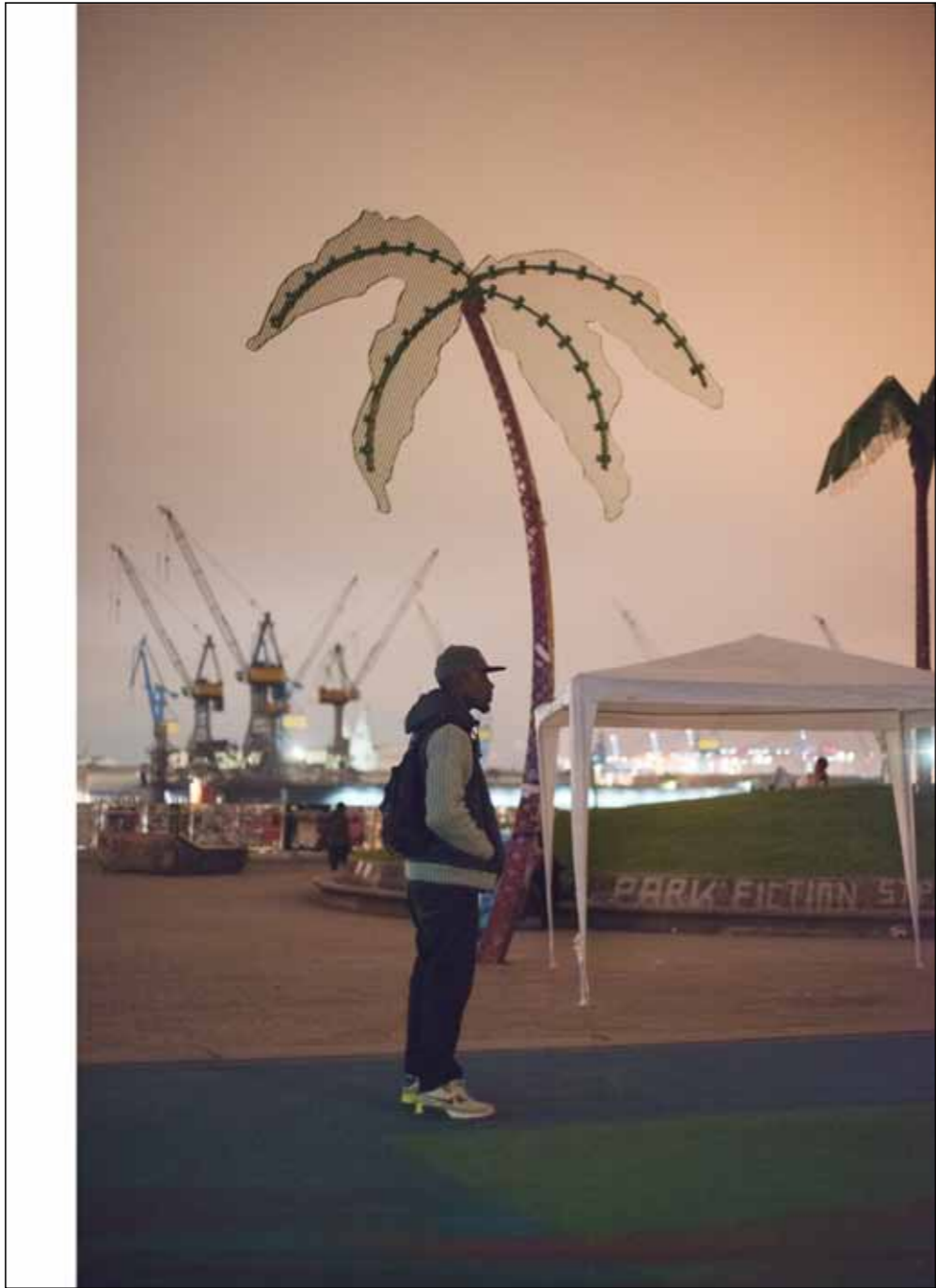


Tobias Zielony

The Citizen, 2015







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The Citizen, 2015

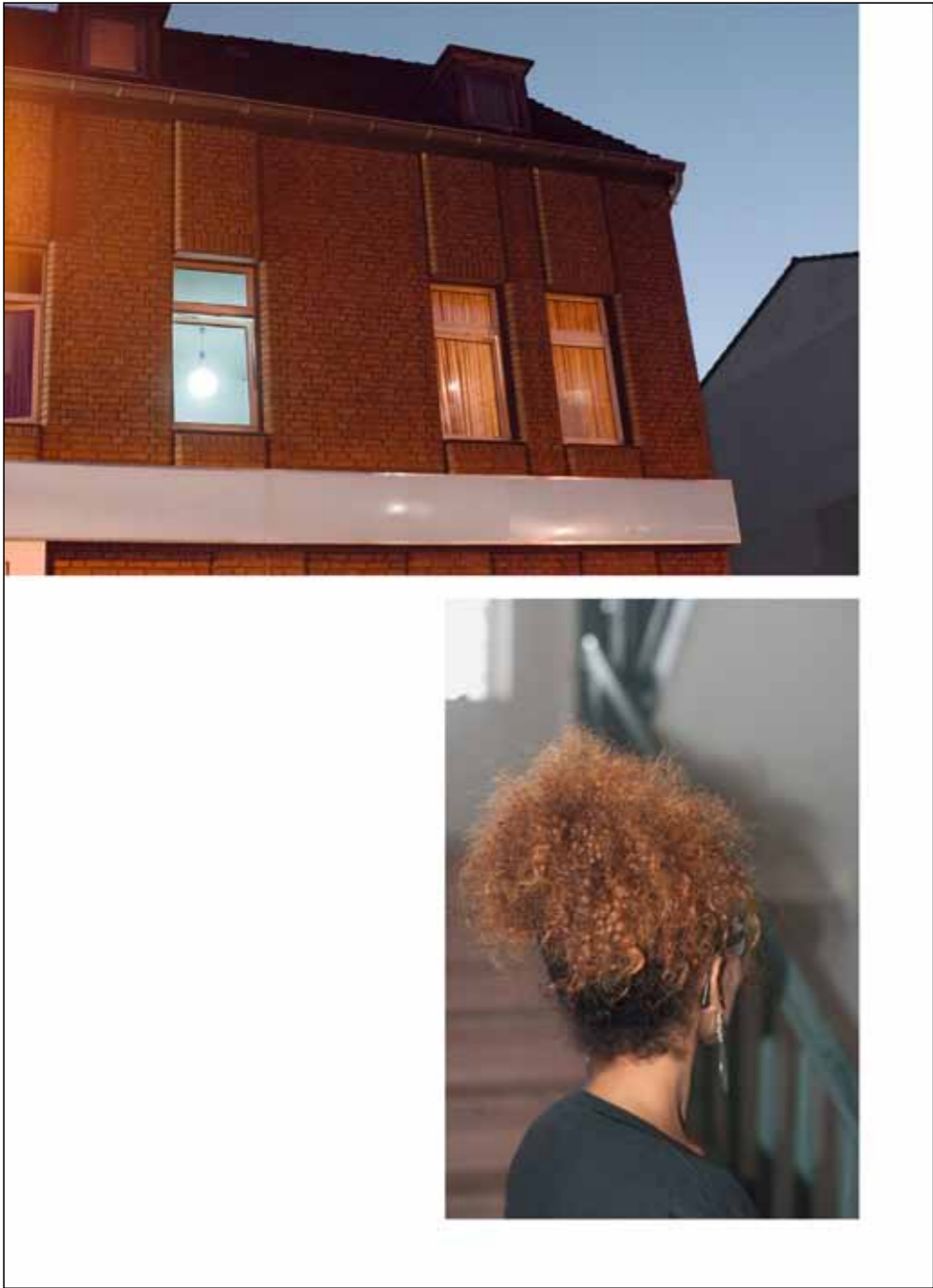




Tobias Zielony

The Citizen, 2015





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The Citizen, 2015





Tobias Zielony  
The Citizen, 2015  
Newspapers



Tobias Zielony  
The Citizen, 2015  
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Tobias Zielony  
The Citizen, 2015

Design: Alexander Koch

Photos:  
Manuel Reinartz (3-5, 23)

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