

TOPIASKOP

Direction, Camera, Editing **Josephin Böttger** | Sound **Felix Kubin**
2K, 16:9, 07:18:00, 2018



Synopsis : A city builds itself. Demolition follows construction follows demolition.

In TOPIASKOP, dimensions and relations are dissolved, the certainty of place and time is dismantled: the concrete city Hamburg becomes the site of an absurd tale of growth.

Josephin Boettger's video TOPIASKOP is based on images of a city that seems to be build by itself. Demolition follows construction follows demolition. The shots, taken within several years, describe the phenomena of urban development.

Video documentations of construction zones and landscapes are connected with fictional scenes, which often result from interventions and filmed performances in public space. A character dressed in work gear climbs up huge hills of sand, -the diggings of building sites, redundant material. Struggling with plans, tubes and other tools, the figure measures out a land that is hard to place. In the abstract darkness of a black background, the attire and protective helmet become a science fiction costume, the scenery of city planning grounds a dystopian no man's land.

Furthermore the sound of Felix Kubin's composition, interacts with the video in an abstract way. Although the knocking and creaking sometimes seem to derive from construction sites or machines, the sound eludes a concrete attribution while creating space and rhythm with and against the images.

In TOPIASKOP, dimensions and relations are dissolved, the certainty of place and time is dismantled: the concrete city of Hamburg becomes the site of an absurd tale of growth. **Nina Lucia Groß**