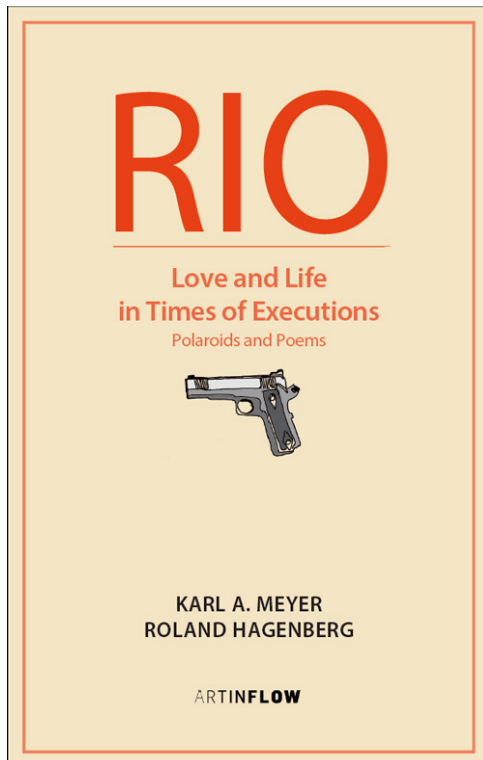


## PRESS RELEASE

March 5, 2019

### **RIO. Love and Life in Times of Executions. Polaroids and Poems.**

*Poems by **Roland Hagenberg** and Polaroid portraits by **Karl A. Meyer** tell stories about love, life and survival in Rio de Janeiro.*



Armed gangs, police and military control the favelas where fatalism and violence determine life. A failed urban society becomes symbol of a brutalized global zeitgeist.

It took time until the residents accepted and trusted the Swiss artist **Karl A. Meyer**, because nobody can enter the favela without permission with a camera. Since Polaroid's technical possibilities are limited compared to traditional photography, the photographer is also forced to be more selective. Polaroids are unique, not replicable and characterized by soft transitions. Their aesthetics rely on surprising coincidences and the imperfect.

The poems of Austrian author and artist **Roland Hagenberg** delve further into the world of Meyer's Polaroids. As a member of the international journalist network Weltreporter.net, Hagenberg sees the favela's state of emergency as more than an expression of a stranded society, but also as a developing nonculture of

the global zeitgeist. Hagenberg's poems are characterized by stylistic lightness and a playful language that celebrates life and its finiteness.

»RIO. Love and Life in Times of Executions. Polaroids and Poems« by Karl A. Meyer and Roland Hagenberg is now available from the publishing house Art In Flow Berlin under ISBN 978-3-938457-45-0.

All further information about the book is available at: [www.artinflow.de](http://www.artinflow.de)

Contact the publisher  
Ulrike Oppelt

Art In Flow | Verlag für Zeitgenössische Kunst, Berlin  
Tel +49 30 612 85 630 . Fax +49 30 612 85 615  
Email [dialog@artinflow.de](mailto:dialog@artinflow.de) . Web [www.artinflow.de](http://www.artinflow.de)