Written by Veronique Ricardoni



On Feburary 2011, Enrique Metinides will turn seventy-seven. Fifty of those years have been dedicated to what is called in Mexico "red note" photography. Sensational images of the tabloid press, images of accidents, deaths, disasters.

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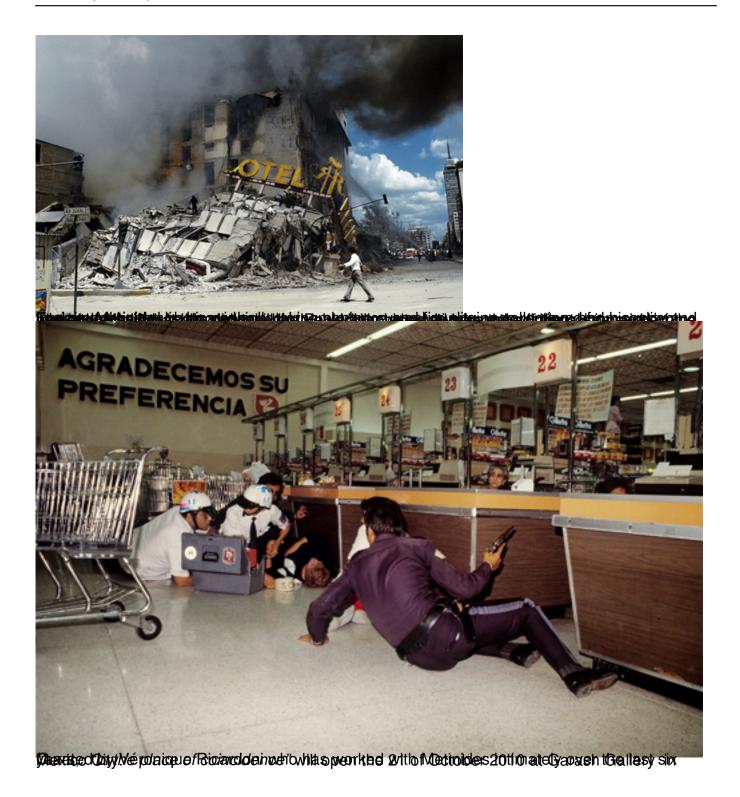
Metinides' images capture exquisite and compelling moments from such tragic events. His photographs a complex dynamic which both attract and repel; photographs which become engraved in our imagination through the power of the aesthetic experience.

The contemplation of an accident, a body, or a catastrophe, produces for the viewer ambivalent emotions: we first shield our eyes, but once this moment passes, the shock gives way to the gaze, the chance to see and face the brutality of the moment in all its power. Metinides a devotee of cinema, would seek out in the thousands of cases he photographed, the most cinematographic angle, the most dramatic moment, his images document and yet create a scene, a single image, becoming a narrative often closer to cinema than photography.

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