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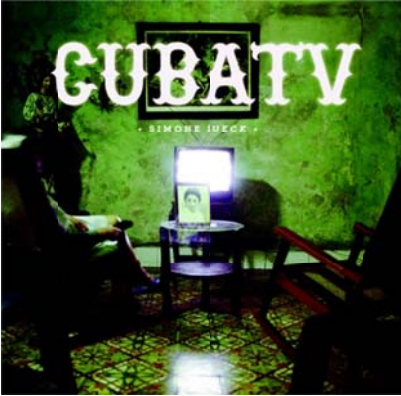
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Cuba TV by Simone Lueck

Mesmerizing photographs capture the “burning stillness” of Cubans’ private lives



“These sets in Cuba are different. Long umbilical cords snake off to outlets unknown, knobs so space-age that they couldn’t have ever been functional. A green hue makes each *telenovela* look like it takes place aboard a submarine. None of it makes sense, it’s all impossible. These rickety old boxes Lueck discovered in plain sight look to be the secret machines powering the entire façade of Cuba.”

—From the Foreword by author Daniel Kraus

***Cuba TV* reception and book signing with Simone Lueck**

6 – 9pm, Saturday, August 6, 2011

[Kopeikin Gallery, Culver City, CA](#)

In *Cuba TV*, photographer Simone Lueck turns her 35mm lens away from the street and towards the interior lives of Cuba’s residents. During a trip to Havana in 2000, Lueck was transfixed by the glowing television screens—while the streets were pitch black at night, the TVs were always on, their light emanating from front windows. Inviting herself into private homes, Lueck came to know and photograph Cuba through its people.

The TV sets in *Cuba TV* are rickety and revered, serving as table space for altars and becoming altars themselves. In Cuba, media is controlled by the government, but in Lueck’s images the few television stations show a range of programs, from soap operas to a rally. Some sets are broken: one a flower stand, one covered by a poster, several sitting blank, but each is still the center of the room. Lueck’s photographs radiate a “burning stillness,” writes Daniel Kraus. With empathy and ease, Lueck created a portrait of the inner Cuba, “bopping along the streets of Havana, knocking on doors and winding her way to each home’s flickering heart.”

[Simone Lueck](#) is a Los Angeles-based photographer from St. Paul, Minnesota. Her work is marked by an interest in American cultural territory colored by notions of identity and performance. She received her MFA from UC San Diego in 2005 and an Aaron Siskind Foundation Individual photographer's fellowship in 2004. Her work has been exhibited in Los Angeles, New York, Tijuana, and Madrid. *Cuba TV* is showing at [Kopeikin Gallery](#) from July 16 to August 27, 2011.

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Cuba TV

Simone Lueck

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