

YUMEN, The future of a ghost town

Photographic documentary by

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Gansu Province, Chine - 2015



Photo 01 – The abandoned town of Yumen East Country, a former oil drilling town in the Gobi desert.



Photo 02 – A worker in the abandoned former oil drilling town of Yumen, in the Gobi desert. In the background is an abandoned cement factory.



Diptyque 03 – Apartment blocks and workers in the abandoned oil drilling town of Yumen, in the Gobi desert.



Diptyque 04 – The workers who live for nine months of the year in the abandoned town of Yumen are kept busy with the maintenance of the train station and unloading the freight trains that pass.



Diptyque 05 – Main entrance to the old chemical factory, Yumen.



Diptyque 06 – On the site of the old chemical factory, a woman walks towards a building which is said to house a hundred people.



Diptyque 07 – Workers on their way to unload sacks of rocks from a train at Yumen station.



Diptyque 08— A worker running to join his colleagues unloading sacks of rocks from a train at Yumen station.



Diptyque 09 – Workers playing *mah-jong* and others - ethnic muslim Hui – in their dwelling (an abandoned house where they can live without paying rent) in the abandoned town of Yumen.



Diptyque **10** – A worker in his temporary dwelling in the abandoned town of Yumen.



Diptyque **11** – Two workers living for the past two years in the abandoned town of Yumen, posing in front of and inside their dwellings. These are abandoned houses that they have fixed up, where they can live rent-free.



Photo 12 – A worker in the lodgings where he has lived for the past two years in the abandoned town of Yumen.



Diptyque 13 – Delivery and sale of melons. A mechanic working on a truck. Yumen.



Diptyque 14 – A man exercising in the small park on Yumen's main street. Front of the grocery store-café of Yumen, Gansu Province, China.



Diptyque 15 – On Sundays, the the men come to relax at Yumen’s grocery shop–café. The owner of the café is fairly happy with business.



Photo 16 – A young man playing billiards in Yumen’s grocery store-café, the only place for amusement in this former oil town, abandoned by the Chinese authorities.



Diptyque 17 – A shopfront in the main street. Owner of a small grocery shop in Yumen.



Diptyque **18** – On the outskirts of Yumen, new buildings whose construction seems to be suspended, and a new hotel under construction. This region of Gansu province is enjoying development thanks to the installation of wind farms and solar arrays.



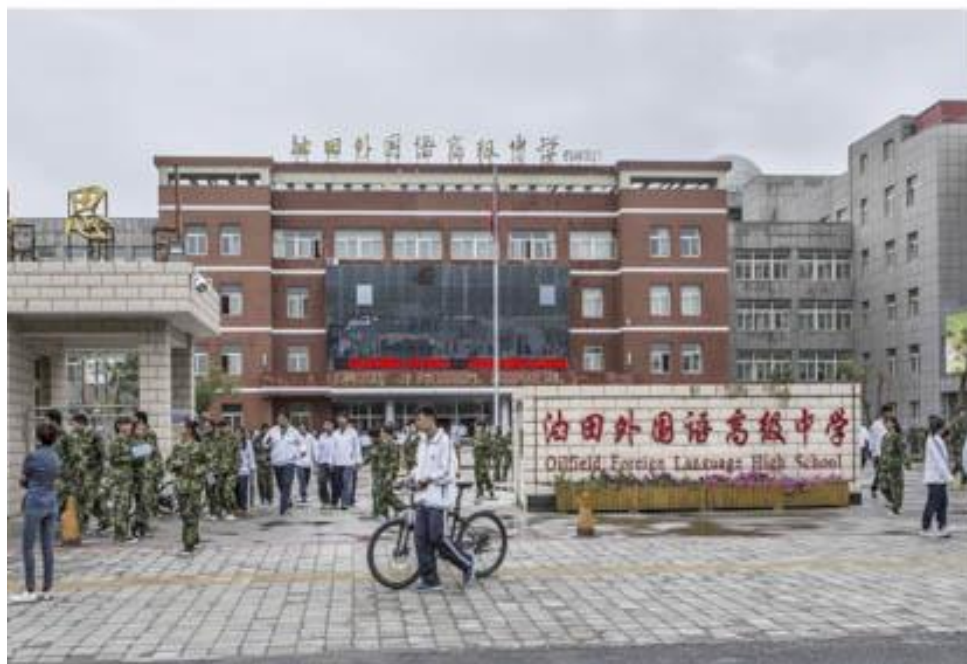
Photo 19 – New blocks of flats on the way into Jiuquan, where workers from Yumen have come to set up home after the oil wells ran dry. Gansu Province, China.



Diptyque **20** – Workers on a motor-tricycle in Jiuquan, a town experiencing a boom thanks to the development of wind farms in the Gobi desert. Road sign showing the direction for the residence of Yumen’s former oil workers.



Diptyque **21** – The Yumen oil company’s office block in Jiuquan, the town where Yumen’s former oil workers live now that the wells have run dry. Inside the residence where Yumen’s former oil workers now live.



Diptyque 22 – Jiuquan. End of class at the college built for the children of Yumen's former oil workers. Inscription in Chinese: *"The Chinese dream takes off"*.



Dptyque **23** – Motorway and wind farm, Yumen district in the Gobi desert. Sculpture promoting sustainable development on the road leading to the wind farms and solar arrays close to Jiuquan.