In the year 2006 AD Alfred Seiland set out on his project “Imperium Romanum.” What started as an interesting assignment to accompany the shooting of the HBO Series Rome in Cinecittà, for the New York Times Magazine, turned into a thorough, longterm photographic research to the remains of Roman architecture and culture in the early twenty-first century.

Using his brilliantly imaginative, sometimes ironic photographic language, taking buildings, landscapes, and artefacts of the Roman Empire as a reference level, Alfred Seiland creates an intense in-depth visual documentation. The photographs always shot with an analogue large-format camera illustrate the conflict of ancient and modern, destruction and conservation, and the longevity of the Roman Empire and its legacy for succeeding societies.

This book is the second in a series of Opus Extractum volumes. It explores twenty-one countries all over the territory of the former Roman Empire. All pictures are accompanied by detailed explanatory captions which make references to both historical and contemporary aspects of each work. The essay by British historian Philip Parker takes the reader on a journey through time and space of the Roman Empire.

“Imperium Romanum” is an epic project, both in concept and scope, reaching back to the roots of a common history and culture that connect Europe and the countries around the Mediterranean and crossing geographical, political, and religious frontiers and conflicts that we are confronted with today more than ever before.

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