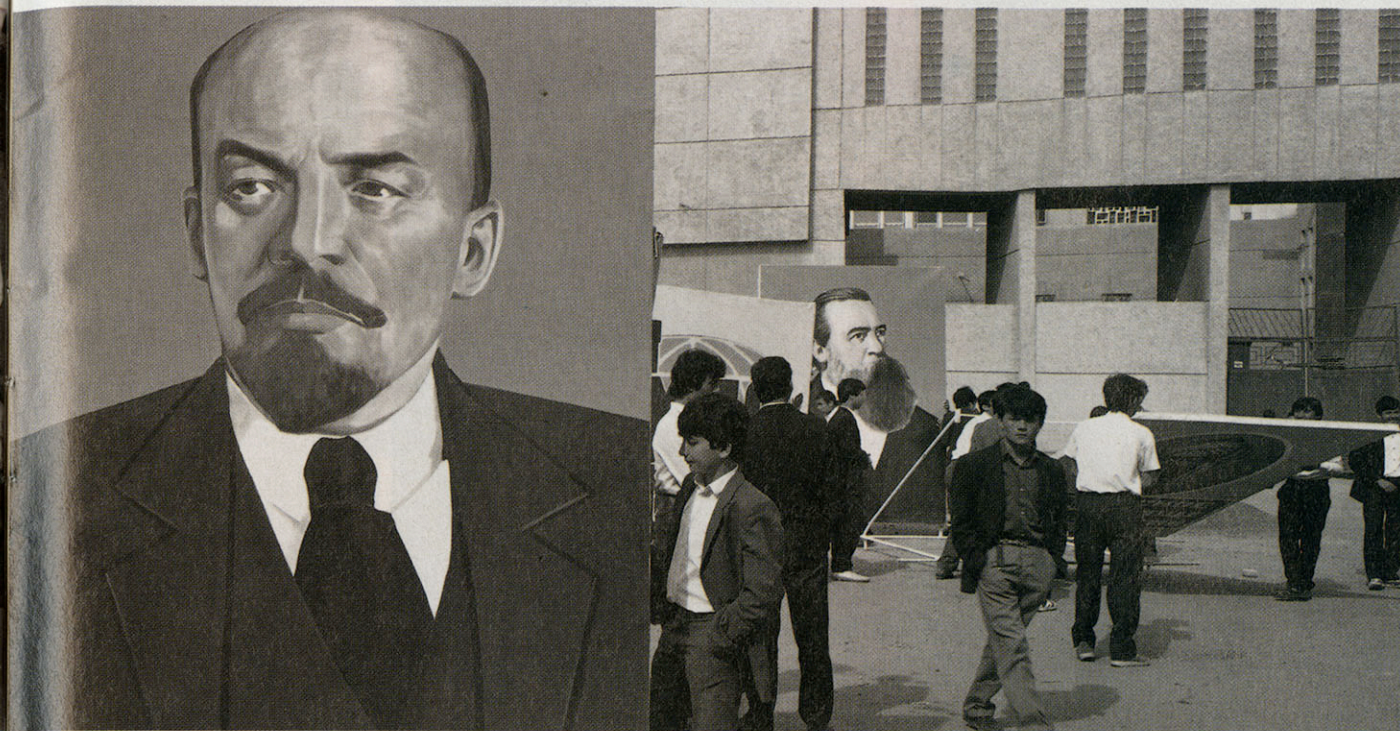


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# Homo Sovieticus

"AT A SCHOOL in Moscow I was allowed to take pictures in any classrooms I wanted. The headmaster and a guide showed me around and every time we went into a room, the kids sprang up to welcome us. This sweet kind of discipline, the way the kids are taught, the whole atmosphere, it all reminds me of my class in primary school in Flanders during the mid-Sixties."

This is just one of the comments made by Belgian photographer Carl de Keyzer in his photo book 'Homo Sovieticus'. Changes in the Soviet Union, the new openness born of perestroika, has drawn numerous internationally acclaimed photographers to the country. Most return to the West with colorful images of the young generation, who increasingly resemble their counterparts elsewhere in both life-style and clothing. But not Carl de Keyzer. During the period August '88 to '89, he visited the Soviet Union no less than 12 times. While on his travels, he wasn't looking for the new, he wanted to capture the



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