



Dressed as Benny More, a famous Cuban singer, this former state worker poses for tourists in exchange for a few dollars. This is one of 178 jobs that haveW been deemed legal by the Raul Castro administration.

Cuba: Metamorphosis

Photographs by Julien Goldstein



Even at the peak of the state, no one tried to hide the bankruptcy with new slogans and remobilization campaigns. Quite the contrary. Launched in 2007 by Raul Castro, the "national debate" has given birth to an array of radical measures approved unanimously by the 1000 delegates of the 6th Congress of the Cuban Communist Party. The private sector is being encouraged to develop, not only in tourism (178 independent professions have been given license) but more importantly, the public sector, the very soul of the socialist economy, is seriously under threat: 90% of the workforce now work for the state, this number should be reduced to 40% by 2020. Some are saying that Raul Castro will be the Thatcher of Cuba.

Since November 2011 Cuban people have the right to buy and sell their homes. Every Saturday morning, buyers and sellers meet on the Paseo del Prado for the "Housing Trade Market".




The only skate park in Cuba, the young come to train after work or on weekends



As part of a national public health program, the Cuban government has set up fitness classes to fight against obesity.



Anna giving manicures in her living-room.

A man with short dark hair, wearing a red t-shirt with a graphic, is in a recording studio. He is wearing large headphones and has his hands near his ears, looking intently at a microphone on a stand in front of him. The room is lined with acoustic foam. A white card is visible on the wall behind him.

Wilser the Lynx, cubatone singer. The cubatone is a derivative of reggaetone, Puerto Rican music mixing hip hop and reggae with very explicit lyrics. Due to the popularity of this music among young people, the Cuban government has forced the singers to introduce Cuban instruments, to soften their words and music and to rename it cubatone.



The sugar mill Rabi Jesus is one of the largest sugar plants in Cuba.



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In the tobacco factory H Upmann. Sorting tobacco leaves just arrived at the factory.



A hair salon has been installed in an apartment in Old Havana.

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In the village of El Modelo,
Mariano is a private farmer.
Large conversion projects
of civil servants into small
and medium farmers has
been established in recent
years.

