



ARTGATE GALLERY

URBAN CONSTRUCTION



Exhibition June 16 - July 12
Opening June 16 , 6- 8 PM

Peter Gregorio
Technopolis One
2011
Duraclear Print on Poly
36x36in

Urban Construction (curated by Jae Yang | Art-merge) is a group exhibition featuring three artists from Los Angeles and New York—Brian Cooper, Peter Gregorio and Alexander Severin—that re-conceptualizes and re-contextualizes the abstraction, myths, and quantitative realities inherent in the built environment. Within each of these artists' work, a unique line of questioning seems to arise:

Is the urban landscape merely an outcropping of disinterested design, a series of containers and connections in which individuality is usurped by sheer mass, and personal expression gives ground to economies of scale? What role do symbols and structure—in law, logistics, markets and physical space—play in our experienced lives? Do they inspire or do they merely sedate? Are modern memes indicators of our breakthroughs in understanding, or shortcuts to forgetting?

And what about the idea of the city as evolutionary player—urbanism as organism—with genetic impulses seeping from every window and doorway? What are the repercussions for the occupants of a city that has become itself autonomous, even sentient?

Architecture and public spaces are, like art, human-born creations that result in an often dizzying, oblique, even abstract experience—but can the built environment ever truly inspire in the same way that art does?

Cooper, Gregorio and Severin have each individually addressed these issues implicitly and explicitly in their work for Urban Construction. This exhibition runs June 16 - July 12 at ArtGate Gallery, in Chelsea, NYC.