



Imaginary Architecture: Photographs by Filip Dujardin

March 20, through May 16, 2010 | Mayer Gallery

In addition to his more traditional work, Belgian photographer Filip Dujardin creates imaginary buildings by resampling pictures of real buildings; that is, he digitally pieces together elements of existing architecture to create fictional structures. *Imaginary Architecture: Photographs by Filip Dujardin* includes sixteen works that show the artist's expertise as a photographer as well as a sophisticated image manipulator. This exhibition, on view March 20–May 16, 2010, is the first of Dujardin's work in the United States.

Dujardin often starts with a specific idea for an image, then creates a cardboard maquette or a 3D computer model of the final shape he has in mind. Staying near his home in Ghent, he searches out buildings to photograph that will supply the desired textures and edges. Back at the computer in his studio he cuts, pastes, and shapes segments from these building images and compiles them into the form that he envisioned.

Some of Dujardin's resampled buildings are structurally impossible, constructed in ways that defy engineering. More often they are subtly implausible; for instance, they may be window- or doorless, or juxtapose materials in unlikely combinations or at improbable scales. Some of the most intriguing buildings seem perfectly ordinary at first glance, revealing their fictional nature as the viewer registers missing or incongruous details, such as a staircase several stories up on a modern apartment block, with no guardrail.

Filip Dujardin has developed an art form from these twenty-first century techniques, creating what artists have always created—enchanting and thought-provoking images that show us the world in new ways.

Related programming

Thursday, April 22, 5:30 p.m., Gallery Talk

"Imaginary Architecture: Photographs by Filip Dujardin." Andrew Stevens, Chazen curator of prints, drawings, and photographs, will introduce the work of this Belgian artist and place his architectural fictions in context.

Generous local support for this exhibition has been provided by the Chazen Museum of Art Council, Hilldale Fund, Brittingham Fund, and Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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The Chazen Museum of Art is open Tuesdays–Fridays 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m.–5 p.m.; closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission to galleries and educational events is free. The museum is located on the campus of the University of Wisconsin–Madison and is accessible to wheelchairs from the north entrance (nearest to Library Mall). An elevator is down the corridor to the right.

Parking is available at the City of Madison State Street Campus Ramp (entrances on Frances and Lake streets) and in the University Square parking ramp, entrance on Lake Street. Metered parking is available in the lower level of UW Lot 46, entrances on Lake and Frances streets. Evening and weekend parking is also available in UW Lot 83 under Fluno Center, entrance on Frances Street, and in UW Lot 7 under Grainger Hall, entrance on Brooks Street between University Avenue and Johnson Street.

The Chazen will provide sign language interpreters for associated programs by three-week advance request to Anne Lambert, Curator of Education, weekdays, (608) 263-4421 (voice).

Gallery Talk

Lecture

Related to "Imaginary Architecture: Photographs by Filip Dujardin"

Andrew Stevens, curator of prints, drawings, and photographs

will introduce the work of this Belgian artist and place his

architectural fictions in context.

April 29, 2010

From 5:30 PM to 6:15 PM

Second floor, Mayer Gallery