

## Urte Beyer - Object - Photography

The camera is the tool I use in the urban landscape to merge reality with utopia and triviality with complexity. My work revolves around the observation of what lies on the periphery – things and objects that frame our everyday life yet exhibit a spirit or a character of their own.

Buildings that seem to stare back at me, brutal residential blocks that radiate their cold anonymity, or martial temples of Nazi origin cast in rock. I make copies of my prints, change their proportions, detach details and elements from their original cityscape surroundings. I then cut, fold and rearrange the prints, into three-dimensional volumes. The final products are sculptural re-stagings; photographic models whose irritating, estranged appearances are of particular interest to me. Nothing familiar seems to last and visions arise of a time that has never been and will never be.

The synthetic scenery of my photographic sculptures - model cities of their own - constitute a further layer to explore with my camera, resulting in the large, digital color prints in the series like "City Parts". To me, visions arise of a time that has never been and will never be.

Perception and memory are inherently unstable, their contents changing, their objectivity limited.

Searching for familiarity in an estranged, anonymized, stereotypical, culturally created world, I work with architecture to conjure visions of parallel worlds, distorted places and historicity. I amalgamate visual impressions, lived experiences and vivid fantasies. With my methods of work – blow up, cut up, montage etc. – I am discovering and exploring opportunities to revisit the apparent reality of space, city and architecture.

Urte Beyer, 2013