

(September 23 – October 5)

2— The Front Room

WOJCIECH GILEWICZ



Wojciech Gilewicz searches for the “real” spaces between architecture and painting. Beginning with photographic studies taken in urban environments, he paints hyper-realistic abstract images: sections of building façades, rusty metal grates, stained concrete slabs, and flagstones. By placing the painted replicas directly on top of the original site in the city street, Gilewicz merges the illusion of a painting with the reality of his—and our—environment.

For his Front Room exhibition, Gilewicz presents a series of small paintings alongside videos showing their near-secret installation (and removal) in various urban sites and indoor spaces. At Fondation Deutsch de la Muerthe in Paris, Gilewicz inserted a series of small abstract works into the landscape of the university’s campus. These trompe-l’oeil oil paintings took the place of small basement windows, railings, or building façades, all which disappeared into their surroundings—their presence only revealed by Gilewicz who suddenly enters the frame and extracts the hidden canvases. Between these painted counterfeits that are at once perfectly representational and completely abstract, and a series of videos depicting the artist’s droll sleights-of-hand, Gilewicz reveals the relativity of perception in a world that is simultaneously real and illusory.

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Wojciech Gilewicz was born in 1974 in Bilgoraj, Poland, and he currently lives and works in Warsaw and New York. He has exhibited widely in museums and galleries throughout Poland and Europe, including the Foksal Gallery, Poland; Museum of Fine Arts Iwano-Frankiwnsk, Ukraine; Zacheta Gallery, Poland; Fondation Deutsch de la Meurthe, Paris; the Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle/ Laboratorium Gallery, Warsaw; Entropia Gallery, Poland; Muzeum Sztuki Lodz, Poland; Laznia Centre for Contemporary Art, Gdansk, Poland; and the National Museum/Krolikarnia, Warsaw, among others. In 2008 he worked on a site-specific project in the framework of the ISCP residency in New York and is currently the visiting artist at Zendai MoMA in China, realizing a site-specific project in Shanghai.

Image:

Fondation Deutsch de la Meurthe, 2004

Photograph of site-specific installation

Courtesy of the artist

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