

PATRICK MIKHAIL GALLERY

2401 BANK STREET OTTAWA CANADA K1V 8R9  
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PATRICKMIKHAILGALLERY.COM

**PATRICK MIKHAIL GALLERY presents  
STAGED, new works by artist ADRIAN FISH as part of  
the CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival.**

Exhibition:  
STAGED

Artist:  
ADRIAN FISH

Dates:  
April 25 to May 20, 2007

Opening Reception:  
Saturday, May 5, 2007  
2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Venue:  
Loop Gallery  
1174 Queen Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
416.516.2581

**OTTAWA, April 25, 2007**...PATRICK MIKHAIL GALLERY is pleased to announce a presentation of new works by gallery artist ADRIAN FISH as part of the upcoming CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival from April 25 to May 20, 2007.

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The exhibition by Mr. Fish, entitled *STAGED*, will take place during CONTACT—the month-long international photography festival—at LOOP GALLERY on Queen Street West in the heart of the city’s art and design district. The presentation is sponsored, organized, and curated by Patrick Mikhail Gallery and will be presented at Loop Gallery. After the completion of its run in Toronto, the exhibition will travel to the main Patrick Mikhail Gallery in Ottawa for a solo exhibition in Fall 2007.

The *Staged* project documents performative spaces, directed towards the spectator seating area. Each respective environment is devoid of viewers, suggesting the pregnant moment before an anticipated spectacle. The weighty absence of an audience altogether nevertheless insinuates their presence. This inversion of the traditional role of actor-as-exhibitionist, and audience as voyeur constructs a quiet tension within the image. *Staged* examines the venue of the theatre as a 21<sup>st</sup> century manifestation of Roman Empire-era structures. The lack of people within each photograph invites the viewer to contemplate the architectural aspects of the theatre environment, as well as the nature of entertainment in the present paradigm.

Adrian Fish is a Toronto-born, Halifax-based artist and teacher working in the medium of photography. He has an MFA in visual art from York University, as well as accreditation from the Ontario College of Art & Design and Sheridan College. His work has been shown in a number of institutional galleries and artist run centres, including the Koffler Gallery, Red Head Gallery, A.W.O.L. Gallery, and the Anna Leonowens Gallery in Halifax. He has also exhibited internationally, both in the United States and Japan. Adrian Fish currently teaches at NSCAD University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. His work entitled “Stage 1 – 3” was purchased by the Canada Council Art Bank in May 2006.

Attracting close to one million people, the CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival is the largest photography festival in North America, with over 500 local, national, and international artists participating at more than 200 venues across the city. Founded as a not-for-profit organization in 1997, CONTACT is devoted to celebrating and fostering an appreciation of the art and profession of photography. The theme of the 2007 festival explores the Constructed Image. Using different material, influences, and disciplines often combined through technology, photography’s relationship with reality has been transformed by the numerous ways in which images are now constructed. The Constructed Image will explore this fusion of practices that has transformed the nature of photography into a new hybrid genre. For more information about the CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival, visit [www.contactphoto.com](http://www.contactphoto.com)

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**Loop Gallery** has been in operation as a collective of professional artists since December 2000. Located in the heart of the Queen West Gallery District, it was one of the founding galleries of this district that has witnessed the transformation of the area into one of the major cultural centers of the city and the destination for the young and cultured looking for new ideas in art. The gallery operates as a members' gallery; a collective of experienced artists working towards continued exposure in the Toronto art scene, as well as across Canada. Many Loop Gallery artists have artwork in collections throughout North America. The gallery features artist/members who have a solid practice behind them, some exhibition experience, and an interest in an alternative, pro-active approach to art in general and their career in particular. For more information about Loop Gallery, visit: [www.loopgallery.ca](http://www.loopgallery.ca)

For more information about STAGED or to view preview images, please visit the gallery website or contact:

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