

PATRICK MIKHAIL GALLERY

2401 BANK STREET OTTAWA CANADA K1V 8R9
T.613.746.0690 1.800.388.3298 F.613.746.4996
PATRICKMIKHAILGALLERY.COM

**PATRICK MIKHAIL GALLERY presents
STAGED, by photo-based artist ADRIAN FISH**

Exhibition:

STAGED: The Complete Portfolio

Artist:

ADRIAN FISH

Dates:

November 28, 2007, to January 4, 2008

Artist Reception:

Friday, November 30, 2007

5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Artist Talk

Sunday, December 3, 2007

3 p.m.

OTTAWA, NOVEMBER 28, 2007...Patrick Mikhail Gallery is pleased to present STAGED: The Complete Portfolio by Halifax photo-based artist ADRIAN FISH. The exhibition marks the first time the entire portfolio of images of performative spaces has been presented as a single project.

Mr. Fish is a winner of the 2007 Magenta Foundation Flash Forward competition, which recognizes the best new photo-based artists from Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom. He appears in a concurrent exhibition at Kathleen Cullen Fine Art in New York, organized by the Magenta Foundation, from November 29 to December 22, 2007. For those who value and appreciate the work of international artists Lynne Cohen and Candida Höfer, this exhibition by Mr. Fish is a must-see—and marks the first comprehensive, public showing by this important new artist on the Canadian art scene.

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First presented in Toronto in May 2007 as part of Patrick Mikhail Gallery's participation in the 2007 CONTACT photography festival, the STAGED project has been expanded and reworked. For this special holiday presentation, the 14 new museum-quality prints will be available in the collectors' large-format edition of 48 x 48 inches offered at \$2950, and in a limited edition of 12 x 12 inch prints specially commissioned for Patrick Mikhail Gallery and offered at \$900.

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 21st 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.

The images that make up the Staged project are of theatres located in Toronto, and represent a variety of designs over nearly nine decades. Designed by some of North America's most renowned and accomplished architects including Peter Smith, Arthur Erickson, and Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg, the theatres showcased include the Princess of Wales Theatre, Roy Thompson Hall, and the Canon Theatre,

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. Mr. Fish currently teaches at NSCAD University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. His work entitled "Stage 1 – 3" can be found in the collection of the Canada Council Art Bank.

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To view the complete STAGED portfolio, please visit the gallery website at
<http://www.patrickmikhailgallery.com/artists/fish>

Opening next at Patrick Mikhail Gallery....we are pleased to present
EPHEMERA, a new solo exhibition by Cheryl Pagurek featuring new
photographs and video...from January 9 to February 3, 2008.

For more information:

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2401 Bank Street
Ottawa Canada K1V 8R9
Tel. 613.746.0690 TF: 1.800.388.3298

E-mail: gallery@patrickmikhailgallery.com

Web: www.patrickmikhailgallery.com