



MIA FEUER | DISPLACEMENT

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Mia Feuer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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curated by **Angela Jerardi**

Exhibition Dates: March 14 – April 5, 2009
Opening Reception: March 14, 2009, 7 – 10 pm
Gallery Hours: Saturdays 12 – 4 pm or by appointment

FLUXspace is pleased to present **Displacement**, a solo exhibition of sculptural work by **Mia Feuer** from **March 14 – April 5, 2009**. There will be an opening reception for the exhibition on **March 14, 2009** from **7 – 10 pm**.

Curated by Angela Jerardi, *Displacement* investigates the imagining of geography and the absurdity of the human-built environment, and invites the viewer into a turnabout of infrastructure, borders, and notions of place. *Displacement* presents two life-size sculptures, which serve as obstacles to the viewer.

Turnstile was inspired by the artist's experience of traversing the border between Israel and Palestine. Referencing the arbitrary nature of contested political borders, this sculpture can be broken down and reassembled in a different formation in different places. It examines the juxtaposition of abstract ideas such as freedom, borders, and dehumanization, and their tangible manifestations on the individual. *Turnstile* functions both as a sculpture but also as a working crowd control device, and expects the audience to physically interact with these ideas and to feel for a moment the transformative effect of this boundary space between liberty and restraint, and the emotions that one experiences when entering a space of such intense physical and emotional confinement.

Collapse delves into the myths and folklore of a very different landscape: Winnipeg, Canada. Inspired by the rusty and dowdy Arlington Bridge built in 1912 that now serves primarily as an overpass for Canadian Pacific Railway trains in Winnipeg, *Collapse* is a de-construction of this functional structure. The bridge has a storied past: rumored to have been built in England to be sold to Egypt to span the Nile River, unfortunately it was too short for the Nile and came to Winnipeg instead. The story seems to be lacking in any historical evidence; however it has become a part of the narrative and folklore of Winnipeg. Falling short of the Nile, the Arlington Bridge is reconfigured in *Collapse* as a monument to its imagined grandeur and geographic exoticism and longing.

Together these works explore the human desire and longing for concrete manifestations of perception, and encourage us to recognize structures, borders, and geography not as objective reality, but instead as fluid social, political and cultural experiences. Through this examination, *Displacement* allows us to see the absurdity and frailty sometimes extant in our built surroundings, and shifts our focus to the borders, the margins, and the politically charged.

Mia Feuer was born in Winnipeg, Canada. She received her BFA Honors degree from the University of Manitoba in 2004. In 2006, she had her first solo exhibition *A Land That Buries Its Children* at Outworks Gallery in Winnipeg. Mia is currently a 2009 MFA candidate in the Department of Sculpture and Extended Media at Virginia Commonwealth University. In the summer of 2009, through the funding of the Winnipeg Arts Council, she will be traveling back to the Palestinian Occupied Territories to conduct further artistic research.

Angela Jerardi is a curator based in Philadelphia, PA. Angela has worked with a number of mid-Atlantic art museums, non-profit organizations, and alternative spaces, including: the Freer and Sackler Galleries, Smithsonian Institution, the Gallery at Flashpoint, and Transformer, all in Washington, DC, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD, and the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Fairfax, VA. Recent curatorial projects include: *CONSUME* at the Gallery at Flashpoint (Washington, DC), *re:place*, co-produced with the Art in Transition program (Silver Spring, MD), *beauty and the mundane* at Maryland Art Place (Baltimore, MD), and Oxford Occasional projects *dance by chance* and *a commemoration of now!*

FLUXspace is a Philadelphia based 501(c)3 contemporary arts space which provides artists, curators, and other practitioners the opportunity for unrestricted and uncensored experimentation, professional presentation, and critical dialogue for the purpose of exploring and creating new art practices and media. FLUX consists of an exhibition space, an artist residency program, as well as public programming including artist lectures, panel discussions, workshops, movie nights and performances.