

FLASHPOINT

A CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROJECT

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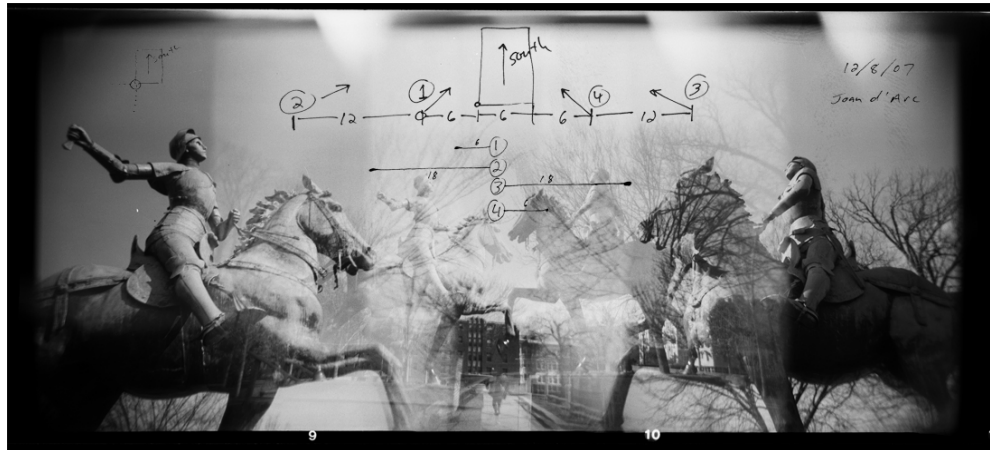
June 18, 2008

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The Gallery at Flashpoint Presents



Michael Dax Iacovone: *The Numbers Behind*

July 12 – August 23, 2008

Opening reception: Saturday, July 12: 6-8pm

WASHINGTON, DC – Artist Michael Dax Iacovone investigates and chronicles his familiar DC environs using mathematical algorithms to govern the way in which he experiences space. Using these formulas, Iacovone creates a blueprint to follow, film and photograph the DC area. Iacovone's solo exhibition at the Gallery at Flashpoint, *The Numbers Behind*, explores spaces and image-making in a new and mechanical way and is on view from July 12 through August 23, 2008. Iacovone's installation will consist of large-scale black and white photographs, maps that show the specific path that the artist follows and videos that track the artist's execution of the formulas.

Once a formula is devised for a photograph, Iacovone uses a cheap, plastic Holga camera and shoots from the chest rather than looking through the viewfinder in order to avoid making any aesthetic, compositional choices. Iacovone, rather than using Photoshop or manipulating the images post-production, layers and overlaps the images inside the camera, across the length of the negative which result in long, ethereal panoramas. The image, so sharply defined in the mapping used to document the spaces, becomes vaporous and disorienting in the resulting photographs.

The artist's adherence and loyalty to his own formulas lend a physicality and performative nature to the work. Often a formula that Iacovone develops will require him to spend the day painstakingly navigating Washington, DC while counting the number of steps that he needs to take in order to shoot a photograph.

Not unlike the directives for Sol Le Witt's wall-drawings, Iacovone's photographs and his interest in formulas rather than aesthetics create a communal experience for the viewer by demystifying and questioning the traditional role of the artist. Iacovone's own study of space and navigation of urban settings hopes to challenge the viewers to reconsider their own familiar spaces.

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Gallery at Flashpoint • 916 G Street, NW • Washington, DC 20001 • flashpointdc.org
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ABOUT THE ARTIST

Michael Dax Iacovone received his MFA in photography from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2005. He is currently working on his second MFA from Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, MD. Iacovone has exhibited at MOCA DC in Washington, DC, The Print Center in Philadelphia and the Tidewater Visual Arts Center in Norfolk, VA, among others. Iacovone has received various grants from the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities and the Mid-Atlantic Arts Council. This is his first solo exhibition in Washington, DC.

ABOUT THE GALLERY AT FLASHPOINT PROGRAM

The **Gallery at Flashpoint** is dedicated to nurturing artists, expanding their visibility and encouraging dialogue between artists and arts patrons. As a nonprofit gallery, Flashpoint provides a special opportunity for artists and curators to present new media, site-specific installations, performance pieces and other experimental forms free from the constraints of commercial expectations. An advisory panel of noted artists and arts professionals oversees the programming for the gallery and provides mentorship and support to exhibiting artists. The Gallery at Flashpoint is sponsored by the Abrams Family Foundation and the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities. Additional support is provided by the Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, the MARPAT Foundation, the Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, Prince Charitable Trusts and many other sponsors. Hotel Helix is Flashpoint's 2007-2008 Hotel Partner. Barefoot Wine is Flashpoint's 2007-2008 Wine Partner.

ABOUT FLASHPOINT

Flashpoint, a Cultural Development Corporation project, is a non-profit, multi-disciplinary arts space dedicated to nurturing emerging artists and cultural organizations in order to build their professional capacity. Flashpoint provides services and training for cultural organizations to help strengthen their management capacity and offers exhibit and performance spaces that enable arts groups to focus on their artistic goals and expand their visibility. Flashpoint includes a contemporary art gallery, the 75-seat Mead Theatre Lab, the Coors Dance Studio and shared office space for arts organizations.

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Opening Reception: Saturday, July 12: 6-8pm

Exhibition: July 12 – August 23, 2008

Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 12-6 pm or by appointment

For more information: Call 202.315.1310 or visit flashpointdc.org

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