

Artist's Statement - Aerial Views

Drawn freehand directly on the computer and printed with an inkjet printer, my drawings do not contain photographs or scanned material.

As a hybrid process combining the languages of drawing and computer imaging, my practice brings together the opposite notions of handmade and technological, of organic and mechanical, of physical and virtual. Combining technology with subjectivity, the work draws the viewer to an awareness of the devices of image construction and to the complexities of fiction. In addition to dealing with familiar concepts such as drawing and photography, we are now affected by the recontextualizing effect of the new field of *imaging*.

The subjects of this series may be interpreted equally as models for planned communities or as aerial views of fictional suburbs, referring to the dual role of the computer as a tool for urban planning as well as image capture. At the intersection of two approaches, mapping and landscape art, the drawings use a perpendicular instead of an angled viewpoint to combine the abstract qualities inherent in maps with the descriptive powers of landscape art. Encouraging a reflective attitude by its distant viewpoint, the aerial view is used here to comment on society's occupation and transformation of nature.

In addition, these invented suburbs exaggerate existing situations and lead the subject matter into the investigative domain of science fiction. Examining the relation between design and actual lived experience, the images subvert the apparent rationality of urban design. Beyond the suburban example, my digital drawings are a way of thinking visually about design, the city and society as a whole.