

FRANK VAN DER SALM

**Frank van der Salm: *Mission Interlude*, 2012**

- Photo on Archive paper, dibond, diasec, blockframe
- Afm. 26,5 x 20 cm, editie: 1/6
- Prijs: 1.500,-

Frank van der Salm (1964, Delft) is a Dutch photographer with a main focus on urban space and buildings as conveyors of strong esthetics and culture. Known for his monumental iconographic works that depict architectural objects in such hyper-realistic way, that they seem practically surreal. In our internet era reality exists in the images that represent it. Within this image-controlled world photography holds a dualistic position. Van der Salm points this out by focusing on the dynamics between the specific vs the ordinary and the original vs the copy. Working interdisciplinary with architects like OMA/Rem Koolhaas, Herzog & de Meuron and MVRDV has influenced his work towards increasing diversity in approaching the contemporary environment. Thus, 'The City' is created with an 'imaginary status' of reality, where 'real' images are temporary. The city and its images are real and unreal at the same time.

After studying Photography and Audio/Visual Design at the Willem de Kooning Academy in Rotterdam, The Netherlands (1992), van der Salm's main focus has been the Urban Landscape in its broadest sense. Van der Salm's work has been shown in galleries and museums around the world and is collected internationally by musea, business collections as well as private collectors.

Mission Interlude is a handsome photo-work that plays with the complex and momentarily very actual theme of the 'fake'. We look at a 'fake cityscape'. Everything about it seems unreal. The buildings and the green look like a scale model, well made, but nevertheless fake. The water is really wrong: a plastic texture and a 'swimmingpool blue' that hurts the eye. But it is difficult in our post-modern, multi-cultural, globalizing world to tell what is fake and what is real. Clearly the artists plays a game with appearance and reality. But maybe there are parts of the world where they actually build like this and live like this? Maybe in a place like Dubai?