

ART & DESIGN AUG. 14, 2014

## 'Multiplicity' Tracks the Quirks of Global Cities

### 'MULTIPLICITY'

#### Nurtureart

56 Bogart Street, Bushwick, Brooklyn  
(Through Aug. 25)

#### Invisible-Exports

89 Eldridge Street, Lower East Side  
(Through Aug. 27)

#### Mixed Greens

531 West 26th Street, Chelsea  
(Through Aug. 29)



An installation view of "Multiplicity," at Mixed Greens in Chelsea, New York.  
Credit Etienne Frossard/Mixed Greens

Some of the best works in "Multiplicity," a far-flung exhibition of art from and about Belfast, Hong Kong, New Delhi, New York, Tel Aviv and Tirana (in Albania) and points beyond, use video to highlight the idiosyncrasies of contemporary cities. At Nurtureart, CPak Studio's video "The Making of Neon Signs" (2014) tracks neon's demise in Hong Kong as it is replaced by other technologies, and Nicholas Keogh's "A Removals Job" (2012) treats interior demolition in Belfast as if it were performance art.

At Mixed Greens, Sasa Tkacenko's video "Perfect Ride" (2012) shows skateboarders gliding through the deserted Museum of Contemporary Art in Belgrade, Serbia, which has been under renovation since 2005. Alban Muja and Yll Citaku's fantastic "Blue Wall Red Door" (2009) uses on-the-street interviews to show how Pristina, Kosovo's capital, has changed so quickly that street names are irrelevant: People use mundane landmarks to identify places, and a fireman says he and his co-workers just look for smoke when responding to a call. New York is the backdrop for Darren Goins's video "Workout A (Dance)" (2013) at Invisible-Exports, which features dancers interacting with geometric forms in public spaces.

Notable nonvideo works include Nadim Abbas's light box, with digital renderings of pyramid forms in cities like Paris and Las Vegas, at Invisible-Exports. In multiple galleries, Gigi Scaria's photographs of goofy sculptures placed at anonymous sites highlight rapid and uneven development in New Delhi. Seher Shah's digitally tweaked aerial views of cities function as "proposals"; John Duncan's "Bonfire" series of photographs document a Protestant tradition in Belfast of burning towers of wooden pallets to commemorate the defeat of James II's forces in the 17th century, reminding you that despite globalization's rapid upheavals, many urban traditions still have deep historical roots. MARTHA SCHWENDENER