



Art **Ghost Town**

When

Opens Sunday Jan 13, 2008

Jan 19, 2008 – Feb 9, 2008

Saturdays (11am–6pm)

Where

Devening Projects + Editions (3039 West Carroll Ave, 312.420.4720)

Price

FREE

Details

<http://www.deveningprojects.com/exhibitions.php>



With metallic, elegant renderings of urban detritus and wasted cities, Austrian artist Felix Malnig carves his own niche out of the contemporary landscape. Malnig's spray-painted surfaces have a rich, smoky texture, giving his paintings an almost edible quality. His video *D* portrays decaying inner-city Detroit from an elevated train, complete with malignant buildings and signs of half-hearted progress lying dead below the tracks. The painting series *Haus* takes a sinister yet charming approach, with loose, washy strokes and a harder edge that gives life to the faded buildings.

– *Patricia Courson*



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JAN 31

Review: Felix Malnig/Devening Projects + Editions

Painting, Ukrainian Village/East Village, Video

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RECOMMENDED

Viennese artist Felix Malnig presents work studying the social and cultural importance of urban architecture and city planning, particularly of sites characterized by rapid development. Chinese skyscrapers and General Motors office parks are rendered shiny and new in slick chrome hues, but painted hastily, with dripping brushstrokes and splotched with spray paint, paralleling the rapid developments seen in Detroit and more recently China. Similarly, Malnig's "Garage" paintings on paper, sparse renderings of shadows found in vacant parking lots, command a symbolically significant use of surface texture and medium. Both "House" drawings are decidedly warm and charming in relationship to the other work in the gallery, but still reveal a cynical perspective on rapid development of the suburban single family home. Also included is "D," a video loop from the elevated train in Detroit, an endless chronicle of the decay to be found in the formerly shining center of industry. With care for semiotic texture and surfaces enriched by association, Malnig reveals the effects of metastasized industrial development on the urban landscape. (Lisa Larson-Walker)

Through Feb 12 at Devening Projects + Editions, 3039 West Carroll.

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