



ARTSY EDITORIAL

19,856 Followers
New York, NY, United States

[FOLLOW](#)

[BROWSE](#) [ARTISTS](#) [GALLERIES](#) [FAIRS](#) [AUCTIONS](#) [POSTS](#) [EDUCATION](#)

FEATURED BY ARTSY

The Future is Always Tomorrow in Micah Ganske's Cityscapes

 ARTSY EDITORIAL
6 DAYS AGO

Micah Ganske's works carry a retro-futurist sensibility. Pulling from a rich cultural history of sci-fi visionaries, Ganske cites Tomorrowland, the science-fiction themed area of Disneyland, and the 1939 World's Fair Pavillion themed "The World Of Tomorrow" as significant reference points. The artist recognizes that both were about "hope and faith in our ability to better our world and our day-to-day lives with technology." Ganske channels his artistic vision through CAD programming, acrylic paint washes, and 3D printing, producing an exciting body of work, which goes on view this month in "The Future is Always Tomorrow" at 101/exhibit.

Ganske's process for making 2D works—projecting Google satellite images onto muslin, tracing segments with pen and pencil, filling in parts selectively with washes of paint—is involved and painstaking. His meticulous rendering of city blocks, tree clusterings, and convergent roads take on subtle shifts of color with each turn; if not for certain artistic liberties, his work might read like an architectural blueprint, drawn up for simple functionality.

But with each shadowy encroachment of a satellite or plane—what Ganske calls "aspirational technologies"—he asserts himself as more than a documentarian, but as a critical commentator. Some works may seem to protest the government's use of surveillance and military technologies,



101 / EXHIBIT

but Ganske does not speak directly to this and instead maintains an ambivalent, perhaps optimistic, tone.

With *Centralia Habitat: Up* (2014), faded rainbow colors give way to an otherwise dystopic scene. Sandwiched between two towering, glowing buildings, is a strip of land laden with suburban houses that seems to curl at its edges—at once concave and convex. Perhaps there is no beginning or end to the city's borders and this is just one particular cross section that was brought into view. The landscape's odd curvilinear shape is further emphasized by a set of shadowy projections coming from skyscraper windows: neat squares become parallelograms and trapezoids, and all seems to devolve into a funny game of tangrams. The effect is disorienting.

A tension is found in Ganske's work between urban and rural spaces, between constructed environments and neglected wastelands. The shortcomings of American cityscapes—pollution, gentrification, industrial waste—are layered against his hope that science and technology can redeem us from a dystopic fate.

—[Anna Furman](#)

"The Future is Always Tomorrow" is on view at 101/Exhibit, Los Angeles, Jan. 17–Mar. 7, 2015.

[Follow 101/Exhibit On Artsy.](#)



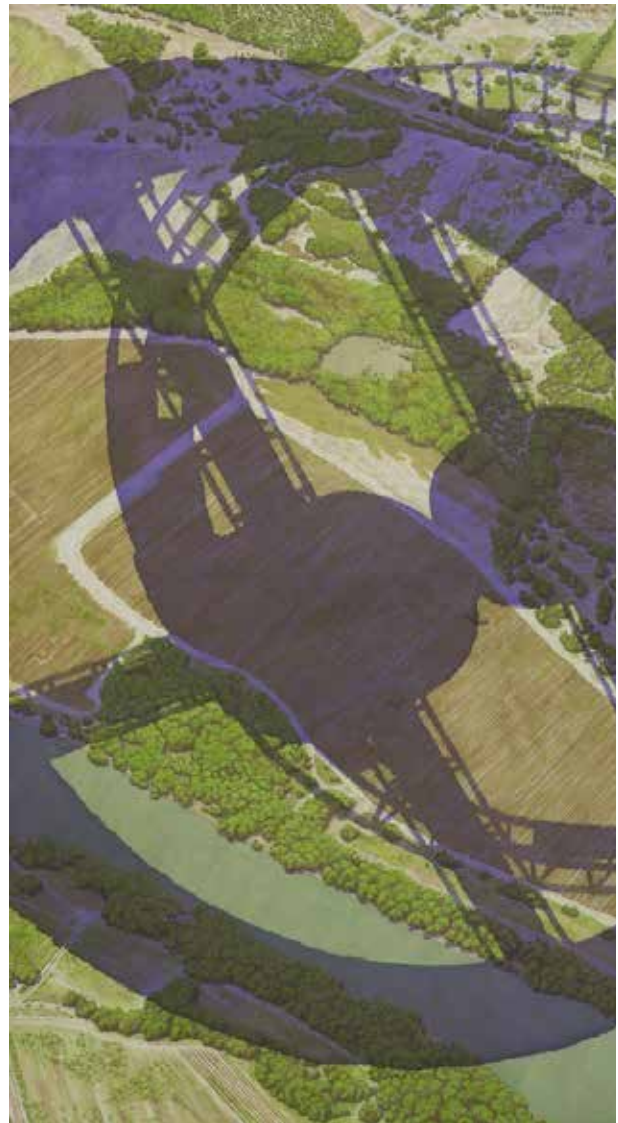
Micah Ganske
Vertebral Space Elevator, 2013-2014
101/exhibit

CONTACT GALLERY



Micah Ganske
Warhead, 2014
101/exhibit

CONTACT GALLERY



Micah Ganske
Cuevitas, Texas, 2013
101/exhibit

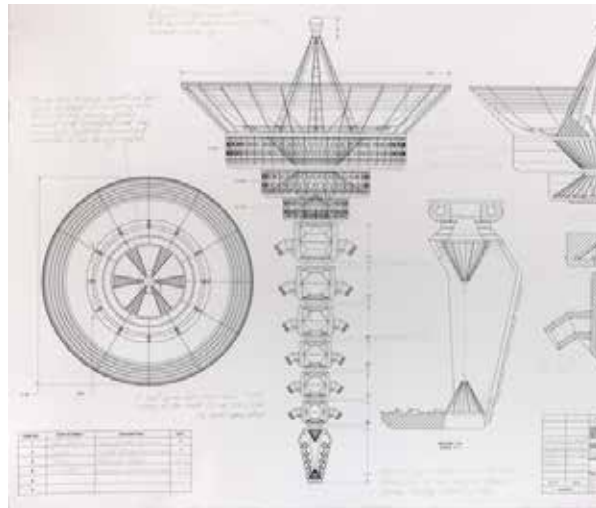
CONTACT GALLERY





Micah Ganske
Centralia Habitat: Up, 2014
101/exhibit

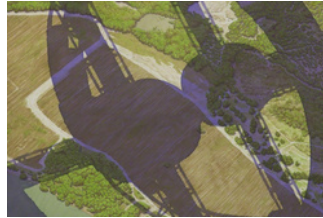
CONTACT GALLERY



Micah Ganske
Space Elevator Drawing, 2014
101/exhibit

CONTACT GALLERY

ARTISTS MENTIONED IN POST



MICAH GANSKE

FEATURED POSTS



With Code as His Medium,
Siebren Versteeg Programs Art

ARTSY EDITORIAL



An L.A. Artist Returns to Her
Native City, and Finds Room for
Experimentation

ARTSY EDITORIAL



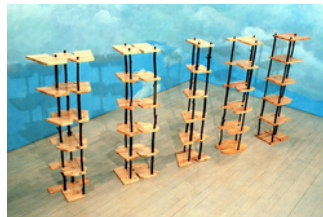
Armen Agop's Sleek and
Mysterious Egyptian Objects
Arrive in Singapore

ARTSY EDITORIAL



Color Field Pioneer Kenneth
Noland's "One-Shot" Masterworks

ARTSY EDITORIAL



January 20, 2015: The
Guggenheim Searches for Middle
Eastern and North African Works,
the Dahesh Museum Moves into a
Townhouse, and a Rare Bacon
Goes to Auction

DAILY DIGEST: TOP ART NEWS



Rebel Yell: The Lifelong Activism
of Two British Artists

ARTSY EDITORIAL

101 / EXHIBIT



Michael Kenna Captures the History of a Place Through Long Exposure Photography

ARTSY EDITORIAL



Miroslav Tichý's Vagabond Voyeurism

ARTSY EDITORIAL



Precision and Instability in Timothy Hyunsoo Lee's Mind Maps

ARTSY EDITORIAL



In the Tension Between Image and Material, Donald Sultan Finds Art

ARTSY EDITORIAL