

**MAX STEVEN GROSSMAN**Barranquilla, Colombia 1971

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**VIRTUAL LANDSCAPES****Construction or Reality?**

Beatriz Esguerra Art has long been known as a champion of Colombian art. Since opening her gallery in Bogota in 2000, Esguerra has worked tirelessly to open a dialogue between Colombian and international artists through a consistent program of gallery exhibitions, art fairs, publications and creative curatorial projects. The artists she represents work in diverse artistic disciplines, both abstract and representational, and use different media as their means of expression. But all of them, like photographer Max Steven Grossman, are constantly exploring new ideas while retaining their commitment to both formal qualities and to an essential artistic truth expressed through their own unique vision.

For Max Steven Grossman, photography permits us to reflect upon our reality, and to create our own. His constructed and manipulated photographs often focus on things, both cultural and literal, that are on the verge of being lost or of disappearing. Grossman posits that photography as a medium has changed fundamentally from its initial use as a document, a record of historical fact. Today as a society, we question the reality of the images that pass before us daily – bombarded by so many often contradictory images, we choose our sources and in many ways we all construct our own truths. Taking that to a logical conclusion Grossman visualizes his own world, constructing a new reality. His key series examine climate change and the threat of extinction, fantasy libraries that are now more likely to be digital and ephemeral, and the overall questioning of time, place and perception.

His series *Antarctica* considers natural climate cycles, looking at both small and radical changes to what has long been accepted as an absolute – e.g. Antarctica is frozen or that palm trees only survive in southern landscapes. As ancient glaciers melt, there is more land and more trees and grass. Grossman's work speeds up the cycle, while hinting at a future where the green will again be colonized by ice. For the artist we are part of a larger and grander cycle that may well continue into infinity, a Moebius strip where there is no beginning and no end. He also ponders the notion that many things in nature happen so slowly we do not really notice until the changes become so evident we are forced to pay attention.

*Bookscapes*, Grossman's best-known series, visualizes libraries that only exist in his imagination. Gathered thematically through a complex philosophical and digital process, they represent a kind of ideal. Shelves of books stacked closely on top of each other show titles gathered to represent a perfect archive for any particular field of study, whether art history, astronomy, or pulp fiction. They are both personal and universal depending on a viewer's relationship to the subject matter, to individual treasured titles, to their desire to possess knowledge and culture, and to the visual juxtaposition of one volume leaning on another. These libraries encourage an ongoing dialogue: there is always something new to contemplate, whether the humor of reading some titles in sequence, the amount of knowledge contained on the pages behind the spines, or the sense that all of this knowledge is both within our reach and inaccessible.

Driving along roads and highways all over the world, from Bogotá to New York to Cape Town was the genesis for *On the Road*. Capturing the passing landscape at low-shutter speed while moving from one place to another creates a visual relationship between motion and color. These fleeting sights are attached to certain specific places, yet they are blurred to the point of being indistinguishable from each other. No longer attached to their place of origin, except by their titles, they become abstract, challenging our sense of location, our innate need to know where we are. Grossman follows the same line of thinking with *Architecture*. Inspired by the texture and geometry of urban landscapes, tight focus on the details of rhythm and line transforms individual buildings into abstract compositions, no longer connected the city, town, or street that inspired them.

An engineer with an MFA in Photography from NYU and the International Center of Photography, his work is exhibited widely in museums including the Museum of Modern Art in Cartagena, Colombia and the Museum of Modern Art in Barranquilla, Colombia, as well as in galleries and art fairs in Colombia, Argentina, the U.S, and Europe . Max Steven Grossman is represented in Colombia by Beatriz Esguerra Art.

## EDUCATION

### 1998-2000

Master of Arts New York University (NYU) and International Centre of photography (ICP), NYC, USA

### 1990-1994

Bachelor of Science in Textile Engineering, Philadelphia University, Philadelphia, PA, USA

## EXHIBITIONS AND ART FAIRS

### 2021

**Arden Gallery**, Photo Exhibition, Boston MA

**Axiom Contemporary**, I Wanna Rock Group Exhibition, Scottsdale, AZ.

### 2020

**Planet Word Museum**, Poetry Bookscape Elevators Installation, Washington, DC

**Laura Rathe Fine Art**, Dreamers, Group Exhibition, Houston, TX

**Laura Rathe Fine Art**, Reconstructed, Group Exhibition, Dallas, TX

**Art on Paper**, Axiom Contemporary, New York, NY

**Laura Rathe Fine Art**, Photo exhibit, Dallas, TX

**Laura Rathe Fine Art**, Seeing Group Show, Dallas, TX

**Palm Springs Fine Art Fair**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA

**Art Wynwood Fair**, Sponder Gallery, Boca Raton, FL

**Galerie de Bellefeuille**, Photo Exhibition, Toronto, CA

**Palm Beach Art Fair**, Sponder Gallery, Palm Beach, FL

### 2019

**Art Miami**, Sponder Gallery, Miami, FL

**Art Miami**, Galerie de Bellefeuille, Miami, FL  
**Scope Miami**, Axiom Contemporary, Miami, FL  
**Samuel Owen Gallery**, Group Show, Nantucket, MA  
**AAFHK** Axiom Contemporary, Hong Kong  
**Art NY**, Dean Project, New York, NY  
**Dallas Art Fair**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Dallas, TX  
**AAFNY**, Axiom Contemporary, New York, NY  
**Art on Paper**, Sponder Gallery, New York, NY  
**Scope New York**, Samuel Owen Gallery, New York, NY  
**LA Art Show**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
**Galerie de Bellefeuille**, Photo Exhibition, Toronto, Canada  
**Arden Gallery**, Photo Exhibition, Boston, MA  
**Palm Beach Art Fair**, Sponder Gallery Palm Beach, FL  
**LA Art Show**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA

## 2018

**Art Miami**, Sponder Gallery, Miami, FL  
**Scope Miami**, Axiom Contemporary, Miami, FL  
**AAFHK**, Axiom Contemporary, Hong Kong  
**Art Market San Francisco**, Axiom Contemporary, San Francisco, CA  
**Art NY**, Sponder Gallery, New York, NY  
**Art NY**, Dean Project, Group Show, New York, NY  
**Samuel Owen Gallery**, Collective art exhibit Nantucket, MA  
**Stricoff Fine Art**, Two Men Art Exhibition, Chelsea, NY  
**Dallas Art Fair**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Dallas, TX  
**Art on Paper**, Sponder Gallery, New York, NY  
**Whistler Contemporary Gallery**, Photography Group Show, Vancouver, Canada  
**Samuel Owen Gallery**, Photography Group Show, Greenwich, CT  
**Scope New York**, Axiom Contemporary, New York, NY  
**Art on Paper**, Sponder Gallery, New York, NY  
**Palm Springs Fine Art Fair**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA

## 2017

**AAFHK**, Axiom Contemporary, Hong Kong  
**Dean Project**, **The Sultan Gallery**, Blue Nights Art Exhibition, Kuwait  
**Art Market San Francisco**, Axiom Contemporary, San Francisco, CA  
**Art New York**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, New York, NY  
**Art on Paper**, Sponder Gallery, New York, NY  
**Dallas Art Fair**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Dallas, TX  
**Arden Gallery**, Photography Exhibition, Boston MA  
**Palm Beach Art Fair**, Axiom Contemporary, Palm Beach, FL

## 2016

**Scope Miami**, Axiom Contemporary, Miami, FL

**AAF LONDON**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
**Texas Contemporary**, Baker Sponder, Miami, FL, USA  
**Art Hamptons**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
**Art Southampton**, Baker Sponder, Miami, FL  
**AAFHK**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
**Art New York**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, New York, NY.  
**Impakto Gallery**, Photography Group Show, Lima, Peru.  
**Dina Mitrani Gallery**, Photography Group Show, Miami, FL  
**Dallas Art Fair**, Beatriz Esguerra Arte, Dallas, TX  
**AAFNY**, Axiom Contemporary, New York, NY  
**Scope New York**, Axiom Contemporary, New York, NY  
**Palm Springs Fine Art Fair**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
**LA Art Show**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA

## **2015**

**Scope Miami**, Axiom Contemporary, Miami, FL  
**Context Art Miami**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Baker Sponder, Miami, FL  
**Texas Contemporary**, Baker Sponder, Houston, TX,  
**Art Silicon Valley**, Axiom Contemporary, San Mateo, CA  
**ARTBO**, Beatriz Esguerra Arte, Corferias, Bogotá, Colombia  
**Art Aspen**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
**Art Southampton**, Baker Sponder, Miami, FL,  
**Art Hamptons**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
**Stricoff Fine Art**, Two Men Art Exhibition, Chelsea, NY  
**Art Wynwood**, Baker Sponder, Miami, FL  
**Art Wynwood**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Miami, FL  
**Palm Springs Fine Art Fair**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
**Baker Sponder**, Art Exhibition, Miami, FL,  
**LA Art Show**, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA

## **2014**

**Context Art Miami**, Beatriz Esguerra Arte, Miami, FL  
**Art Silicon Valley**, Axiom Contemporary, San Mateo, CA  
**Art Aspen**, Axiom Contemporary, Aspen, CO  
**Art Market San Francisco**, Axiom Contemporary, San Francisco, CA  
**Dallas Art Fair**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Dallas, TX  
**Art Wynwood**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Miami, FL

## **2013**

**ARTBO**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Corferias, Bogotá, Colombia  
**Art Southampton**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Southampton, NY  
**ArteBA**, + De Museo, La Rural, Buenos Aires, Argentina.  
**Art Wynwood**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Miami, FL

**2012**

**Feria Odeon**, Teatro Odeon, Bogotá, Colombia

**ARTBO**, Beatriz Esguerra Arte, Corferias, Bogotá, Colombia

**Arte Americas**, Beatriz Esguerra Art, Convention Center, Miami, FL

**Museo de Arte Moderno**, Waves Exhibition, Cartagena, Colombia

**2011**

**Feria Odeon**, Teatro Odeon, Bogotá, Colombia

**Museo de Arte Moderno**, Bookscapes Exhibition, Barranquilla, Colombia

**Arte Camara - Camara de Comercio**, On the Road Series Exhibition, Curated by Paula Silva, Bogotá, Colombia

**Sala de arte FCI, Galeria La Cometa**, Photo5, Bogotá, Colombia

**Carla Rey Arte Contemporaneo**, Nuevos talentos, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**2010**

**Cámara de Comercio de Bogotá**, Inter-Independientes, Bogotá, Colombia

**Ministerio de Educacion Nacional**, Proyecto Aula, Bogotá, Colombia

**Galeria La Cometa**, Geometria en Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia

**2009**

**Hotel Villamagna**, Exposition Vardinoyannis, Madrid, Spain

**Hot Art Fair**, Artist Lounge, Basel Foundation Basel, Switzerland

**Galeria La Cometa**, Arte Joven Colsanitas, Bogotá, Colombia

**2008**

**Wynwood Arts**, Wynwood Art District, Miami, Fla.

**Museo de Arte Universidad Nacional**, Extra Group Show, Bogotá, Colombia

**Group Show**, Esto no es una galería, Bogotá, Colombia

**GASP Gallery**, Dynamics of Belonging, Boston, MA

**2006**

**Arte Consultores-Beatriz Esguerra**, Bookscapes, Bogotá, Colombia

**2003**

**Galería La Cometa**, Fotología, Bogotá, Colombia