



Mural, 2009.

Alle Abbildungen / all images: Archivkopien / Archival Inkjet-prints, 81 cm x 99 cm.

NEW DEAL UTOPIAS

During the Great Depression, the US government built three planned communities: Greenbelt, Maryland; Greenhills, Ohio; and Greendale, Wisconsin. These »Greenbelt Towns« offered a new way of American life based on cooperation through urban planning and social engineering. In »New Deal Utopias«, I photograph these model cities to question the urge to create a perfect society as well as to explore the complex relationship between humans, the built environment, and nature. Through large-scale photographs I engage with not only an ambitious and controversial expression of the New Deal, but also with contemporary thought on New Urbanism and »green« cities.

New Deal Utopias is rooted in my underlying interest in the relationship between power structures and urban planning. I aim to create an evocation of utopia as a place by bringing together the collective landscapes and spaces of the Greenbelt towns. At the same time, the project is a meditation on the utopian belief that architectural design can shape the workings of a community. In making these photographs I hope that viewers will reconsider how they relate to the planned or unplanned environments in which they work and live.

Jason Reblando, born 1973 in Flushing, New York (USA), lives in Chicago, Illinois (USA). 2010 MFA in photography at Columbia College Chicago; 1995 BA in sociology at Boston College (USA).

Awards (selection): 2005 Illinois Arts Council Artist Fellowship Award; City of Chicago CAAP Grant; 2007 Dwight D. Follett Fellowship; 2008 Albert P. Weisman Award; 2010 Philadelphia Museum of Art Photography Portfolio Competition.

Solo exhibitions: 2009 »Lathrop Homes: Public Housing's Garden City« Roosevelt University (USA); »A Portrait of Public Housing«, AVA Gallery, Chattanooga, Tennessee (USA).

Group exhibitions (selection): 2010 Singapore International Photography Festival (SG); The Print Center International Competition, Philadelphia (USA); 2009 Houston Center for Photography (USA); 2008 The Light Factory, Charlotte, North Carolina (USA); 2007 Minnesota Center for Photography (USA); 2006 City Gallery of Photography at the Historic Water Tower in Chicago.

Collections: Milwaukee Art Museum; Museum of Contemporary Photography's Midwest Photographers Project; Philadelphia Museum of Art (all USA). www.jasonreblando.net



Blueprint, 2009.



Underpass, 2009.



Daffodil House, 2009.



Rockwell Covers, 2009.



Gazebo, 2009.



Tree Shade, 2009.