



Surplombs
Dove Allouche

16 May – 12 July 2008

For its inaugural exhibition, the new gallery Gaudel de Stampa presents Dove Allouche's **Surplombs**, two series of graphic and photographic works inspired by his observations of the Salto Angel Falls in southern Venezuela.

The highest in the world, these falls become the object of a radical change in point of view in contrast to the usual idealized frontal presentations. In order to grasp the sheer plunge of the falls, Dove Allouche organized several flights over the falls filming the highest part of the falls from different angles with a motorized high-speed camera at a rate of 3 frames per second. The resulting view of the one kilometer drop in elevation suddenly appears flattened out, reducing the landscape to a flat spot. This work echoes back to a 1977 piece by Walter de Maria, *Vertical Earth Kilometer*, in which the artist's inverted sculpture consisted of inserting a five centimeter wide copper wire a kilometer deep into the ground leaving only the top part visible.

Surplombs I: 36 lead pencil drawings taken from a series of 36 photographs. The first six drawings are presented in this show.

Surplombs II: 36 cibachrome photo prints present an even tighter shot of the actual drop of the falls leaving nothing but foam.

The first three are presented here. Borrowing from a variety of formal approaches, Dove Allouche plays with scale and visibility in the same way he blurs the lines between drawings and photographs.

His lead pencil drawings with their very classical rendering remind us of photo negatives while the quality of his cibachrome photos evokes something of the eau-forte etchings of days gone by.

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and by appointment