

ARTISTS SPACE

PRESS RELEASE



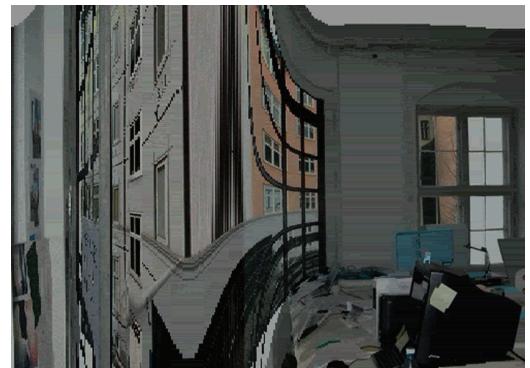
ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN PROJECT SERIES

Julien de Smedt / JDS: *La Passe Muraille*

May 16 - June 24, 2006

opening reception: May 16, 6-8PM

Inspired by a collection of short stories by Marcel Aymé in which the protagonist, Mr. Dutilleul, has the strange power of walking through walls, Julien de Smedt creates an installation that allows viewers to experience crossing the New York city block they are facing—beyond the screen, beyond the gallery, beyond the courtyard behind, and all the way to Mercer Street.



Julien de Smedt / JDS: *La Passe Muraille*, simulation, courtesy of the artist.

“The system uses a lycra screen that can be pushed, for instance with a finger, towards the screen. As this happens a sensor registers the change of distance and commands the projector to display other images or film at the point of change. As the lycra screen bends the projection becomes a diffuse set of images blurring into one another... if the images or films are coordinated accordingly one can for instance command a flower to blossom by swiping one’s finger across the flower on the screen. In this example the projection goes through time: the deeper the lycra screen is pushed the closer in time do we get to the open flower. The effect is quite impressive... We decided to apply that technology to space, to make the viewer experience the crossing of the New York city block he/she was facing, beyond the screen, beyond the gallery, beyond the courtyard behind and all the way to Mercer Street.” — Julien de Smedt

For Press inquiries, please contact Hillary Wiedemann at 212.226.3070 x 302 or press@artistspace.org.