

CRISTIN TIERNEY

BLOUINARTINFO



Victor Burgin. Still from *The Ideal City*, 2014. Digital video loop
(Courtesy: Galerie Thomas Zander)

Galerie Thomas Zander is hosting an exhibition “Some Cities” by artist Victor Burgin at the gallery’s Cologne location.

The exhibition presents a selection of works by British artist Victor Burgin (b. 1941, Sheffield, England), a pioneering conceptual artist and an influential cultural theorist of the still and moving image. A widely known name in the world of art, Burgin’s works are characterized by its conceptual photo/text content- a motif that is often a point of discussion in contexts regarding to the Art & Language movement. A Turner Prize nominee in 1986, the artist’s work has been the subject of exhibitions across nations and is represented in public collections that include the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, The Tate Modern, London, Museum Ludwig, Cologne, and the Centre Pompidou, Paris.

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The exhibition, borrowing its title from Burgin's 1996 book bearing the same title, recalls the artist's experience in various cities he travelled to and photographed, which go beyond its inherent narratives to examine notions of spaces, places and memory. Combining conceptual rigor with poetic ambiguity, these works are emblematic with the artist's historical progression from photography, to video, to computer modeling. Beginning with three groups of photographs from the book, on view for the first time, tracing back to the first phase of Burgin's use of the camera; the show moves to its second phase of his practice that is represented by the 1996 installation "Love Stories #2". In this work, Burgin recasts the relation of his camera to the street in terms of video, exploring the elements of sound and movement, showcased on three video monitors on white plinths depicting loops of anonymous individuals moving through public space in slow motion.

The exhibition is on view through November 4, 2017 at Galerie Thomas Zander, Schönhauser Str. 8, 50968 Köln, Germany.