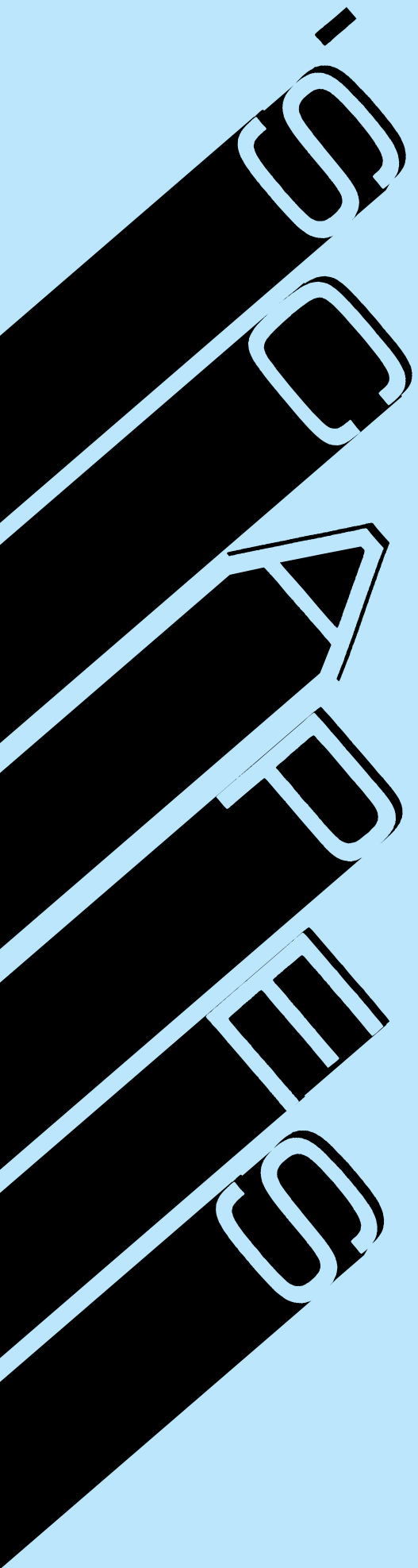


Joseph Phillips





Joseph Phillips

'SCAPES

November 3–December 1, 2018

Joseph Phillips is an artist and builder born in Austin, Texas, 1977. He studied art and art history at Skidmore College. In 2000, Phillips returned to Austin to co-found Big Medium, the East Austin Studio Tour, the Sodalitas Collaborative Art Group, and The Texas Biennial.

Phillips has shown extensively in Austin, and nationally. He began showing at Northern–Southern with the group show LIVING ROOMS in 2016. 'SCAPES is his first solo exhibition since 2012.

Phillips also runs the construction company, Bloom Design & Build.

viewing hours:

Saturdays 3–6:30 pm

or schedule a visit, email

hello@northern-southern.com

price list available



Northern–Southern

1900-B East 12th Street, Austin, TX 78702

northern-southern.com

Statement

What is our relationship we with our built environment? How do we reconcile our economic reliance on constant growth with the reality of declining resources? As the havoc we wreak on our planet becomes more clear, how do we adapt? Is it even possible?

How do we shape, recreate, interact with and replicate nature? What is our aim with this manipulation and what does it say about us as a species?

It isn't my hope to make didactic, doomsday environmental art. I hope to reveal the simple beauty behind the impulses that drive our manipulation of the natural world. I am often equally impressed by the ingenuity of our solutions as I am depressed by the scope of our problems.

—Joseph Phillips



Duplex Multi-Terrain Stack with Forest and Beach

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

30 × 42 inches

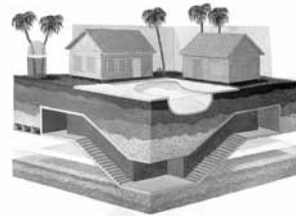


*Coral Mounds Archipelago
Lots 5 and 7*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

56 × 36 inches



*House with ADU, Pool, and
Cenote Bunker*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

30 × 21 inches

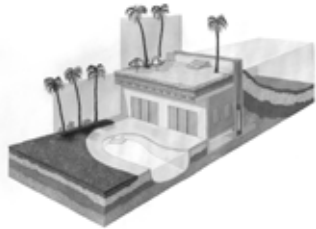


*House with ADU and Sub-Terranean
Mystery Grotto Bunker*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

30 × 21 inches



*No-See Sea Wall with Sunken VIP Pool
and Courtyard*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

42 × 30 inches



*Shallow Water House with Forest and
Auxiliary Palm*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

15 × 20 inches



*Vertiburb With Assorted Natural
Wonders and Workers Quarters*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

36 × 54 inches



*Bungalows with Bunkers and
Service Shed*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

42 × 30 inches



*House with Storage Tank
and Pilings*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

15 × 20 inches



*Shallow Water Applied Module
Placement (S.W.A.M.P.)*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

20 × 15 inches



*Country Applied Module Placement
(C.A.M.P.)*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

20 × 15 inches



*Coral Island with Lookout Tower, Deck,
and Palms*

2018

gouache and graphite on paper

21 × 30 inches

Q & A

Joseph Phillips interviewed by Phillip Nlemeyer

Q

Did you grow up in Austin?

A

Born, Austin 1977. Grew up here and went away for school to Skidmore College in upstate New York, then came back after those four years.

Q

When did you begin the isometric guache drawings of de-realized buildings? Do you remember why you started on this vein?

A

It was a long evolution of styles of drawing that led here. Landscapes that evolved into towers and things centered on a page, often on rickety scaffold or steel structures, then the structures disappeared and there were land forms floating in space. I was looking at some drawings in a 1960's kids encyclopedia about mining and the cutout drawings really had an impact on me and I was also editing some product shots for websites with all white backgrounds and something just really struck me about the presentation of this floating chunk of earth.

Q

Does white space of the paper have a narrative or symbolic role in your compositions, like a void between spaces?

A

Yes, the void to me is as much a character in the world as a house or a storage tank or a bunker.

Q

Has working as a builder and designer of homes influenced your artwork?

A

Probably, it's hard to say. They feel very separate in my life, so it's hard to see many connections, but I'm sure in some way my drawings allow for a certain amount of freedom and imagination that I can't really bring to my building life. Or, it's rare that I would be able to. So much of my artwork is fanciful and naive and absurd, and that's kind of the opposite of building in real life where everything is about being done proper and affordable, there's very little room for imagination or fun or exploration.

Q

How should people live in spaces?

A

That's up to the person, I don't really want to tell anyone to do anything, or to act in any specific way. I try to stay away from the didactic. And its such a group phenomenon its hard to feel your own impact. We often have so little control of the spaces around us, even our own home or apartment.

Other work in the gallery:

on the facade

Kel Brown
untitled
2017
acrylic on wall

hanging in front of the windows

Ryan Sandison Montgomery
Please
2018
plexi, fabric, wire

in the bathroom

Phillip Niemeyer
Past and Future are Present
2018
acrylic and mirrors on wall

Joseph Phillips: 'SCAPES organized by Phillip Niemeyer

Special thanks to Mikki Gibson, B. Shawn Cox,
Beth Nottingham, & Rachel Freeman

'SCAPES is sponsored in part by the City of Austin's
Cultural Arts Commission



Cultural Arts

CITY OF AUSTIN
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Joseph Phillips
'SCAPES

NOV 2018

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