

Panorama WBZ. *Through the Looking-Glass*

by FÉLIX DE LA CONCHA

Panorama WBZ. *Through the Looking-Glass* is a polyptych oil on canvas, 9,60 meters long all together, in 10 pieces, commissioned by the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland.



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View from outside.

Although this work could be initially perceived as a naturalistic view of a continuous panorama, it has been structured by a combination of different perspectives and it explores questions of meta-language and visible truth. On its right, it appears as a view of the same building where it is hung: a frontal view looking from the outside. Then, however, the same building is represented from the inside. The panorama gives a sense of coherent continuation, although the viewer's position changes constantly. Once we are looking at the inside perspective, the painting itself is hung already on the wall (meta-language). And again reality is being challenged as the painting inside the painting evolves. For instance, a dialogue ensues with Tony Cragg's sculpture, depicted each time from different angles and different lights. As a painter, I can accommodate and merge different systems and structures to create a unique composition, but all of this is a "realistic illusion." We see the building simultaneously from both the outside and the inside, even though we thought that had not changed our position at all!

This painting is a metaphor for the place of its placement, as it was done "in place," "at the place," and "for the place" where it is permanently on display as part of the University of St.Gallen's art collection. And its full meaning can be understood when the work is contemplated at that very place.

Its size and its internal elements structured on a harmonic proportion based on the root of 2 ($\sqrt{2}$), it has been adapted to the area of the wall.



Panorama WBZ. Through the Looking-Glass
Work in progress. Summer 2012

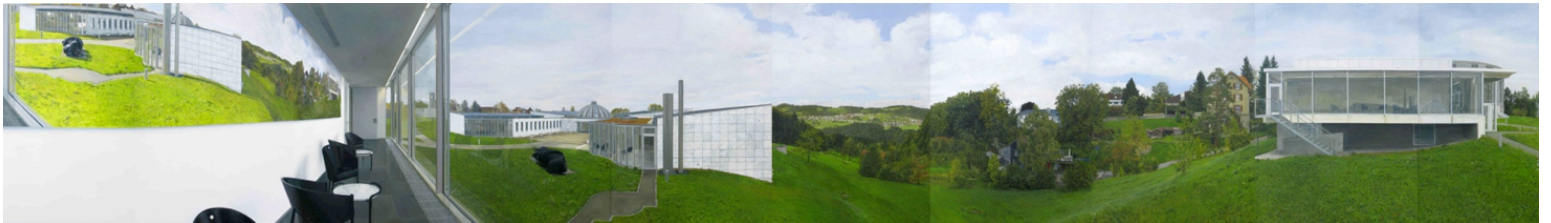


Panorama WBZ. Through the Looking-Glass

Detail with one of the perspectives on Tony Cragg's sculpture.



Panorama WBZ. *Through the Looking-Glass*
Interior view.



Panorama WBZ. *Through the Looking-Glass*
10 pieces of 136 x 96 cms. (polyptych)
Oil on canvas. 2012



Panorama WBZ. *Through the Looking-Glass*
Detail with other perspective on Tony Cragg's sculpture.

A video on this work at: <http://db.tt/y1KZNIiO>



St. Gallen Clock

Oil on canvas. 2012.

12 pieces of 60 x 30 cms.