

FLASHPOINT

A CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROJECT

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Flashpoint Gallery Presents Michael Dax Iacovone & Billy Friebele



FREE SPACE: A Communal & Interactive Survey of Washington, DC

November 9 – December 4, 2010

Opening Reception: Tuesday, November 9, 5 – 7pm

WASHINGTON, DC – Flashpoint Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition by Michael Dax Iacovone and Billy Friebele who will present a participatory photo and video project inviting visitors to become collaborators. Presented as part of FotoWeekDC, *FREE SPACE* will be exhibited off-site at the [Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library](#) at 901 G Street NW, directly across from Flashpoint. The work presented in *FREE SPACE* will be generated by an open request from the artists to the community to gather photographs from each quadrant of the District.

In an attempt to demystify the role of the artist, Iacovone and Friebele will invite viewers to become collaborators and co-authors of the work. The initial photographs assembled in the installation will be taken by [10 Miles Square](#) photographers. During the course of the exhibition, viewers will be invited to submit photographs of public space in Washington, DC that will be added to the initial installation. The resulting work will consist of a grid of photographs – each picture will correspond to a square mile of Washington, DC.

A video installation will explore Pierre Charles L'Enfant's original city plans for Washington, DC based on the freemason ideas of symmetry and geometry. The videos will be displayed in the lobby for the duration of the exhibition and on the library façade for the night of the opening. The footage depicts Iacovone and Friebele retracing L'Enfant's sacred geometry throughout the District.

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On November 9 from 5-7pm, an opening reception will be held at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library at 901 G Street NW. The exhibition will be viewable in the library's first floor lobby until December 4, 2010 during regular hours. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library is open Monday & Tuesday 12pm-9pm; Wednesday – Saturday 9:30am-5:30pm and Sunday 1pm – 5pm. To submit images for inclusion in the project, visit: <http://www.dcphtogrid.com> for more information.

Iacovone received support from the Creative Communities Fund (CCF) to create new work for this exhibition. Through CCF, Cultural Development Corporation, in partnership with The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, provides grants to area artists participating in [Source Festival](#), [Flashpoint Gallery](#) and the [Mead Theatre Lab Program](#) to support the creation and presentation of new work. Cultural Development Corporation is a participant in the Creative Communities program of Leveraging Investments in Creativity, funded by the Ford Foundation and the Kresge Foundation. Additional support for the Creative Communities Fund is generously provided by The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Michael Dax Iacovone is an artist and a teacher. He has exhibited his photos and videos in various places including Washington, DC; New York, NY; Brooklyn, NY; Philadelphia, PA; Miami, FL; Baltimore, MD; Sarajevo, Bosnia and London, England. He holds a BFA in Photography from the State University of New York, an MFA in Photography and Digital Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University and an MFA in Studio Art from Maryland Institute College of Art.

Billy Friebele lives and works in Washington, DC. He received an MFA in Studio Art from the Maryland Institute College of Art. Billy has exhibited in Baltimore, MD; New York, NY; Colorado; St. Louis, MO; Detroit, MI and Washington, DC among other places. Friebele's work examines the intersection of new media and public space. He teaches as an Assistant Professor of Digital Media at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library is the central library of the District of Columbia Public Library system. Designed in 1968 and completed in 1972, it was Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's last building and the only example of his work in Washington, DC. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2007.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library plays host to many concert performances, author talks, art exhibitions and community events throughout the year. The library houses the subject divisions: Art and Humanities, Social Sciences, Business, Science, Technology, Children's and Teen Space, as well as the special collections Washingtoniana and the Black Studies Center.

ABOUT THE FLASHPOINT GALLERY PROGRAM

Flashpoint Gallery is dedicated to nurturing artists, expanding their visibility and encouraging dialogue between artists and arts patrons. As a nonprofit gallery, Flashpoint provides a special opportunity for artists and curators to present new media, site-specific installations, performance pieces and other experimental forms free from the constraints of commercial expectations. An advisory panel of noted artists and arts professionals oversees the programming for the gallery and provides mentorship and support to exhibiting artists. Cultural Development Corporation's (CuDC) Visual Arts Program is made possible in part through a generous grant from Altria Group, Inc. and from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

ABOUT FLASHPOINT

Flashpoint, a Cultural Development Corporation project, is a nonprofit, multi-disciplinary arts space dedicated to nurturing emerging artists and cultural organizations in order to build their professional capacity. Flashpoint provides services and training for cultural organizations to help strengthen their management capacity and offers exhibit and performance spaces that enable arts groups to focus on their artistic goals and expand their visibility. Flashpoint includes a contemporary art gallery, the 75-seat Mead Theatre Lab, the Coors Dance Studio and shared office space for arts organizations. Flashpoint Gallery is generously supported by The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, The Kresge Foundation, the MARPAT Foundation, the Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, Prince Charitable Trusts and many other generous partners. Hotel Helix is Flashpoint's 2010-2011 Hotel Partner. Barefoot Wine is Flashpoint's 2010-2011 Wine Partner.

Michael Dax Iacovone & Billy Friebele: *FREE SPACE: A Communal and Interactive Survey of Washington, DC*

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For more information: Call 202.315.1310 or visit flashpointdc.org

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