

"Doug Fogelson: Photographs"

San Antonio International Center
203 N. St. Mary's St., (210) 207-2753
Through Nov. 2

Working with a traditional camera and film, Chicago artist Doug Fogelson creates large, multiple-exposure prints, taking images even while he's high above the clouds in a jet.

The 36-year-old artist doesn't always advance the film by a full frame, so his negatives look like filmstrips with overlapping images. He uses a computer to convert his negatives into large-format horizontal prints with shifting perspectives and ghostly forms.

Grass and flowers in a sand dune at "Point Reyes," a San Francisco street scene with traffic crossing lights multiplied a dozen times and autumn leaves and sky are some of the subjects in Fogelson's FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA exhibit, which was curated by Allison Hays Lane of the Olana Group.

"It looks very filmic," Fogelson said. "I'm trying to extend that brief moment of time that a single exposure can capture. There's an architectural aspect to much of what I do. But I'm also a street photographer. I try to hold the camera so that people aren't aware of it."

In his image of people walking through the lobby of the Tate Modern in London earlier this year, Fogelson stood on a balcony and took multiple exposures, slightly shifting his perspective with each click of the shutter. The resulting image is moody and futuristic looking, with groups of silhouetted figures walking through what appears to be triangular shafts of light.

While traveling by jet, he lets the aircraft do the moving. By taking a quick series of overlapping exposures from his window seat, he transforms clouds and blue sky into an almost abstract composition, with bands of color slicing up the image. In a street scene from San Francisco, he caught some unguarded expressions on people's faces that make you wonder what kind of everyday drama was transpiring.

A graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago, Fogelson, who mainly works as an architectural photographer, is also a publisher with Front Forty Press. Working with graffiti artists who marked up his architectural photographs in "Graffitecture: Chicago Graffiti Artists Attack Photographic Spaces" and surfer artist Matt Volla in "Unruly Drawings," Fogelson has created impressive, coffee table-ready flip books for a new millennium.

Dan R. Goddard