

Installation: "DEVELOPEMENT AND DESIRE" for the OR Gallery, Vancouver, B.C.

Upon entering the gallery the viewer sees a free standing temporary structure of metal studs and wall board 16 feet by 12 feet in plan by 8 feet high, with a 15 foot row boat suspended above, its oars extended.

The viewer approaches a doorway into what appears to be an office, above the doorway a sign in brass letters reads "DEVELOPEMENT AND DESIRE".

The doorway, trimmed in oak, frames a view of a large, rosewood executive desk in the middle of the room. The desk is oriented to face the viewer with an executive chair behind.

On the wall behind the desk is a large, framed road map of British Columbia.

There are two kinds of publications on the desk, a number are annual reports from the forest and mining industry, the other, a number of issues of Beautiful British Columbia.

Barely audible sound is apparent both to the left and right of the viewer.

The viewer looks right and sees a large window framing a sun dappled forest floor accompanied by the muffled sound of birds and wind rustling in the forest outside.

A muffled loon call is heard from behind, the viewer looks over her/his shoulder to the source, seeing an identical office window to the left of the desk, with a view out over a sunny uninhabited lake.

Overhead the large hand crafted rowboat hovers just out of reach, its oars poised.

The office seems momentarily suspended in a place where nature prevails, as yet untouched, the object of desire.

On the inside walls either side of the office doorway are other maps, Ministry of Forests resource maps, a Seirra club map, a Geological Survey map, a Ministry of Parks and recreation map and a Western Wilderness Committee map, and on.....

Is this the office of a forestry company, a government agency or an environmental conservation organization.