



Spring

MARCH 20, 2008 - AUGUST 24, 2008

SPRAWL

THE POST-INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE IN NEW JERSEY

Rocío Aranda-Alvarado

Jersey City Museum presents SPRAWL, a multi-venue exhibition that addresses the issues and problems related to sprawl as we experience it in our state. Among some of the most compelling works in the exhibition are photographs of housing projects or McMansions, psychological explorations into the suburban mind, works made with objects found in back yards or detritus from the side of a suburban road, majestic images

of the highway, nostalgic images of roadside motels or decaying urban buildings. The ideas that formed the content of this exhibition draw from the history of art, from the obsessions of artists living in our state and from the varied experiences of living in a suburban nation.

In 1968, the New Jersey artist and well-known sculptor Tony Smith recounted his

experience of a late-night drive along the newly-finished New Jersey Turnpike. His words reveal how the mind of an artist perceives space, the movement across space, land, and the visual elements that accompany this movement. Describing a post-industrial landscape almost as a painting, the artist recalled:



BRYONY ROMER

L'Ambiance Condominiums Dollhouse, Highland Park NJ, 2004

Archival digital print

JOSEPH GERARD SABATINO

A Day and Night With Grass, 2006

White pencil and graphite on asphalt paper

