This Land

July 19-September 20, 2013
University Gallery & Downtown Campus
Dan Mills

In Dan Mills’ “Quest” series, the geometric order of the checkerboard is subsumed beneath luminous shapes and layers of color that vibrate visually and speak as much about the history of art as they do about the history of the world. Thus, “Quest” makes the point that, far from being objective records of physical places, maps are themselves consciously constructed art forms. The geography they depict exists in human consciousness rather than within the landscape itself.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Dan Mills is an accomplished artist whose work, in a variety of media, explores themes and imagery including cartography, humor, imperialism, cartoon characters, landscape and portraiture. Since 2009, he has had solo exhibitions at Sherry Frumkin Gallery in Santa Monica, CA, the Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts Museum in China and at several academic institutions. The Perceval Press, actor Viggo Mortensen's publishing company, produced a hardcover book based on his “U.S. Future State Atlas” series of drawings in 2009.

Mills earned his bachelor’s degree in fine arts at the Rochester Institute of Technology and his master’s at Northern Illinois University. He previously directed the Gibson Gallery at the State University of New York and served as curator for the art program at the First National Bank of Chicago. Mills currently serves as the director of the Bates College Museum of Art in Maine.